



# The Parish Newsletter

*"Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit". Mt. 28:19*

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> May 2019 - Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2019**

Now is the Moment!

*The Bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying "Lord, lord, open to us." But he replied, "Truly, I tell you, I do not know you." Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.*

Matthew 25: 10-13

"How many are the moments in which we can be Christ for others?"

Now is the moment: do not delay. The Bridegroom is coming. Trim the wicks of your lamps. Perhaps next to you, perhaps now reading your email, perhaps sleeping next to you, perhaps in the cubicle next to yours, perhaps on the other end of the classroom, perhaps on the playing field, is someone whom Christ must touch right now.

And perhaps yours are the only hands, the only voice, the only smile, the only embrace, the only look that He can use to touch His beloved.

Be alert! The moment will never come again. Trust yourself to God and He will act."

Tim Muldoon *Dot Magis* blog cited in *An Ignatian Book of Days*

We celebrate Christ's Ascension on Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> May. Though Christ has ascended, let us remember that God is not absent. Christ has raised us up so that we can experience God in the many details of daily life and to be the channel for His love for us and all around us.

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## PARISH CONTACTS

**Parish Priest:** Rev Luke Goymour

**Presbytery:** 18 Stuart Close, Brandon  
Suffolk, IP27 0HB

**Telephone:** 01842 812200

**Email:** bmrparishpriest@outlook.com

**Facebook page:** [www.facebook.com/bmrparish/](http://www.facebook.com/bmrparish/)

**Secretary:** Angela Jordan: [bmrparishsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:bmrparishsecretary@gmail.com)

**Newsletter** [facaple@gmail.com](mailto:facaple@gmail.com)

**Parish Website:** [www.stthomas-stjohnparish.com](http://www.stthomas-stjohnparish.com)

## Our Churches:

**St Thomas'**, Brandon Road, Weeting, Brandon IP27 0PT

**St John's**, St John's Close, Mildenhall IP28 7NX

## Notices

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### **First Holy Communion: 2<sup>nd</sup> June ( Next Sunday!)**

Children from our parish will be making their First Holy Communion at both Masses.

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### **Setting up St John's for Sunday Mass**

St John's is used during the week by various community groups. This is one way in which we fulfil our mission in the local community. It means that we have to clean and set up the church each week. The most important task on these occasions is to prepare the altar for mass. Lorna, Jo and Janine help with this at the moment, but we do need some others to provide backup when any of these is away. Please speak to Fr Luke.

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**Bishop Alan has invited all married people** across the Diocese of East Anglia to celebrate at the annual Marriage and Family Life Mass on **Saturday June 8** at 11.30am at St John's Cathedral in Norwich. All are welcome and those who are celebrating significant anniversaries (one year, five years and every multiple of five years thereafter) will receive a certificate. If you would like to register for a certificate please contact Bonnie Lander Johnson on [mflc.eastanglia@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:mflc.eastanglia@rcdea.org.uk) or 07849357518. Join Bishop Alan after Mass for tea and cake in the Narthex and cathedral gardens. Photographs will be available for purchase online. There will be a collection at the Mass for those who wish to help the Marriage and Family Life Commission in their work.

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### **Takeaway Sunday Lunches at the Orient Express (Great Eastern Hotel) Brandon**

If you are struggling to get a roast dinner ready after Mass at Brandon, consider taking one home with you from the Orient Express Carvery! For £9:99 they give you a takeaway tin and you fill it with freshly cooked food and locally sourced meats.

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**Anna Liwak**, the parishioner from Brandon who created our beautiful Paschal candles is now taking commissions for Candles: Her candles are handcrafted and can be personalized for First Communion, Baptisms, Memorials, Anniversaries or any other important occasions. Individual prayer candles are also available. For more information please contact Anna on 07741209889 or check out her Facebook page: 'Artistic Heart.'

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**Learn more about your faith!** Fr Luke writes: *I am gradually revamping the resources and CTS racks in our churches. New 'CTS Essentials' leaflets have been purchased dealing with a variety of subjects including: Contemplative Prayer, the Blessed Sacrament and Sunday Mass please feel free to take any of these leaflets. (These leaflets are free - even if they are priced at 20p!) Books and booklets remain as individually priced, but I will be updating the selection shortly – **Please use this resource to help nourish your faith.***

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**Annual Diocesan Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham (This) Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> May** Please see poster at back of Church. Several families are now going, if you are hoping to go, let us know so that we can walk together in the procession and/or coordinate transport.

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**Prayer Lunch at the Devlins**, on Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May at 12 noon. 25 kingfisher Drive IP27 0TZ, **all welcome**

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**This weekend we welcome back Fr Michael Johnstone who will be celebrating both Masses at Brandon and Mildenhall**

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## **Mary's Month: Our Lady of Carfin**

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**Carfin Lourdes Grotto**, is a shrine in [Scotland](#) dedicated to **Our Lady of Lourdes**, and was created in the early twentieth century. The "Carfin Grotto", as the shrine is locally referred to, was the brainchild of Father, later Canon, **Thomas N. Taylor** (died 1963), parish priest of **St. Francis Xavier's** Parish in the small, mining village of **Carfin**, two miles east of **Motherwell**.

Following a trip to **Lourdes**, Canon Taylor's vision was to build a religious memorial in honour of Our Blessed Lady. Since its opening in the early 1920s, the "grotto" has attracted pilgrims in the hundreds of thousands. For the past 90 plus years, the grotto shrine has offered a pilgrimage season with Sunday processions, rosaries, outdoor masses and dedicated Feast Day events which runs annually from early May until late September.

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## **Mary's Month: Our Lady of Knock**

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The evening of Thursday, 21 August 1879, was a very wet night. At about 8 o'clock the rain beat down in driving sheets when Mary Beirne, a girl of the village, accompanying the priest's housekeeper, Mary McLoughlin, home, stopped suddenly as she came in sight of the gable of the little church. There she saw standing a little out from the gable, were three life-size figures. She ran home to tell her parents and soon others from the village had gathered.

The witnesses stated they saw an apparition of Our Lady, Saint Joseph and Saint John the Evangelist at the south gable end of the local small parish church, the Church of Saint John the Baptist. Behind them and a little to the left of Saint John was a plain altar. On the altar was a cross and a lamb (a traditional image of Jesus), with adoring angels

This is now Ireland's National Marian Shrine, and is a popular pilgrimage centre, especially for those with illnesses or disabilities.

### **IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS**

**Father of goodness and love, hear our prayers for the sick members of our community... and all those in our intercession books.**

*Marion Arkell, Mary Gillen, Bridhe Heron, George Pearson, Lou and Barb Kaprowicz*

**May the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace, especially:**

*Michael Bayward, Barbara Blong, Nina Bosomworth, James Branaghan, Sally Cheung, Sheila Day, Philip Dean, Bernard English, Irene Human, Reg Jackson, Chester Jureko, Greg Kane, Margaret Kottarska,, Michael MacNamara, Brendan Neville, Aoibhleen Norman, Patrick O'Brien, Ian Pearson, Kenneth Pullen, Ivy (Doreen) Rak, Luigi Ratettagliata, Peter Seekings-Foster, Paul Starr*

**AMEN**



### Sick Visits

If you are unwell or know someone who is unwell and would like Fr Luke to visit, please contact him, either by phone or email. If you do not let anyone know then it is hard to visit you. Please do not assume that Fr Luke knows that someone is sick or wants a visit.

### IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- Tuesday 28 May** Annual Diocesan Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham
- Thursday 30 May** ASCENSION DAY
- Sat/Sun June 1 & 2** Celebrate East Anglia
- Sunday 2 June** First Holy Communion
- Saturday 8 June** Marriage and Family Life Mass St John's Cathedral, Norwich at 11:30 am
- SECOND COLLECTIONS**
- Sunday 2 June** Catholic Communications Network
- Sunday 16 June** Day for Life

### Money Matters

#### Offertory collection, Sunday 10 March 2019

Standing orders	£131.00
Gift Aid envelopes	£94
Non-Gift Aid	£291.73
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£517.13</b>
Second Collection - Vocation Sunday	£183.83
Fundraising Cake & Plant Sale	£346.10

### The Medaille Trust

Please remember our commitment to continue to donate throughout the year. Buckets are in place at the back of our churches. Any spare change will be appreciated (notes and cheques too!) and Jacinta mentioned that gift cards from places like Sainsbury's, Tesco', M&S etc are useful..40

**Teas and Coffees at Mildenhall:** This is a valuable act of service and ministry to the parish, which helps to build up the community. Please consider signing up and serving our parish family in this way.

Or - bring a cake!

### Masses This Week

**Thursday is the Feast of the Ascension and is a Holy Day of Obligation**

**Mass will be at 9:30 am at Brandon and 7:30 pm in Mildenhall**

### PARISH DIARY

6 <sup>th</sup> Week of Easter, Psalter wk 2	Feast	Time, Place, Service M: Mildenhall; B; Brandon	Mass Intention/Details
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	6 <sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN EASTERTIDE	M: 9.00 AM Mass B: 11.00 AM Mass	Veronica's Intentions People of the Parish
Wednesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Esater Feria Feria	B: 9:30 AM MASS	Patricia Townsend RIP
Thursday, 30 <sup>th</sup> May	ASCENSION DAY	B 9:30 AM MASS M: 7:30 PM MASS	People of the Parish Clare Robinson RIP
Sunday 2 June	7 <sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN EASTERTIDE	M: 9.00 AM Mass B: 11.00 AM Mass	People of the Parish Margaret Long RIP