



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 September 5th – Sunday September 12th 2021

"Pope calls for prayer and fasting for Afghanistan"

"...Pope Francis called Christians to show solidarity with the people of Afghanistan, especially women and children, the victims of violent attacks in recent days. 'Let us continue to assist those in need,' he says, 'and pray that dialogue and solidarity may lead to peaceful and fraternal coexistence.'..."

"Pope Francis said: 'in historical moments like this we cannot remain indifferent,' and for Christians it is a duty to respond. 'For this reason, I appeal to everyone to intensify prayer and practise fasting: prayer and fasting, prayer and penance. Now is the time to do it.'

"He concluded: 'I'm serious: Intensify prayer and practice fasting, asking the Lord for mercy and forgiveness.'"

(With permission) Aug 31st 2021, Independent Catholic News [Source: Vatican News]

<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/42943>

"The Pope Video - September 2021 - An environmentally sustainable lifestyle"

"... Pope Francis says: 'We pray that we all will make courageous choices for a simple and environmentally sustainable lifestyle, rejoicing in our young people who are resolutely committed to this.'

"It makes me very happy to see that young people have the courage to undertake projects for environmental and social improvement, since the two go together.

"We adults can learn much from them, because in all matters related to care for the planet, they are at the forefront.

"Let us take advantage of their example and reflect on our lifestyle, especially during these moments of health, social and environmental crisis.

"Let us reflect on how the way we eat, consume, travel, or the way we use water, energy, plastics, and many other material goods, is often harmful to the earth.

"Let us choose to change! Let us advance with young people towards lifestyles that are simpler and more respectful of the environment.

"...[T]hey aren't foolish, because they are committed to their own future. This is why they want to change what they will inherit at a time when we will no longer be here.'

"**Watch the video here:** www.youtube.com/watch?v=FnQxcFLH7Y8&list=PLTroqZcBkue16MMgz9LKRp-W1biit5sp "

(With permission) Sep 1st 2021, Independent Catholic News

<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/42950>

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Our Churches

St Thomas', Brandon Road, Weeting,

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



Notices

If you have information you want to appear in the Newsletter, please send to par.uk@gmx.co.uk by 12 noon on Wednesday.

Fr Luke away: Fr Luke will be on leave from the afternoon of 12th Sept to Thursday 30th Sept inclusive. Fr Denys Lloyd will be supplying during this time. Thank you to Fr David Bagstaff who celebrated Sunday Masses with you last weekend.

Your Parish (and your Priest) Needs You!

We need:

1. Readers for both churches
2. Someone to organise the reading rota for St Johns, Mildenhall.
3. People to join the sacristy team at St Johns, Mildenhall

Year of the Family - TOP FAMILY VALUES FROM 'THE GOD WHO SPEAKS' WEBSITE

The fifth of the Top 10 family values according to 'The Bible and Catholics' website.

"Hospitality – The widow and her son meet Elijah (1 Kings 17:7-16)

"The story of this single mother and child's life-transforming interaction with the great prophet Elijah started with a simple act of hospitality. The widow could have been too consumed with fear and grief for herself and her son to respond to Elijah when he asked for water. However, she extends hospitality sharing the last of her food, and Elijah responds through miraculously multiplying her flour and oil so that she never runs out during the famine. What's even more wonderful about this story is that God knows this woman's hospitable heart, because he tells Elijah that she will provide for him. God sees and knows our acts of hospitality when we welcome others into our family home, no matter how much or how little we have to share, it is always honoured and blessed by God."

With permission, The God Who Speaks, 22nd June 2021,

<https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/the-god-who-speaks/word-at-home/our-top-tens/our-top-ten-family-values/>

'THE GOD WHO SPEAKS' SEPTEMBER FOCUS -- NOAH AND CREATION CARE

"For our September Focus we are taking a closer look at Noah and our creation care responsibilities."

Here is a list of the themes you can find at the following link: <https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/the-god-who-speaks/focus/noah-and-creation-care/>

"RUN YOUR OWN NOAH DAY!

"Download our free collective worship plans and other resources for primary and secondary schools here."

"REFLECTING ON BAPTISM AND SALVATION IN THE BIBLE SYMBOLS BETWEEN NOAH AND CHRIST

Monsignor Kevin McGinnell explores the key Biblical symbols between baptism and salvation through Noah in the Old Testament and Christ in the New Testament. He helps us to understand these symbols in our faith and their relevance today in our care for creation and the climate change crisis."

"NOAH'S BURDEN: A PERSONAL ECOLOGICAL REFLECTION ON NOAH

"Dr Richard Goode navigates the story of Noah and its clarion call today from his own canal boat in the West Midlands. Richard shows us that through biblical catastrophe, we can find more holistic ways to live in the world through Christ's saving hope and a renewed vision of creation."

"COSMIC LOVE: EUCHARIST AND CREATION

"Bishop Peter Brignall explores the biblical foundations of the Eucharist in the Hebrew Scriptures. He locates the great themes and festivals in the cycle of nature revealing the work of the Creator God. Finally, he opens these themes out in the theology of the Eucharist in recent Papal teaching.

"THE HEART OF GOD IN CRISIS: NOAH AND THE ARK

"David McLoughlin reflects on the Biblical narrative of Noah in both the Old and New Testaments."

With permission, The God Who Speaks

<https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/the-god-who-speaks/focus/noah-and-creation-care/>

Sunday Homilies can be listened to again at: <https://anchor.fm/fr-luke-goymour> and on all major Podcast platforms

Mass is available to view and follow online live at:

www.facebook.com/bmrcparish/live and <https://stthomas-stjohnparish.com>

Faith in Action Day 2021 -- Sat, 11 Sep 2021, 11:00 - 16:00 BST – Online Event

“Join us for an online day of talk and prayer to learn more about this year’s climate talks, Pope Francis’s call to action and how people in the Amazon region are leading the fight to care for our common home.

“The countdown is on. In a few months, the UK will host the largest gathering of world leaders ever to take place on British soil: the ‘COP26’ climate talks. ... as citizens of the host nation and as people of faith, we have an important role to play too.

“This is the time to come together, build a community and act.”

CAFOD, <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Events/Faith-in-Action-Day-2021>

Masses for Miscarriage and Infertility will be celebrated by Bishop Alan, at OLISE Church in Newmarket. For more information <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/couples-with-miscarriages-or-infertility-are-not-alone/>

A Mass for those who have experienced **miscarriage** (Sunday 10th October 2021, 12 noon). Families are welcome, refreshments afterwards.

A Mass for those affected by **infertility** (Saturday 6th November 2021, 11 am.) Followed by a talk on treatment options for Catholic couples with infertility by Dr Phil Boyle, President of the International Institute of Restorative Reproductive Medicine and founder of NeoFertility. We respectfully ask that children do not attend this November Mass.

Virtual Pilgrimage to the Holy Land

“The Lay Community of St. Benedict is hosting a Virtual Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, with different guides, starting on Monday, 6 September and every Monday until 1 November at 7.30 pm for 40 minutes. Each session will include: a Pilgrim Prayer. Scripture Reading for the specific place. Verbal introduction with visuals. Feedback from fellow pilgrims. Prayers or short Liturgies and a Pilgrim Blessing.

“Pilgrims will be visiting the following Holy Sites: -

6 September Ein Kerem-Nazareth with Fr Tom Grufferty

13 September Nazareth-Bethlehem with Jacky Chong.

20 September Baptism/Galilee with Sue & Walter Essex

27 September - Bethsaida: Mt Tabor/Cana with Bridie Stringer

4 October Jericho/Masada/Good Samaritan with Chris Bryden

11 October Bethany/Jerusalem - Sara Oliver.

18 October Passover Supper/Agony in the Garden/Trial of Jesus - Margo Price

25 October - The Way of the Cross. Crucifixion and Death with Vivienne McCabe

1 November Holy Sepulchre/The Garden Tomb/Ascension with Jacky Chong/Tom Grufferty.

Join the Virtual Pilgrimage here: www.lcsb.uk/pilgrimage “

(With permission) Fr Tom Grufferty, Aug 29th 2021, Independent Catholic News
<https://www.indcatholicnews.com/news/42926>

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, Eugene Armour, Frederick Clifford, Stephen Dean, Stephen Delahuntey, Mary Gillen, John Leitch, Michael Murray, Linda Richmond, Michael Rooney, Lou & Barb, all who have cancer and all suffering from the COVID-19 disease

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

Edward Brian Adams, Charles Aldrich, Eileen Armour, Catherine Brence, Rosemary Yolanda Chisholm, James Collins, Jim Cottrell, Connie Doyle, Ronald Emeny, Bernard English, Margaret Frankland, Brendan Fulham, Amy Glenister, Egildda Risina Gooch, Marion Holmes, Ellen Geraldine Hood, George House, Cedric Human, Irene Human, Jamina Janiszewska, Bridie MacGowan, Herbert Edward Moore, Brendan Neville, Jerzy Okulick-Kozaryn, Josef Palik, Beverly Pierce, Blanche Richardson, Bob Rider, Nuala Ritnam, Fr Ivan Rudkin, Molly Starr, Mavis Tristram, Brian Vallack, Rosamund Jessie Wass, Lilian Conanan Woods, Robert Joseph Wyndham, and all victims of COVID-19.

AMEN

PARISH FINANCES

A sincere thank you to all those parishioners who have generously contributed to helping to keep the Parish going financially since the first coronavirus lockdown in March 2020. It is now more than a year since Sunday offertory collections ceased, and we have also had reduced rental income and fundraising. A number of parishioners have started making regular offertory contributions by standing order, electronic bank transfers or by cheque. Some have also responded by making extra contributions. This has been enormously helpful, not just as a vital source of income in place of Sunday collections, but also because social distancing requirements have made normal weekly counting and banking processes impossible to operate.

A NEW WAY OF GIVING

While we are still unable to have normal cash collections during Mass we have been looking at additional ways parishioners can easily make their Mass offering and donations. You can now do this through the parish website <https://stthomas-stjohnparish.com/>. On the Home Page simply click on the **DONA** button to donate to our parish online. This action takes you to our secure online donation portal. When you see the input page, simply *enter the amount you want to donate*, then click 'Donate'; on the next page, *enter your credit or debit card details* and again click 'Donate'. That's all you need to do to help keep our parish going financially.

You will also be asked if you wish to **Gift Aid** your donation. *By clicking 'yes'* there is a *one time registration* which just involves inputting your name and address. The system will remember you next time you donate. Remember, if you are a UK taxpayer HMCR will pay the parish back 25% of the tax paid on whatever you contribute. If this does not apply to you or you would rather not, then *simply click 'no'*.

If you would like to help further, please consider the following:-

- 1 If cash is the only way you can realistically give, then this is of course welcome too. (*Bank details: Lloyds Account: Sort Code 30-98-58, Ac/no 00489176*)
- 2 Please support any fundraising activities where you can.

Philip Kemp, Parish Treasurer. Contact: pjkemp1@gmail.com Tel 075144304 68

THE PARISH DIARY

23RD WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME • PSALTER WEEK 3	FEAST	Time, Place, Service www.facebook.com/bmrparish/live and https://stthomas-stjohnparish.com/	Mass Intention/Details
Sunday Sep 5 th	THE 23RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	M: 9:00 am Mass B: 11:00 am Mass & streamed	<i>Bob Rider RIP People of the Parish</i>
Tuesday Sep 7 th	FERIA	M: 10:00 am Mass & streamed	<i>Sr Gabi COLW Int.</i>
Wednesday Sep 8 th	THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY, FEAST	B: 10:00 am Mass & streamed	<i>Oliva Family Int.</i>
Thursday Sep 9 th	FERIA	M: 10:00 am Mass & streamed	<i>Sr Gabi COLW Int.</i>
Friday Sep 10 th	FERIA	B: 10:00 am Mass & streamed	<i>Helen Crick & Sidney White RIP</i>
Sunday Sep 12 th	THE 24TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - EDUCATION DAY	M: 9:00 am Mass B: 11:00 am Mass & streamed	<i>Patrick Leahy RIP People of the Parish</i>