



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

Year A 30th Nov—7th Dec 2025

PARISH CONTACTS

Parish Priest Father Anil Zachery

18 Stuart Close, Brandon. IP27 0HB

Telephone 01842 812200 **Parish email** bmrccparish@priest.com

Pastoral Assistant Angela Jordan Tel 07595 914361

Safeguarding David Parr 07708 997022 David.parr058@gmail.com &

Louis Busuttil Tel 07986 366802

Newsletter Les /Jo Della Maestra - jo.dellamaestra@btinternet.com

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Parish Website:www.stthomas-stjohnparish.com

MASS TIMES FOR THE COMING WEEK

DAY	TIME	SERVICE/INTENTION/FEAST
Today 30th Nov 2025	M: 09.00am	SUNDAY MASS
1st Sunday in Advent	B: 11.00 am	
Tuesday 2nd Dec 2025	M: 10.00am	Mass
Wednesday 3rd Dec 2025	B: 10:00am	Mass Saint Francis Xavier, Priest
Thursday 4th Dec 2025	M: 10:00am	Mass Saint John Damascene, Priest, Doctor
Friday 5th Dec 2025	B: 09.30am	Benediction
	B: 10:00am	Mass
Next Sunday 7th December 2025	M: 09.00am	SUNDAY MASS
2nd Sunday in Advent	B: 11.00am	

PARISH AND CHURCH NEWS

Weekday Masses

Masses during the week at Brandon and Mildenhall are as per the week's newsletter.

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULES DEC 2025

The schedule for the Christmas mass times is as follows

Christmas Eve: Wed 24th Dec - **Mildenhall 6.00 pm**

Brandon 9.00 pm

(times set are to help accommodate working people and young children to attend either mass)

Christmas Day: Thurs 25th Dec **Mildenhall 9.00 am**

Brandon 11.00 am

Offerings/Collection at Christmas

It is usual that the offerings given at Christmas services are for our Priest personally as a gesture of our thanks for all his service throughout the year. If you pay by direct debit and wish to donate specifically for the priest please state that as a choice on the page.

Many Thanks

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS NATIVITY AND CAROL SERVICE

Please put this date in your diaries. All are welcome on Saturday 20th Dec 2025 at 5.00 pm . The children of the parish (Brandon and Mildenhall) are reenacting and presenting a nativity play in conjunction with a Parish Carol Service this year at St John's Mildenhall. If your child would like to participate in the Nativity reenactment and carol singing, please contact Sara Farrugia at St John's Mildenhall. We hope that **MORE** children from the parish (particularly Brandon) would like to be involved. Rehearsals at present are scheduled for:

Sunday 6th Dec 10-11.30 after mass (we only have Mildenhall children at present only just for script and acting)

Sunday 14th after Mass full rehearsal at Mildenhall for those who can attend 10.30—1.00 pm

Final Dress rehearsal Saturday morning 20th Dec (day of service) from 11.30—1.00 pm .
Please see Sara Farrugia next week to confirm your child is attending.

Refreshments will be served after the Carol Service and hope that you will all come and make this a really wonderful 'Parish Family' event.

FOR THE SICK OF OUR PARISH AND THOSE THAT CARE FOR THEM

Please pray at this time for **Stephen Dean, Sue Dean, Des Neville, Janet Kemp, Eugene Armour**, all in our parish who are challenged with health issues or need our support at this time. Our Father, Hail Mary, Glory be ...

PLEASE PRAY FOR PEACE.

During the upcoming Season of Advent, let us continue to pray for peace in the world. Let the message of Christ unite us as one world to live together in love and harmony.

****A CONTINUING REMINDER PLEASE ** - DIOCESE JUBILEE CELEBRATION 1976-2026 -**

Please provide any **information/photos, stories or any news-worthy items about our parish** for our the 50th anniversary magazine, to Mary Rider/Partick Finn or Fr Anil. **Any ARTWORK from the children** for the magazine can be given to Franki at Brandon. Many thanks.

LIST OF THE DECEASED

Please note that an updated list of the deceased of our Parish is located on one of the walls in each Church (St Thomas Brandon and St John's Mildenhall). It was decided that this would be a very thoughtful way to remember those people in our parish who have passed. The list is updated quarterly most recently this week and if anyone would like the name of a member of our Parish (not yet on the list) added, please see Jo DM and his/her name will be included during the next quarterly update (Mar 2026). Thank you.

VOLUNTEER FOR OUR PARISH - HEALTH AND SAFETY

The Parish of St Thomas and St John is looking for a volunteer just to act as a point of contact to pass on information on any issues of health and safety noted at our churches. If someone in the congregation has any concerns, the appointed person would be the point of contact and would then inform the PPC/Priest. If you think you could undertake this role, please contact Les (Sacristan Mildenhall) /Barry Spencer Chair PPC (Brandon) Thank you.

****CONFIRMATION AND HOLY COMMUNION CLASSES **** - **SIGN UP sheets are at the back of both churches** for those who wish their children /or if any adults also wish to undertake Communion /Confirmation classes. The place and time of the classes will be confirmed closer to January 2026. Please speak to Fr. Anil for any further information.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION

****REMINDER OF CHANGE OF DATE—MEETING FOR PARENTS OF HOLY COMMUNICANTS OR ADULTS WISHING TO RECEIVE FIRST HOLY COMMUNION****

Thursday 8th January 2026 at 6.00 pm at St Thomas Church Brandon.
Please collect an application form after mass on Sunday.

****CARISTAS FESTIVAL IN BURY ST EDMUNDS DEANERY - 6th DEC 2025****

Bury St Caritas East Anglia Festival on **Sat 6th Dec 2025 at St Edmund King and Martyr, 21 Westgate St, Bury St Edmunds IP33 1QG from 10.00—12.30 Mass** with Bishop Petera t 10.00 am followed by refreshments. It will end at 12.15 pm with prayer and reflection on the day. All are welcome

Many thanks for all your generosity in helping the parish with funding.

PARISH FINANCES - Please note that there are many ways to support our parish:

The preferred option is by standing order or regular transfer—details below

1. Web Card donation using the DONA button on the parish website home page.
2. Cheques made payable to Brandon & Mildenhall Catholic Parish
3. Cash donations—please help if you can by donating cash or cheques at the offertory in the baskets provided during service or at the back of the church. Donations can also be given for mass intentions and when lighting candles for special private intentions.
4. Parish bank acc details: Brandon & Mildenhall Catholic Parish Lloyds

Bank Sort code 30-98-58

A/C No. 00489176. Contact Philip Kemp Treasurer

RC Diocese of East Anglia

Registered Charity 278742

THE CHRISTMAS FAYRE 2025

A really **BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who added donations by buying additional raffle tickets for the Hamper from the Christmas Fayre, so again a big thank you to all.

Chris (Fundraising)

YOUNG WOMEN'S RETREAT 6TH - 8TH MARCH 2026

The Diocese Youth Service is organising a retreat in York during lent, for young women (age 18—35). For more information and to book a place. **See www.rcdea.org.uk/youth.**

Places are limited and accepted on a first come first served basis.

****PLEASE REMEMBER ANY FOOD BANK DONATIONS ****

St John's Mildenhall each **first Sunday of the month,(please leave at the back of the church)**. Your help as always is greatly appreciated, especially coming up to the Christmas Season. Donations of money are always very welcome.

Please see John or Sinead Bruton at St John's, Mildenhall.

USE OF RESTROOM FACILITIES DURING SERVICES FOR CHILDREN IN OUR CHURCHES

For reasons of safety, please escort young children to the restroom facilities during services. Thank You.