The Catholic Parish of Saint Joseph
St Neots

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Cycle II, Psalter Week 1
Sunday 18th October 2026



Parish Priest: Fr Tibor Borovský
Parish emails: stjosephs.stneots@rcdea.org.uk
Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 10.30am – 12.30pm
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Telephone: 01480 472587
Parish Website: www.stjosephstneots.org.uk

R.C. Diocese of East Anglia: A Registered Charity (Charity Commission No. 278742)

Liturgy of the Word

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 16: 6-8

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God;
turn your ear to me; hear my words.
Guard me as the apple of your eye;
in the shadow of your wings protect me.

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
grant that we may always conform our will to yours
and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING

Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6

'I have grasped the right hand of Cyrus to subdue nations before him.'

Commentary

This passage of Isaiah must have been written at the very end of the exile in Babylon, as Cyrus, King of Persia, was approaching to take over the city and decree that the captives, Jews and other nations, should be sent home to their own countries. In this the Jews saw Cyrus as God's own envoy. It must have finally confirmed them in the new understanding, reached by being sunk into the hostile and alien civilisation of Babylon, that their God, the Lord, was God not just of Israel but of the whole world. Before the exile, of course, they were convinced that the Lord was their own special God and protector, but what of other nations? Confronted with the alien and materialistic gods of Babylon, they realised that God, their own intimate and loving Lord, was the God not just of Israel but of the whole world, the whole universe, the creator of light and darkness. If no other lesson was learnt from the Exile, that was a major advance in understanding. Do we have other gods to worship? Do we accept the Lord as key to every door in the universe, even the door of our own hearts?

HW

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 96(95):1, 3. 4-5. 7-8. 9-10a, c. R7b

R:/ Ascribe to the Lord glory and power.

O sing a new song to the Lord;
sing to the Lord, all the earth.
Tell among the nations his glory,
and his wonders among all the peoples.

R:/ Ascribe to the Lord glory and power.

For the Lord is great and highly to be praised,
to be feared above all gods.
For the gods of the nations are naught.
It was the Lord who made the heavens.

R:/ Ascribe to the Lord glory and power.

Ascribe to the Lord, you families of peoples,
ascribe to the Lord glory and power;
ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name.
Bring an offering and enter his courts.

R:/ Ascribe to the Lord glory and power.

Worship the Lord in holy splendour.
O tremble before him, all the earth.
Say to the nations, 'The Lord is king.'
He will judge the peoples in fairness.

R:/ Ascribe to the Lord glory and power.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 1:1-5b

'Remembering your faith, love and hope.'

Commentary

The First Letter to the Thessalonians is the earliest of all Paul's letters. Paul moved so rapidly round the new Christian communities which he founded that he could never instruct them fully at the first founding. We too need to go on learning more about our faith. So Paul needed to keep in touch, answering questions, solving

difficulties, showing his 'concern for all the Churches'. They are real letters, each responding to a different set of circumstances. Each of Paul's letters begins with a warm greeting, 'grace and peace'. 'Grace' is God's affectionate and powerful smile, drawing us into God's loving protection, and empowering us to live and work for him. Then, with his thoughtful courtesy, Paul encourages them (where possible – the Galatians get no compliments, for they have let Paul down badly) with praise for their achievements in Christ. Here he praises their faith, their love and their firm hope, and also the effectiveness in their lives of the power of the Spirit. It never does any harm to look for the best in people, and show that their efforts have been recognised! HW

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Philippians 2:15d, 16a

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Shine as lights in the world,
holding fast to the word of life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 22:15-21

'Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.'

Commentary

They must really have thought they had their victim sewn up! If Jesus said he paid the Roman taxes, he recognised the Emperor, not God, as his Lord. If he said he didn't pay, he was a traitor to Rome. Jesus turns the question back on them. First he makes them admit that they themselves recognise Rome as overlord by carrying a Roman coin, for the coin would carry the Emperor's head. Next he puts them a question: what do they consider is due to Caesar? Finally he goes beyond their question, to interrogate their ultimate loyalty: in the last analysis, just what is due to God? At a superficial level this seems a little verbal tussle, in which Jesus outwits his opponents. But the story was remembered and passed on in the Christian community not because of Jesus' cleverness, but because at a deeper level it is a question which Jesus puts to each of us: just where do our loyalties and priorities lie? Money? Respect? Fame? A good holiday? Comfort? Power? Jesus is not a dictator who imposes his will. He just asks the question and leave us to give our own answer. To those who question him he gives no easy answer, but always replies with another question. *HW*

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Grant us, Lord, we pray,
a sincere respect for your gifts,
that, through the purifying action of your grace,
we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 32: 18-19

Behold, the eyes of the Lord
are on those who fear him,
who hope in his merciful love,
to rescue their souls from death,
to keep them alive in famine.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant, O Lord, we pray,
that, benefiting from participation in heavenly things,
we may be helped by what you give in this present age
and prepared for the gifts that are eternal.
Through Christ our Lord.



Parish Events & Meetings

This Sunday is World Mission Day. There will be a Second Collection for Missio.

Weekly Mass Changes: There will be Mass on Monday 19th October at 10.00am. No Mass on Tuesday or Wednesday of this week.

First Communion preparation continues on 21st October, 5.00pm in the presbytery / Upper Room.

Confirmation/RCIA: - The next meeting is on Thursday 22nd October at 6.30pm in the Upper Room (entry at side door of church). Anyone interested in either Confirmation (youth) or RCIA (adults) is invited to attend.

Holy Hour with adoration: Saturday 24th October at 10.00am.

Office Closure: The Parish Office will be closed Monday 19th October, reopening on Friday 23rd October.

November Mass for the Recently Deceased: During the 5.30pm Vigil Mass on Saturday 31st October, we will be lighting candles for those we have passed in the past year in this parish and in your families. If you have lost a loved one this year, please contact the office if you would like to light a candle for them at the Mass on 31st October.

Prayers for the Dead in the Cemetery: We will be praying at St Neots New Cemetery for all the dead on Monday 2nd November at 5.00pm. Please bring the candle with you to light.

Children's Liturgy of the Word takes place in the Upper Room during the 10.00am Sunday Mass. It is aimed at children over the age of 4 and follows the Liturgy of the Word.

Coffee and tea in the presbytery after the 10.00am Sunday Mass. All welcome!

Parish Information

Weekly Collection: £352.58 plus ~£820 in standing orders/Dona donations. In addition, £139 was collected for Pact. Thank you for your contributions!

Please pray for the sick and housebound: Sarah Keys, Cynthia Brown, Beryl Wordsworth, John and Jean Dunn, John Fernandes, Alex and Kerry Golding, Sal Jola, Mick Ellis, Maureen Palmer, Bob Lloyd, Jenny Savage, Sandra Clayton, Kit Touhy, Carl Wordsworth, Maureen Heffer, Bernie Dobson, Joyce Perkins, Karen Sayers, Allan

Palmer, Trevor Simkins, Mrs Anderson, Anne Tubridy, Nuala Robinson, Joan Jones, Sam and Mina, Margaret Rose, Anne Hawks.

Altar Servers Needed! Training for new altar servers will be held at 4.00pm on Friday 23rd October in the church. Children who have made their First communion are eligible to serve. If interested, please contact Fr Tibor or John Fernandes.

The Music Group needs you! We are looking for a keyboard player to join our Music Group for the 10.00am Sunday Mass and additional celebrations. If interested, please contact Richard: richard.tubridy@talk21.com / mob. 07955 662105.

Red Mission Boxes: This is the time when we ask you to bring your Red Box to the church for emptying. Don't worry if you've just started using your box, please bring it anyway as all offerings are welcome and, as we know from Fr Vincent's homily a few weeks ago, much appreciated by Missio in its work throughout the world. Please make sure your name is on the label. The boxes will be emptied and returned within a couple of weeks. *With many thanks for your generosity!*

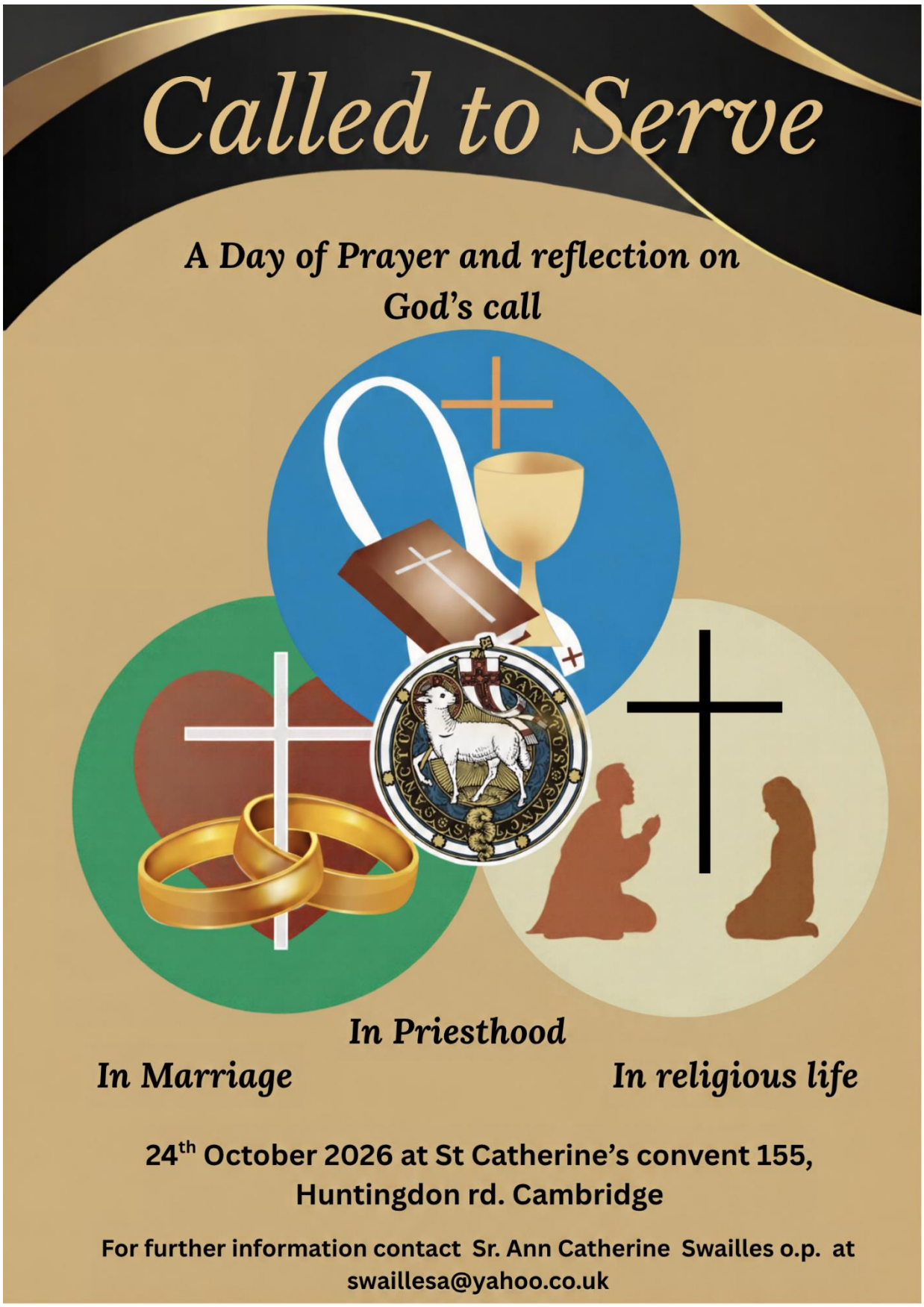
Parish Offer

We are looking for .....
We are offering .....

The Upper Room (Church Hall): Our parish offers its parishioners the use of the Hall above the sacristy, equipped for family celebrations, birthday parties, carols, and interest groups. The room has 9 beautiful mahogany tables and 29 upholstered chairs. Please contact secretary Theresa with your request. If you need a larger covered open space for your family or interest activities, the Upper Room is available to you. We also offer for rent: porcelain service for 40 people - plates, cups etc.; garden furniture - plastic tables and chairs; gazebos; 2 child car seats

Deanery & Diocesan & UK & World Events, Meetings and Information

Italian Medical Charity Commission: This charity has inherited the work of the former Italian Hospital in London. After it was sold to the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, the proceeds are being used to help those of Italian origin who are in need of funds for medical treatment that the NHS has difficulty in providing, or for their carers. For further details, please visit the website www.italianmedicalcharity.co.uk or write to them at IMC, Kings Lodge, Kingsway, N12 0EW. For independent verification, please visit the Charity Commission website and search either using Italian Medical Charity or the Charity's number 218259.



'Called to serve: A day of prayer and reflection on God's Call: In priesthood, in marriage, in religious life. This retreat is for adults (including young adults). To register or find out more, please contact Sr Ann Swailes at swailesa@yahoo.co.uk '

TAIZÉ EVENING

An evening of readings, meditation and music

Sunday 15th November
4.30 pm

St Joseph's Church
East Street, St Neots

All are welcome



PARKING IN FRONT OF THE CHURCH

I would like to ask all drivers parking on Sundays in the lot behind the rectory, around the rectory, and in adjacent areas to take note of the following:

- Given the limited number of parking spaces near the rectory, I ask that you return to your cars promptly after Mass to allow those wishing to leave earlier than you to do so, and to avoid blocking others.
- Please be mindful of where you park on the street and do not block neighbours' driveways.

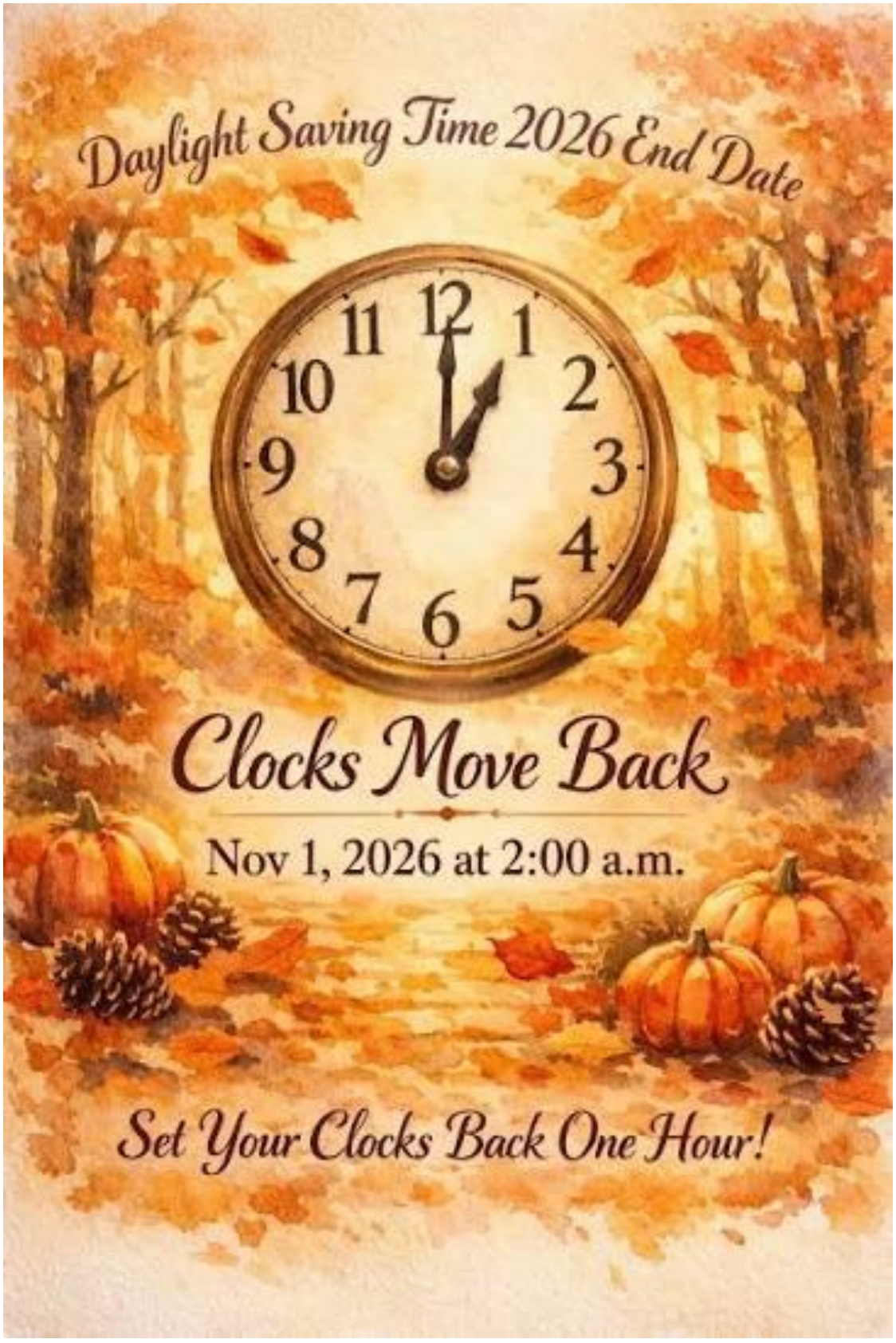
U8minutes to walk from that lot to the church. There is plenty of space available, and you will not be blocked in by anyone there.

- The area in front of the church may only be used for dropping off or picking up passengers - **NOT FOR PARKING**. For safety reasons, this area must remain clear!!!!





FOR SAFETY REASONS, PARKING
IN THIS AREA IS NOT PERMITTED.


Daylight Saving Time 2026 End Date
Clocks Move Back
Nov 1, 2026 at 2:00 a.m.
Set Your Clocks Back One Hour!

LUMINISCENCE



LUMINISCENCE comes to London to transform Westminster Cathedral
with a dazzling 360° video projection concert
- featuring the story of London and the Cathedral
scripted by BAFTA and Olivier Award winner Tim Whitnall,
narrated by Hugh Bonneville,
and accompanied by live music from the Lux Aeterna choir.

On select Orchestral Nights, the Lux Aeterna choir is joined by a live 14-piece orchestra
for a magnificent symphonic performance.

Tickets can be purchased at this link.





Have a lovely evening and invite your friends as well.

In doing so, you will also be supporting Westminster Cathedral.

Sacraments

Baptism: If you wish to have a child baptised, please take an application form from the church porch. Completed forms can be handed in to the parish priest or the parish office. **Baptism Preparation Session:** Tuesday 10 November at 7.30pm in the Presbytery.

Confession: Fr Tibor will be available for confession on weekdays from Tuesday to Friday a half hour before Mass.

Holy Communion: To prepare for Holy Communion each year, children must be registered no later than the end of July and must be 8 years old and year 4 in school at the time of admission. Application forms will be available in early summer.

Confirmation: This year, there are no plans to open a class for preparation for confirmation.

Anointing of the Sick: Anointing of the sick can be arranged at any time through the office and secretary Theresa.

Sacrament of Marriage: Please register for an interview with the Parish priest at least 6-12 months before the planned wedding date in order to have time to complete all the necessary paperwork (especially for weddings abroad and mixed marriages).



Mass Times, Intentions and Liturgical Events for the coming week

Saturday 17th October	**St Ignatius of Antioch** **Bishop, Martyr** ***memorial***	
	xxxxx	xxxxxxxxxx
	Vigil of Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary time	
	10.00am 5.30pm	*Holy hour - Exposition and Adoration* People of the Parish
Sunday 18th October	**The Twenty-ninth Sunday in Ordinary time**	
	8.00am 10.00am	Paul Lippett † Alexina Murphy & Zena Davidson †
Monday 19th October	**Weekday in Ordinary Time**	
	9.30am 10.00am	*Rosary Prayer group in the presbytery* Maurice and Mary Delaney †
Tuesday 20th October	**Weekday in Ordinary Time**	
		No Mass
Wednesday 21st October	**Weekday in Ordinary Time**	
		No Mass
Thursday 22nd October	**St John Paul II** **Pope** ***optional memorial***	
	10.00am	Paul Kemsley †
Friday 23rd October	**Weekday in Ordinary Time**	
	10.00am	Bill Keating †
Saturday 24th October	**Weekday in Ordinary Time**	
	10.00am	*Holy hour - Exposition and Adoration*
	Vigil of Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary time	
	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 25th October	**The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary time**	
	8.00am 10.00am	Donald Drew † Sheila Salt

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding Representative has special responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving children, young people and adults in risk.

Your Safeguarding Representative is:

Noreen Sinclair

Email: sinclana7@gmail.com

Find out more: www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk
www.rcdea.org.uk/safeguarding



For safety reasons,
ALL CHILDREN MUST
be accompanied
to the restroom by a parent or adult.

Thank you for understanding.

We respectfully request
that you turn off the sound on your mobile devices
when entering the church
(or better still, turn off your mobiles completely)
and maintain this status
while you are in the church.

Thank you for understanding.



!!! PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE CHURCH !!!



Photography in the church is not permitted
without the consent of a priest or a sacristan during public gathering.

We are obliged to comply with the regulations of the Diocese of East Anglia and the GDPR regulations on the protection of minors and vulnerable persons in particular.

PLEASE **respect and protect** all members of our community, especially the young and the vulnerable to avoid any possible sanctions or criminal charges against individuals or the Parish.

THANK YOU FOR UNDERSTANDING.







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Everyone would be delighted and honoured
to welcome you at any of our services

Remember, O most pure spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
my great protector, Saint Joseph,
that no one ever had recourse to your protection,
or implored your aid without obtaining relief.
Confiding, therefore, in your goodness, I come before you.
Do not turn down my petitions, foster father of the Redeemer,
but graciously receive them.

Amen.



Saint Joseph, pray for us!

Newsletter deadline
The deadline for submitting announcements or events for the Sunday newsletter is Thursday morning by 10:00am.

