

Catholic Church of Our Lady and St. Walstan

Website: <http://www.stwalstans.com>



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God promises to make Abraham the father of a mighty nation. On the mountain, Jesus reveals himself and his glory. In church, we may like Peter, James and John, be in his presence, see his glory and be transformed into his people and thus glorify God.

Sundays Year C ~ Lent Season ~ Psalms Week: II
Second Sunday of Lent
 9th March 2025

Entrance Antiphon	<i>Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.</i>	
First Reading	<i>God enters into a covenant with Abraham, the man of faith.</i>	Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18
Responsorial Psalm	<i>The Lord is my light and my salvation.</i>	Psalm 27
Second Reading	<i>Christ will configure us to his glorious body.</i>	Philippians 3:17-4:1
Gospel Acclamation	<i>Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father. From a bright cloud, the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my beloved Son, listen to him'. Glory to you, O Christ, Wisdom of God the Father.</i>	
Gospel	<i>'As Jesus was praying, the appearance of his face was altered.'</i>	Luke 9:28b-36

Saturday			6:00pm	Peter Legge R.I.P.
Sunday	16th March	2nd Sunday of Lent	10:30am	Jennie & Tony Howes
Monday	17th March	St. Patrick	9:15am	Philomena Newton R.I.P.
Tuesday	18th March	Lent Feria		No Mass
Wednesday	19th March	St. Joseph	7:00pm	Alice Secker R.I.P.
Thursday	20th March	Lent Feria	9:15am	Agius Family
Friday	21st March	Lent Feria		No Mass
			7:00pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday	22nd March	Lent Feria	10:00am	Deceased Members of the Bates & Drury Families.
			6:00pm	Parishioners
Sunday	23rd March	3rd Sunday of Lent	10:30am	Cecil & Daphne Sparkes R.I.P.

Morning or Evening Prayer will be prayed fifteen minutes before weekday Masses.
 Confessions on Saturday 10.30-11.00am and Wednesday 6.00-6.30pm.
 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Thursday after the morning Mass.

Sick and Housebound – Please pray for, Deirdre Mohan, Peter Bevis, Cecilia King, Patricia Paul, Christopher Sharples, Peter King, Joseph Mitton, Geoff Routs, Henry Bedingfield, Jane Henson, John Barnes, Sue Williams, Jennifer Gates, Trudy McClusky, Gerry Watt, Yustyna Adamska, Michele Bendall, Christina Thomas, Ann Bettany and Marcia Jenkin.

Faithful Departed – Please pray for Julie Ann Waterhouse, Philomena Newton, Bernadette Rowell, William James Barnes, Michael Coady, Charles Coulter, Sidney Breeze, Veronica Seddon, Maurice Blake, Leonard Vince, Maureen Yates, Jean Bates, George Green, Philip McDermott, Marian Kotlarz, Declan McCloskey, Thomas O'Sullivan, Ray Cannell, Janet Hanlon, and all whose anniversaries occur around this time,

Parish AGM: Wednesday March 26th, 7.30pm (after the evening Mass), in the Garden Room. All parishioners are welcome, and indeed encouraged, to attend. We will be electing four members to the council so you will need to be present if you wish to vote. This is also a great opportunity to find out what goes on in your parish. Tea and coffee will be available.

The UCM: Lunch on Tuesday 6th May at the Deep Blue (Fish & Chips Restaurant), Drayton High Road @ 12:00pm. If you would like to join us, can you please put your name down on the list in the porch? Date for your diary: 21st June - Strawberry Tea in the Garden Room from 2pm to 4pm. Tickets £5 (on sale end of May) in aid of our charity – Samaritan's Purse.

Youth Meeting: The next meeting of our lively youth group (teenage years, give or take a couple of years) will take place in the Garden Room on Thursday April 24th, 6.00-7.30pm. We hope to have members of the diocesan Ignite team to lead this session.

Parish Mission: A meeting to look at the way forward following our very successful parish mission will be held in the Garden Room at 7.30pm (after the evening Mass) on Wednesday May 7th. Some of the COLW sisters will be joining us to answer any questions that may have arisen following the mission.

Fr David's Homilies: Following the recent homily on the Sacrament of Reconciliation it has been suggested that there may be other topics parishioners would like Fr David to speak about at Mass. Please let him know by dropping a note in at the Presbytery or emailing him at david.ward@rcdea.org.uk.

Holy Week Rota: Readers and Ministers of the Eucharist please PRINT your names on the list in the porch for any Masses you will be attending from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday so Fr David can make a rota. Ministers of the Eucharist should indicate whether they wish to distribute hosts (H) or chalice (C). Please add your names by Sunday March 30th. Thank you.

DVD Evenings: We usually hold these in June but, following on from the parish mission, it has been decided instead this year to start watching the series called 'The Chosen', recommended by the COLW sisters. We will probably meet once a month, days and times to be announced soon.

Gift Aiders: I will shortly be claiming tax on your gift aid donations made to the parish this tax year April 2024 - April 2025. If your circumstances have changed and you no longer pay tax could you please let me know so that I can update my records. You should be paying tax in an amount equal to the claim. Also if you have changed your address will you please notify me at jennypiercy@sky.com

Stations of the Cross: Every Friday evening during Lent, 7.00pm, in the church. Please come and join us for this traditional Lenten devotion.

Vacancy for: Diocese of East Anglia, Director of Schools Service. Please see website for more details: <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/vacancies/>

Items for the newsletter may be left at the presbytery (marked clearly "for newsletter" along with the date, and your name), or email newsletter@stwalstans.com. For all forms of communication, please provide a telephone number on which you can be contacted. The deadline for items to be included in the newsletter is Wednesday 6pm.

Collection **8th /9th March** **£ 594.87**
Many Thanks

NO BEDDING PLANTS: I am sorry but I am unable to grow any flowering plants this year. Pauline.

Red Missio Boxes: Can all collectors please bring their boxes in so all the cash can be banked. Also for existing and new missionaries, direct debit forms are in the porch.

Mark Knight

Assisted Suicide Bill – Cardinal Nichols has said:

"I believe it is deeply irresponsible of any government to allow a change of this magnitude to be carried out without due, proper, government-supported parliamentary process". He added: "I think what's happening, if it came to pass, would be the biggest change that this country has seen for many, many decades at least, probably more. On the back of what – five, six, seven hours' debate?"

"I was told that the fox hunting bill [in 2004] endured 700 hours of debate."

Despite these concerns, he hoped that the bill could still be defeated as it makes it way through the Houses of Parliament: "I don't think that story's over yet."

The Hunting Act 2004 passed after 700 hours of parliamentary debate and a government inquiry – the Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) bill, passed on November 29 by 330 to 275 last year after five hours of debate.

Please write to your MP to urge them to vote against the Bill.

Inviting ALL young people in Year 8 upwards to the Ignite Festival 3rd – 4th May

Come and experience your faith in a dynamic way at the Ignite Festival! The weekend will include inspiring talks, passionate prayer, live music, and lots of fun stuff! Followed by the opportunity to join the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham on Bank Holiday Monday May 5th. See www.ignitefestival.co.uk for more information. Book before March 30th for Early Bird Price!

Join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk in the Jubilee Year

You are invited to join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk and journey together with Catholics in England, Wales and Scotland as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year - walking 200km over 40 days during Lent. Journey to one of the churches or shrines designated as places of pilgrimage in our diocese as part of your Big Lent Walk. Every £1 you raise will support communities like Lokho's in Kenya, experiencing the worst impact of the climate crisis, to rebuild their lives in hope.

Sign up here: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

The Friends of St Augustine's (FOSA) are going to be holding a summer fete this year on **Saturday 5th July** between 12-4pm. It would be amazing for members of the parish to come along to the event too!

Also if any parishioners would like to volunteer to help at the event. This could be making teas and coffee or helping on a stall etc., please contact Sarah Bird FOSA Chair on thompsonsarah1989@gmail.com

Lent Lunches: These will take place from 12 noon to 2.00pm at the following churches on the Saturdays mentioned: March 22nd, Baptist Church, The Street; March 29th, St Walstan's.