

# Catholic Church of Our Lady and St. Walstan

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



**Parish Priest**  
**Fr. David Ward**  
 The Presbytery, Townhouse Road  
 Costessey  
 Norwich NR8 5AA  
 Tel. 01603 742812  
[David.Ward@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:David.Ward@rcdea.org.uk)

**School**  
**Head Teacher: Rachel Swindell**  
 St Augustine's Catholic Primary School  
 19 West End, Costessey  
 Norwich NR8 5AG  
 Tel: 01603 743317  
[office@st-augustines.norfolk.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-augustines.norfolk.sch.uk)

*A good life is one of service to others. We can speak of the Good News using powerful words and images, but we also need to bring about change so that those who feel marginalised are included, those who seek refuge are welcome, and those who are hungry can eat. We are called to build peace by creating a fairer and more equal world. We are to be messengers of hope.*

*Sundays Year A ~ Easter Season ~ Psalms Week: I  
 Fifth Sunday of Easter  
 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026*

<b>Entrance Antiphon</b>	<i>O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; In the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.</i>	
<b>First Reading</b>	<i>'They chose seven men full of the Holy Spirit.'</i>	<i>Acts 6:1-7</i>
<b>Responsorial Psalm</b>	<i>May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O Lord.</i>	<i>Psalms 33</i>
<b>Second Reading</b>	<i>'But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood.'</i>	<i>1 Peter 2:4-9</i>
<b>Gospel Acclamation</b>	<i>Alleluia, alleluia. I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord. No one comes to the Father, except through me. Alleluia.</i>	
<b>Gospel</b>	<i>'I am the way, and the truth, and the life.'</i>	<i>John 14:1-12</i>

<b>Saturday</b>			<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Parishioners</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> May</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Peter Carroll</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>4<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>The English Martyrs</b>	<b>9:15am</b>	<b>Margaret Buck R.I.P.</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>5<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Easter Feria</b>		<b>No Mass</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Easter Feria</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>Louis Borg R.I.P.</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>7<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Easter Feria</b>	<b>9:15am</b>	<b>Vocations</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>8<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Easter Feria</b>	<b>7:00pm</b>	<b>No Mass</b> <b>May Devotions</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>9<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>Easter Feria</b>	<b>10:00am</b>	<b>Jim &amp; Veronica O'Neil R.I.P.</b>
			<b>6:00pm</b>	<b>Parishioners</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>10<sup>th</sup> May</b>	<b>6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b>	<b>10:30am</b>	<b>Ann Mahony &amp; Emm Trott R.I.P.</b>

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 Jenny King, Peter King, Dorota Gobiecka-Grosz, Peter Bevis, Patricia Paul, Christopher Sharples, Peter King, Joseph Mitton, Geoff Routs, Jane Henson, John Barnes, Sue Williams, Jennifer Gates, Trudy McClosky, Yustyna Adamska, Michele Bendall, Christina Thomas, Ann Bettany and Marcia Jenkin.

**Faithful Departed** – Please pray for Deacon Bill Dimelow, recently departed, Patrick Hart, Nancy Carroll, Clarence Wilson, Graham Thurlow, Richard Rymarz, Daphne Sparkes, Olive Utting, Paul Ashtani, Linda Moore and all whose anniversaries occur around this time.

**May Devotions:** These will take place every Friday in the church at 7.00pm. They last about half-an-hour – a gentle, prayerful way to end the working week. All are welcome.

**Deacon Anthony's Ordination:** There are still seats available on the coach to the ordination to the priesthood of Deacon Anthony (along with Deacons Peter Ho and Matthew Allen) on Saturday July 4<sup>th</sup>. The coach will leave St Walstan's at 10.00am, allowing plenty of time to get there for the 11.30am ordination Mass. It will depart from the cathedral at 2.30pm. Please let Fr David know a.s.a.p. if you would like a seat on the coach.

**Diocesan Jubilee:** The parish celebration to mark the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our diocese will be after Mass on Sunday July 19<sup>th</sup>, coupled with the parish barbecue and Fr David's 70<sup>th</sup> birthday. As part of the display we thought it would be fun to show photos of parishioners as they looked in 1976, even if you weren't a parishioner at the time. (Yes, I know many of you weren't born then – the joys of youth!) If you'd like to provide a photo, please drop it through the letterbox at the Presbytery with your name and contact details printed on the back or on an attached post-it note.

**Baptism Class:** The next class for parents wishing to have their children baptised will take place in the Presbytery (behind the church) from 3.30 to 4.30pm on Saturday May 9<sup>th</sup>. Further details available from Fr David.

**A Day With Mary:** Sunday May 17<sup>th</sup>, starting with a procession from Walsingham village car park at 12.20pm. Further details on the poster in the church porch.

**CAFOD:** Stand with Sudan. Give monthly. On the third anniversary of the war in Sudan, Kayode Akintola, CAFOD's Head of Region for Africa, asks for your help: *"Many in Sudan are suffering from violence, hunger, and disease. The speaker appeals for monthly donations to aid families fleeing violence by providing food, safe water, and essential support, emphasizing a commitment to stand with them until peace is achieved."* **Donate at [cafod.org.uk/StandWithSudan](http://cafod.org.uk/StandWithSudan)**

**"Head to Heart": Diocesan Retreat Day For Women 2026:** This retreat day is scheduled for Saturday, 23rd May, at the Community of Our Lady of Walsingham in Dereham, Norfolk. Participants will engage with talks focusing on growing in relationship with Christ, inspired by Saint Edith Stein's ideas on womanhood and embracing daily life's challenges. The event will feature discussions, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, and a cream tea. Due to limited spots, booking is essential, with further details available at [www.rcdea.org.uk/east-anglia-diocese-announces-retreat-day-for-women/](http://www.rcdea.org.uk/east-anglia-diocese-announces-retreat-day-for-women/) and inquiries directed to [mflcoordinator@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:mflcoordinator@rcdea.org.uk)

**Eco Churches Talk:** Cathedral Narthex Hall, Wednesday May 6th, 7.30pm, to be given by Barbara Bryant

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](mailto: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.

**Collections (DONA) 25<sup>th</sup> /26<sup>th</sup> April**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Collection**

**£733.53 (£85)**  
**£485.32**  
**Many Thanks**

**The next cake stall is on Sunday**, May 3rd in the Garden Room after mass. Last month's cake stall raised £60.30. Thank you for your support.

**Head of School** required for St Edmunds and St Joseph's Catholic Primary Schools, please see diocesan website for more details: <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/schools/school-vacancies/>

**Join the Community of Our Lady of Walsingham in Dereham** for their annual open house and gardens on Monday, 25th May, from 12pm to 4:30pm. Enjoy teas, coffees, and homemade cakes for a suggested donation of £5 for adults and £3 for children. Please bring a picnic lunch, if desired. Note: There is no disabled access, and the ground is uneven. Drive with caution at 10mph. For more information, email [office@walsinghamcommunity.org](mailto:office@walsinghamcommunity.org) or call 01362 692574. All ages are welcome!

**Are you a tax payer?** If so, do you know that you can gift aid your donations to the parish, which means we can claim 25% of your donations back from the tax office. You just have to have paid tax in an amount equal to the claim in the tax year. All you have to do is complete a gift aid declaration form and we will do the rest. These forms are available in the porch. If you have any questions, you can contact me at [jennypercry@sky.com](mailto:jennypercry@sky.com). Parish Gift Aid Administrator.

**Tickets for the Strawberry Tea** will be on sale from Saturday, May 23rd until Sunday, June 21st, after all masses. Tickets are £6 all proceeds to Mary's House Appeal. Numbers are limited so purchase early.

**St Walstan's Lectio Divina Prayer Sessions**  
We warmly invite you to join St Walstan's Lectio Divina sessions. The Bible is inspired by God and Lectio Divina offers a way of *encountering Scripture* rather than studying it; an opportunity to listen, reflect, and rest in God's presence. Our next sessions are 7pm in the Garden room on Thursday 14th May, then 28th May, continuing fortnightly.

**Marriage Celebration Mass:** all married couples in the Diocese are invited to the annual Marriage Celebration Mass on June 13, 2026, at 11.30am at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist in Norwich. Significant anniversary couples (1, 5, and every multiple of 5 years, up to 60) will receive a certificate from the Bishop. Refreshments will follow. For registration and details, visit <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/marriage-mass-registration/> or email [mflcoordinator@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:mflcoordinator@rcdea.org.uk)

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham:** Monday May 4<sup>th</sup>. Further details are available on the poster in the church porch.