

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

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

We are taken back to the time just before Jesus' death, as he prays for his disciples. He knows they will face difficulties as they take on their mission, but he entrusts them to God's care. Once again, we are reminded that we are not alone. Just as the apostles gathered together for comfort and strength in prayer, so we come together to love and care for one another.

*Sundays Year A ~ Easter Season ~ Psalms Week: III
 Seventh Sunday of Easter
 17th May 2026*

Entrance Antiphon	<i>O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; Of you my heart has spoken; Seek his face, Hide not your face from me, alleluia.</i>	
First Reading	<i>'All with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer.'</i>	Acts 1:12-14
Responsorial Psalm	<i>I believe I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.</i>	Psalm 27
Second Reading	<i>'If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed.'</i>	1 Peter 4:13-16
Gospel Acclamation	<i>Alleluia, alleluia. I will not leave you as orphans, says the Lord. I am going away and I will come to you, and your hearts will rejoice. Alleluia.</i>	
Gospel	<i>'Father, glorify your Son.'</i>	John 17:1-11a

Saturday			6:00pm	Parishioners
Sunday	17th May	7th Sunday of Easter	10:30am	Graham Thurlow R.I.P
Monday	18th May	Easter Feria	9:15am	David Hogg R.I.P.
Tuesday	19th May	Easter Feria		No Mass
Wednesday	20th May	Easter Feria	7:00pm	Fred Barnes R.I.P.
Thursday	21st May	Easter Feria	9:15am	Nigel Brynolff – Trett R.I.P.
Friday	22nd May	Easter Feria		No Mass
			7:00pm	May Devotions
Saturday	23rd May	Easter Feria	10:00am	Parishioners
			6:00pm	David Hogg R.I.P.
Sunday	24th May	Pentecost Sunday	10:30am	Judie Petrie 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 Jenny King, Eamon McGrath, 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 Billy Wells, Erna Hammond, Fred Barnes, Mary Youngs, Sidney Paston, Brian Lansdell, Patrick O'Neill, Mary Cohen, Maria Dance and all whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Catholic Legacy Week, 24-30 May, is a time when Parishes and Catholic charities such as CAFOD celebrate the work made possible in the life of the Church through gifts in Wills. Find out more about the week using QR code or at cafod.org.uk/CatholicLegacyWeek

Annual Mission Appeal: On behalf of the Sisters Mission Committee of England and Wales, the missionary Sisters of St. Peter Claver will be present on the weekend of May 23 and 24. They collaborate with missionaries worldwide, particularly in areas where the Church is weak and resources are scarce. They support efforts in pastoral ministry, education, and healthcare through prayer and practical assistance. The Sisters appreciate your kindness and ask that you remember missionaries and their work in your prayers.

Bawburgh Pilgrimage: Our annual walking pilgrimage to St Walstan's Well in Bawburgh takes place on Sunday May 31st. If you are able to walk the four miles, please gather at St Walstan's at 2.00pm. If not, do join us at the well for a short service and a picnic at 4.00pm.

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 Deacon Peter Ho) on Saturday July 4th. 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: On Sunday, July 19, following Mass, the parish will celebrate our diocese's 50th anniversary with a BBQ and Fr. David's 70th birthday. We felt it would be entertaining to include pictures of parishioners in 1976, even if you weren't a parishioner at the time. (Yes, I am aware that many of you weren't around at the time—the pleasures of youth!) If you would like to submit a photo, please place it in the Presbytery's letterbox with your name and contact information printed on the back or on a post-it note that is attached.

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

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

Tickets for the Strawberry Tea which will be held in the Garden Room on Saturday June 27th. Tickets 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.

Collections (DONA)	9th /10th May	£ 892.12 (€210)
Direct Debits	March	£2322.50
	April	£2491.50
		Many Thanks

A donation page has been set up in memory of Deacon Bill. The chosen charities are Parkinson's UK and St Joseph's Parish, Taken, Cambodia. The link to the page is: <https://www.memorygiving.com/reverendwilliamjohndimelow>

Deacon Bill's Requiem Mass: This will take place at Our Lady & St Walstan's Church at 11.00am on Tuesday May 26th. The main celebrant will be Bishop Emeritus Alan Hopes. All are welcome to attend and to come to the reception afterwards in the Garden Room. Deacon Bill's body will be brought into church the afternoon before, Monday May 25th, at 4.00pm. Again, all are welcome to attend this short service.

Mass Intentions: I reported a while ago that Mass intentions were booked quite a way in advance. This is still the case with no vacant intentions now until August. Please remember to book well in advance if you would like a specific date.

Jubilee Information: The Diocese of East Anglia is celebrating its 50th anniversary with a year-long schedule of festivities. On Sunday, July 19, St. Walstan's will participate in the festivities with a special Mass, followed by the yearly parish barbecue and the creation of a St. Walstan's booklet. We wish to honour and celebrate the cultural history of St. Walstan's parishioners as part of these celebrations. We are a unique parish because of our diversity, and we would want to know which nations our families are from so that we can honour them in our booklet. Please fill out the form on the porch if you are comfortable sharing your cultural heritage. Thank you, Priscilla and Marcelle.

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 or call 01362 692574. All ages are welcome!

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 28th May, then 11th June, continuing fortnightly.

Are you a taxpayer? If so, did you know that you can gift aid your parish gifts, allowing us to get 25% of them back from the tax office? You only need to have paid tax in an amount equivalent to the claim during the tax year. All you have to do is fill out a gift assistance declaration form, and we will handle the rest. The forms are available on the porch. If you have any questions, please email me at jennypercysky@sky.com Parish Gift Aid Administrator.