



# Catholic Parish of King's Lynn

**Church of Our Lady of the Annunciation**

London Road, King's Lynn, Norfolk. PE30 5HQ

**Holy Family Church**

Field Lane, Gaywood, King's Lynn, Norfolk. PE30 4AY

## DEACON SHAUN MORRISON'S WEEKLY BULLETIN

Sunday, September 17, 2023

Dear Friends,

Today is the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time.

*"The Lord is compassion and love, slow to anger and rich in mercy."*

The YouTube link for the livestream for the 11.30am Mass from Our Lady's is:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/hAQEhFAOzv4?si=xRYHVgaego0G3AhL>

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**Today is also Evangelii Gaudium Sunday.**

**From the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales:**

The Third Sunday in September, formerly called Home Mission Sunday, is now Evangelii Gaudium Sunday.

Named after Pope Francis' first (solo) Apostolic Exhortation on the **Joy of the Gospel**, the day offers the Catholic community in England and Wales the opportunity to celebrate the beauty of our faith and our commitment to witness to the fullness of life in Christ.

*Evangelii Gaudium Sunday* will be celebrated in Catholic parishes throughout England and Wales on Sunday, 16 September 2023.

There is a YouTube video called What is Evangelii Gaudium Sunday? The link is:

<https://youtu.be/ZORlvghw3S0>

**Archbishop Mark O'Toole**, the Chair of the Department for Evangelisation and Discipleship, has written a message ahead of Evangelii Gaudium Sunday, a day to reflect on the call to all the faithful to be missionary disciples.

In particular, Archbishop O'Toole talks about the upcoming Jubilee Year in 2025, and the many things the bishops' conference is preparing for that year of celebration.

The YouTube link to Archbishop O'Toole's message is:

<https://youtu.be/7FB0sLEpFQc>

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**From the Office of Readings for 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time.**

**The beginning of the sermon of St Augustine on the Shepherds**

*We are Christians and appointed leaders*

You have often learned that all our hope is in Christ and that he is our true glory and our salvation. You are members of the flock of the Good Shepherd, who watches over Israel and nourishes his people. Yet there are shepherds who want to have the title of shepherd without wanting to fulfil a pastor's duties; let us then recall what God says to his shepherds through the prophet. You must listen attentively; I must listen with fear and trembling.

*The word of the Lord came to me and said: Son of man, prophesy against the shepherds of Israel and speak to the shepherds of Israel. We just heard this reading a moment ago, my brothers, and I have decided to speak to you on this passage. The Lord will help me to speak the truth if I do not speak on my own authority. For if I speak on my own authority, I will be a shepherd nourishing myself and not the sheep. However, if my words are the Lord's, then he is nourishing you no matter who speaks. Thus says the Lord God: Shepherds of Israel, who have been nourishing only themselves! Should not the shepherds nourish the sheep? In other words, true shepherds take care of their sheep, not themselves. This is the principal reason why God condemns those shepherds: they took care of themselves rather than their sheep. Who are they who nourish themselves? They are the shepherds the Apostle described when he said: They all seek what is theirs and not what is Christ's.*

I must distinguish carefully between two aspects of the role the Lord has given me, a role that demands a rigorous accountability, a role based on the Lord's greatness rather than on my own merit. The first aspect is that I am a Christian; the second, that I am a leader. I am a Christian for my own sake, whereas I am a leader for your sake; the fact that I am a Christian is to my own advantage, but I am a leader for your advantage.

Many persons come to God as Christians but not as leaders. Perhaps they travel by an easier road and are less hindered since they bear a lighter burden. In addition to the fact that I am a Christian and must give God an account of my life, I as a leader must give him an account of my stewardship as

well.

### Responsory

- ℟. The Lord is my shepherd: there is nothing I shall want.\* Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.
- ℣. He guides me along the right path; he is true to his name.\* Fresh and green are the pastures where he gives me repose.

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Wednesday **20th September** is the Memorial of St Andrew Kim Taegŏn, Priest, Paul Chong Hasang, and Companions. Martyrs.

From Universalis:

For centuries, Korea was closed to all outside influences, and all contact with foreigners was forbidden. No missionaries went there. Nevertheless, a number of laymen sought to find out all that they could about the outside world, through the annual embassy to Peking. Some books about Christianity fell into their hands, and they were converted. Because of the secrecy involved, it is impossible to date the origin of Christianity in Korea with any precision: it may have started in the early 17th century, but the first known baptism is that of Ni-Seoung-Houn, who was baptized under the name of Peter when he visited Peking in 1784.

The first known martyrs are Paul Youn and James Kouen, who in 1791 refused to offer sacrifice on the death of their relatives. Over the next century, over ten thousand Korean Christians were executed, with great cruelty; and many others perished.

For most of this period the church in Korea had no priests and was an entirely lay phenomenon. In 1794 the first priest to visit Korea, a Chinese, found a community of 4,000 Catholics who had never seen a priest. He was executed in 1801. Two further Chinese priests, sent at the request of the Korean Church, had a similarly brief ministry. Some thirty years later, at the request of the Korean Catholics, Pope Leo XII established the Prefecture Apostolic of Korea, and a new missionary phase began. The first of these missionaries, a French priest from the Paris Foreign Mission Society, entered the country in 1836 and was beheaded three years later. Many others followed. Andrew Kim Taegŏn, the first Korean priest, was secretly trained in Macao, entered Korea in 1845 and was executed in 1846, together with his father. A lay apostle, St Paul Chong Hasang, and many others perished at the same time. A further major persecution occurred in 1866.

In all, 103 of the Korean martyrs are celebrated today: they are mostly lay men and women: some married, some not; some old, some young, some even children.

“The Korean Church is unique because it was founded

entirely by laypeople. This fledgling Church, so young and yet so strong in faith, withstood wave after wave of fierce persecution. Thus, in less than a century, it could boast of 10,000 martyrs. The death of these many martyrs became the leaven of the Church and led to today's splendid flowering of the Church in Korea. Even today their undying spirit sustains the Christians of the Church of Silence in the north of this tragically divided land.” – Pope John Paul II at the canonization of the Korean Martyrs, May 6, 1984.

Source: <https://universalis.com/europe.england.eastanglia/20230920/today.htm>

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Thursday **21st September** is the Feast of **St. Matthew. Apostle & Evangelist.**

From the Office of Readings:

A reading from the homilies of St Bede the Venerable.  
*Jesus saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax office, and he said to him: Follow me.* Jesus saw Matthew, not merely in the usual sense, but more significantly with his merciful understanding of men.

He saw the tax collector and, because he saw him through the eyes of mercy and chose him, he said to him: *Follow me.* This following meant imitating the pattern of his life – not just walking after him. St John tells us: *Whoever says he abides in Christ ought to walk in the same way in which he walked.*

*And he rose and followed him.* There is no reason for surprise that the tax collector abandoned earthly wealth as soon as the Lord commanded him. Nor should one be amazed that neglecting his wealth, he joined a band of men whose leader had, on Matthew's assessment, no riches at all. Our Lord summoned Matthew by speaking to him in words. By an invisible, interior impulse flooding his mind with the light of grace, he instructed him to walk in his footsteps. In this way Matthew could understand that Christ, who was summoning him away from earthly possessions, had incorruptible treasures of heaven in his gift.

*As he sat at table in the house, behold many tax collectors and sinners came and sat down with Jesus and his disciples.* This conversion of one tax collector gave many men, those from his own profession and other sinners, an example of repentance and pardon. Notice also the happy and true anticipation of his future status as apostle and teacher of the nations. No sooner was he converted than Matthew drew after him a whole crowd of sinners along the same road to salvation. He took up his appointed duties while still taking his first steps in the faith, and from that hour he fulfilled his obligation and thus grew in merit. To see a deeper understanding of the great celebration Matthew held at his house, we must realise that he not only gave a banquet for the Lord at his earthly residence, but far more pleasing was the banquet set in his own heart which he provided through faith and love. Our Saviour attests to this: *Behold I stand at*

*the door and knock; if anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and eat with him, and he with me.*

On hearing Christ's voice, we open the door to receive him, as it were, when we freely assent to his promptings and when we give ourselves over to doing what must be done. Christ, since he dwells in the hearts of his chosen ones through the grace of his love, enters so that he might eat with us and we with him. He ever refreshes us by the light of his presence insofar as we progress in our devotion to and longing for the things of heaven. He himself is delighted by such a pleasing banquet.

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Saturday **23rd September** is the **Memorial of St. Pius of Pietrelcina, Priest. (Padre Pio)**

From Universalis:

St Pio of Pietrelcina (1887-1968)

He was born in the small village of Pietrelcina in southern Italy, and joined the Capuchin friars at the age of 16. He became a priest seven years later, and spent fifty years at the monastery of San Giovanni Rotondo, where he was very much sought after as a spiritual advisor, confessor, and intercessor. Many miracles were popularly ascribed to him during his lifetime. He died a few days after the fiftieth anniversary of his receiving the stigmata, and over 100,000 people attended his funeral.

Source: <https://universalis.com/europe.england.eastanglia/20230923/today.htm>

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The link to our YouTube channel is:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8V030I7usRZiKoTlrwBAKq>

And the link to our Parish Website:

<http://www.catholicparish-kingslynn.org.uk/>

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God bless

**Shaun**

**Deacon Shaun Morrison**