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, January 18, 2026

Dear Friends,

Today is the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

'Behold, I have come, Lord to do your will'

The link for the live stream of the **11.30am Mass from Our Lady's is:**
https://youtube.com/live/VASIgMg6yyQ?feature=share

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From the Office of Readings for Week 2 of the Year Sunday:
A reading from the letter of St. Ignatius of Antioch to the Ephesians.

The harmony of unity

It is right for you to give glory in every way to Jesus Christ who has given glory to you; you must be made holy in all things by being united in perfect obedience, in submission to the bishop and the presbyters.

I am not giving you orders as if I were a person of importance. Even if I am a prisoner for the name of Christ, I am not yet made perfect in Jesus Christ. I am now beginning to be a disciple and I am speaking to you as my fellow-disciples. It is you who should be strengthening me by your faith, your encouragement, your patience, your serenity. But since love will not allow me to be silent about you, I am taking the opportunity to urge you to be united in conformity with the mind of God. For Jesus Christ, our life, without whom we cannot live, is the mind of the Father, just as the bishops, appointed over the whole earth, are in conformity with the mind of Jesus Christ.
It is fitting, therefore, that you should be in agreement with the mind of the bishop as in fact you are. Your excellent presbyters, who are a credit to God, are as suited to the bishop as strings to a harp. So in your harmony of mind and heart the song you sing is Jesus Christ. Every one of you should form a choir, so that, in harmony of sound through harmony of hearts, and in unity taking the note from God, you may sing with one voice through Jesus Christ to the Father. If you do this, he will listen to you and see from your good works that you are members of his Son. It is then an advantage to you to live in perfect unity, so that at all times you may share in God.

If in a short space of time I have become so close a friend of your bishop – in a friendship not based on nature but on spiritual grounds – how much more blessed do I judge you to be, for you are as united with him as the Church is to Jesus Christ, and Jesus Christ to the Father, so that all things are in harmony through unity. Let no one make any mistake: unless a person is within the sanctuary, he is deprived of God's bread. For if the prayer of one or two has such power, how much more has the prayer of the bishop and the whole Church.

Responsory

℟. I implore you, for the sake of the Lord, to lead a life worthy of your vocation.*

Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace.

℣. There is one Body, one Spirit, just as you were all called into one and the same hope when you were called.* Do all you can to preserve the unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace.

Peace Day

From the Diocese of East Anglia Yearbook:

The World Day of Prayer for Peace is marked on 1 January. As this day is when the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Mary Mother of God and is the beginning of the new year in England, the day is transferred to the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

Prayer:

O God of peace, who are peace itself and whom a spirit of discord cannot grasp, nor a violent mind receive, grant that those who are one in heart, may persevere in what is good and that those in conflict may forget evil and so be healed.

From the Roman Missal.

"Peace be with you all. Towards an unarmed and disarming peace" is the theme of Pope Leo XIV's Message for the World Day of Peace 2026.

You can read Pope Leo's full message by clicking into the following link:
Message of the Holy Father for the 59th World Day of Peace 2026: "Peace be with you all: Towards an "unarmed and disarming" peace"

An extract from the message for you:
Dear brothers and sisters, whether we have the gift of faith or feel we lack it, let us open ourselves to peace! Let us welcome it and recognize it, rather than believing it to be impossible and beyond our reach. Peace is more than just a goal; it is a presence and a journey. Even when it is endangered within us and around us, like a small flame threatened by a storm, we must protect it, never forgetting the names and stories of those who have borne witness to it. Peace is a principle that guides and defines our choices. Even in places where only rubble remains, and despair seems inevitable, we still find people who have not forgotten peace. Just as on the evening of Easter Jesus entered the place where his disciples were gathered in fear and discouragement, so too the peace of the risen Christ continues to pass through doors and barriers in the voices and faces of his witnesses. This gift enables us to remember goodness, to recognize it as victorious, to choose it again, and to do so together.

Celebrating 50 Years of the Diocese of East Anglia.

From the diocesan website:

For most of the three centuries before 1850, Catholics in England were a persecuted and harried minority, banned from most public offices and places of education, and subject to fines and imprisonment. Priests (at least until 1700) risked torture and execution if identified. There were few churches and no parish system. Anti-Catholic laws were repealed only in 1829, and it was not until 1850 that Catholic dioceses and bishops were re-established. Only then did a functioning system of parish churches and schools begin to emerge. East Anglia was grouped with five East Midlands counties into the vast Diocese of Northampton. In most parts of England – though far less so in East Anglia – a majority of practising Catholics were of Irish descent, and this region remained the least Catholic area of the country.

Then, in 1976, with diocesan and parish structures fully operational, Pope Paul VI issued a bull dividing the Diocese of Northampton in two, establishing the Diocese of East Anglia to include more than 50 parishes in Norfolk, Suffolk and Cambridgeshire. By then, Mass attendance in the new Diocese had reached over twenty-five thousand. In that memorable year, on 13 March 1976, the first Bishop of East Anglia, Rt Rev Alan Clark (1976–1995), was appointed, and what had been the very large parish church of St John's in Norwich (built between 1882 and 1910) was consecrated as the new Cathedral of East Anglia in June 1976.

For further reading and for the full article please click into the following link:
Celebrating 50 Years of the Diocese of East Anglia

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Wednesday 21st January is the Memorial of St. Agnes, Virgin and Martyr.

From Universalis:

As with so many of the early Roman martyrs, very little is now known about Agnes' life. Partly this is because the details have been obscured by the light that shines from her martyrdom and the cult that it inspired, and partly because if you are martyred at the age of 12, your life has not really acquired that many details in any case. Agnes was filled with the love of God from an early age, vowed herself to celibacy, and when the opportunity of martyrdom arose, she did not hide away but stepped forward and took it.

That is really all that is known: but it is enough. We who are used to compromising with the world at every turn, and would find excuses to avoid any inconveniences that our faith might cause us, let alone martyrdom ("yes, of course I would die for my faith in principle, but wouldn't I be able to do more good in the long run if I stayed alive just now?"), should admire the simple wisdom of Agnes, realise that there are moments where compromise and moral ambiguity just will not do, and pray for the strength to live up to such moments when they happen.

Source: https://universalis.com/europe.england.eastanglia/20260121/today.htm

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The link to our YouTube channel is:
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8V030I7usRZiKoTlrwBAKg

And the link to our Parish Website:
https://cpkl.org

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God bless,

Shaun

Deacon Shaun Morrison

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