



# 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 10, 2023**

Dear Friends,

Today is the 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time.

*"O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts."*

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

<https://www.youtube.com/live/FYNNnRxZWz4?si=WHEyqjUMXJTk37x>

### **Today is also Education Sunday.**

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

Education Sunday falls on the second Sunday of September (10 September, in 2023) just as the new academic year starts and is one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in England and Wales, established 175 years ago in 1848. It provides an opportunity to celebrate and give thanks to all involved in making Catholic schools places of enlightenment, as well as to look forward in anticipation of the year ahead.

Education Sunday offers an opportunity for us to pray to Almighty God for all people involved in Catholic education, to celebrate the achievements of the past and to ask Our Lord to bless the work of the year ahead.

**From The Rt Rev Marcus Stock, Bishop of Leeds, Chair of the Catholic Education Service:**

This year, the 10th September, marks the 175th celebration of Education Sunday for the Church in England and Wales. Education Sunday, at the start of the new academic year, offers us an opportunity to pray to Almighty God for all people involved in Catholic education, to celebrate the achievements of the past and to ask Our Lord to bless the work of the year ahead.

The resources for Education Sunday this year focus on the promise given by Jesus in St Matthew's Gospel: "Where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them".

#### **Matthew 18:20**

As you gather today in your schools and universities, you can take these words to heart, for our Lord Jesus Christ always keeps His promise. You are gathered together in His name and He is with you as you work, learn, pray, grow and live out your mission. The great desire of Jesus is to be with us and to invite us to enter into a personal relationship with

Him, a relationship of love. When a person knows they are truly loved, a new confidence abounds.

St John Bosco, the great patron saint of young people and of education, once said: "Without confidence and love, there can be no true education. If you want to be loved you must love yourselves, and make your children feel that you love them."

The mission of our Catholic schools, colleges and universities is to provide a holistic education which enables the lives of children and young people to flourish and for them to be formed into the men and women that God the Father has created them to be.

May our Catholic schools, colleges and universities always be places where children and young people discover that they are known and loved by the Lord in their uniqueness. May they be able to look back and recognise that our Lord Jesus Christ was present to them throughout their education. May the gift of faith inspire them, the gift of hope encourage them, and the gift of love sustain them as they strive to live out their unique mission in the world.

When young people leave our institutions, with Christ at their centre, may they do so with stronger faith and greater confidence, to share the love that they have received with others, in whatever vocation or work they undertake

We owe much gratitude to all those who, over the past 175 years, have governed, led, taught and supported the children and young people in our Catholic schools, colleges and universities, and who have created the environments and opportunities for a loving encounter with our Lord Jesus Christ.

On this 175th Education Sunday, as we gather in the name of the Lord Jesus and have confidence that He is with us as He promised, let us give thanks to Almighty God for all the ways He has been present to us amidst the joys and sorrows of our life. Let us invite Him to be with us over the coming academic year.

I remain, yours in the Lord Jesus Christ,

**Rt Rev Marcus Stock**

**Source:** <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/education-sunday-2021/message-to-catholic-schools-for-education-sunday/>

There is also a pastoral letter by our Bishop, The Rt Rev Peter Collins which is being read out during Masses this weekend where Bishop Peter says:

**With Christ at the Centre**, the Catholic school is not an isolated enclosure but a vibrant community that endeavours to provide an evangelising witness in the midst of wider society.

Gospel values and the rich tapestry of Church teaching frame and enhance every aspect of life within a Catholic school. The Diocese of East Anglia is blessed with Catholic schools that are diverse and inclusive environments where faith and reason creatively combine enabling all to explore the horizons of our knowledge and experience.

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**The First Holy Communion** classes begin on Saturday (16th Sept) at 11.00am in Holy Family Church.

There are 46 in the group this year and the list is now closed.

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**From the Office of Readings for 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time.**

**A reading from the sermon of Pope St Leo the Great on the Beatitudes**

*Christian Wisdom*

The Lord then goes on to say: *Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.* This hunger is not for bodily food, this thirst is not for any earthly drink: it is a longing to be blessed with righteousness, and, by penetrating the secret of all mysteries, to be filled with the Lord himself.

Happy is the soul that longs for the food of righteousness and thirsts for this kind of drink; it would not seek such things if it had not already savoured their delight. When the soul hears the voice of the Spirit saying to it through the prophet: *Taste and see that the Lord is good*, it has already received a portion of God's goodness, and is on fire with love, the love that gives joy of the utmost purity. It counts as nothing all that belongs to time; it is entirely consumed with desire to eat and drink the food of righteousness. The soul lays hold of the true meaning of the first and great commandment: *You shall love the Lord God with your whole heart, and your whole mind and your whole strength*, for to love God is nothing else than to love righteousness.

Finally, just as concern for one's neighbour is added to love of God, so the virtue of mercy is added to the desire for righteousness, as it is said: *Blessed are the merciful, for God will be merciful to them.*

Remember, Christian, the surpassing worth of the wisdom that is yours. Bear in mind the kind of school in which you are to learn your skills, the rewards to which you are called. Mercy itself wishes you to be merciful, righteousness itself wishes you to be righteous, so that the Creator may shine forth in his creature, and the image of God be reflected in the mirror of the human heart as it imitates his qualities. The faith

of those who live their faith is a serene faith. What you long for will be given you; what you love will be yours for ever.

Since it is by giving alms that everything is pure for you, you will also receive that blessing which is promised next by the Lord: *Blessed are the pure of heart, for they shall see God.* Dear friends, great is the happiness of those for whom such a reward is prepared. Who are the clean of heart if not those who strive for those virtues we have mentioned above? What mind can conceive, what words can express the great happiness of seeing God? Yet human nature will achieve this when it has been transformed so that it sees the Godhead *no longer in a mirror or obscurely but face to face* – the Godhead that no man has been able to see. In the inexpressible joy of this eternal vision, human nature will possess *what eye has not seen or ear heard, what man's heart has never conceived.*

**Responsory**

- ℟. What treasures of loving kindness, Lord, do you store up for the men who fear you.\* these treasures you give in their fullness to those who put their trust in you.
- ℣. This no eye has seen, no ear has heard or human heart conceived.\* These treasures you give in their fullness to those who put their trust in you.
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Tuesday **12th September** is the Memorial of the **Most Holy Name of Mary.**

The Collect for today:

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, for all who celebrate the glorious Name of the Blessed Virgin Mary, she may obtain your merciful favour. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen

**From Catholic Culture Website:**

In accordance with Jewish custom our Lady's parents named her eight days after her birth, and were inspired to call her Mary. The feast of the Holy Name of Mary therefore follows that of her Birthday, as the Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus follows Christmas. The feast originated in Spain and was approved by the Holy See in 1513; Innocent XI extended its observance to the whole Church in 1683 in thanksgiving to our Lady for the victory on September 12, 1683 by John Sobieski, king of Poland, over the Turks, who were besieging Vienna and threatening the West. This day was commemorated in Vienna by creating a new kind of pastry and shaping it in the form of the Turkish half-moon. It was eaten along with coffee which was part of the booty from the Turks.

The ancient Onomastica Sacra have preserved the meanings ascribed to Mary's name by the early Christian writers and perpetuated by the Greek Fathers. "Bitter Sea," "Myrrh of the Sea," "The Light Giver," "The Enlightened One," "Lady," "Seal of the Lord," and "Mother of the Lord"

are the principal interpretations. These etymologies suppose that the Hebrew form of the name is Maryām, not Miryām. From the time of St. Jerome until the 16th century, preferred interpretations of Mary's name in the West were "Lady," "Bitter Sea," "The Light Giver," and especially "Star of the Sea." Stella Maris was by far the favoured interpretation. The revival of Hebraic studies, which accompanied the Renaissance, led to a more critical appraisal of the meanings assigned to Our Lady's name. Miryām has all the appearance of a genuine Hebrew name, and no solid reason has been discovered to warrant rejecting the Semitic origin of the word. The Hebrew name of Mary, Miryām, (in Latin Domina) means lady or sovereign; this Mary is in virtue of her Son's sovereign authority as Lord of the World. We call Mary our Lady as we call Jesus our Lord, and when we pronounce her name we affirm her power, implore her aid and place ourselves under her protection.

Source: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/calendar/day.cfm?date=2020-09-12>

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Wednesday **13th September** is the Memorial of **St. John Chrysostom, Bishop and Doctor of the Church.**

#### **St John Chrysostom (349 - 407)**

He was born in Antioch. After a thorough education, he took up the ascetic life. He was ordained to the priesthood, and became a fruitful and effective preacher.

He was elected Patriarch of Constantinople in 397, and was energetic in reforming the ways of the clergy and the laity alike. He incurred the displeasure of the Emperor and was twice forced into exile. When the second exile, to Armenia, had lasted three years, it was decided that he should be sent still further away, but he died on the journey, worn out by his hardships.

His sermons and writings did much to explain the Catholic faith and to encourage the living of the Christian life: his eloquence earned him the surname "Chrysostom" (the Greek for "golden mouth").

Source: <https://universalis.com/europe.english.eastanglia/20230913/today.htm>

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Thursday **14th September** is the **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.**

#### **From the Office of Readings:**

#### **A reading from the homilies of St Andrew of Crete**

*The glory and exaltation of Christ is the cross*

We are celebrating the feast of the cross which drove away darkness and brought in the light. As we keep this feast, we are lifted up with the crucified Christ, leaving behind us earth and sin so that we may gain the things above. So great and outstanding a possession is the cross that he who wins it has won a treasure. Rightly could I call this treasure the fairest of

all fair things and the costliest, in fact as well as in name, for on it and through it and for its sake the riches of salvation that had been lost were restored to us.

Had there been no cross, Christ could not have been crucified. Had there been no cross, life itself could not have been nailed to the tree. And if life had not been nailed to it, there would be no streams of immortality pouring from Christ's side, blood and water for the world's cleansing. The legal bond of our sin would not be cancelled, we should not have attained our freedom, we should not have enjoyed the fruit of the tree of life and the gates of paradise would not stand open. Had there been no cross, death would not have been trodden underfoot, nor hell despoiled.

Therefore, the cross is something wonderfully great and honourable. It is great because through the cross the many noble acts of Christ found their consummation – very many indeed, for both his miracles and his sufferings were fully rewarded with victory. The cross is honourable because it is both the sign of God's suffering and the trophy of his victory. It stands for his suffering because on it he freely suffered unto death. But it is also his trophy because it was the means by which the devil was wounded and death conquered; the barred gates of hell were smashed, and the cross became the one common salvation of the whole world.

The cross is called Christ's glory; it is saluted as his triumph. We recognise it as the cup he longed to drink and the climax of the sufferings he endured for our sake. As to the cross being Christ's glory, listen to his words: *Now is the Son of Man glorified, and in him God is glorified, and God will glorify him at once.* And again: *Father, glorify me with the glory I had with you before the world came to be.* And once more: *"Father, glorify your name."* Then a voice came from heaven: *"I have glorified it and will glorify it again."* Here he speaks of the glory that would accrue to him through the cross. And if you would understand that the cross is Christ's triumph, hear what he himself also said: *When I am lifted up, then I will draw all men to myself.* Now you can see that the cross is Christ's glory and triumph.

#### **Responsory**

- ℟. O wonderful cross, upon whose branches hung the treasure and redemption of captive men,\* through you the world is redeemed by the blood of the Lord.
- ℣. Hail, O cross, consecrated by the body of Christ, whose limbs, like precious jewels, adorn your wooden timbers.\* Through you the world is redeemed by the blood of the Lord.
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Friday **15th September** is the **Memorial of Our Lady of Sorrows.**

#### **Our Lady of Sorrows**

The devotion to Our Lady of Sorrows flourished in the Middle Ages, and the hymn *Stabat Mater* was composed for it. Although it is officially celebrated today, the day after the

feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross, popular devotion in many parts of the Mediterranean celebrates it with processions on the Friday before Holy Week.

Source: <https://universalis.com/europe.england.eastanglia/20230915/today.htm>

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Saturday **16th September** is the Memorial of **Saints Cornelius, Pope, & Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs.**

### **Pope St Cornelius ( - 253)**

Cornelius was made bishop of the church in Rome in the year 251. He fought against the Novatian schismatics, and established his authority with the aid of Cyprian.

The emperor Gallus sent him into exile, and he died at Civitavecchia in June 253. He is buried in Rome.

### **St Cyprian (210 - 258)**

He was born in Carthage and spent most of his life in the practice of the law. He was converted to Christianity, and was made bishop of Carthage in 249. He steered the church through troubled times, including the persecution of the emperor Decius, when he went into hiding so as to be able to continue looking after the church. In 258 the persecution of the emperor Valerian began. Cyprian was first exiled and then, on the 14th of September, executed, after a trial notable for the calm and courtesy shown by both sides.

Cyprian's many letters and treatises shed much light on a formative period in the Church's history, and are valuable both for their doctrine and for the picture they paint of a group of people in constant peril of their lives but still determined to keep the faith.

Source: <https://universalis.com/europe.england.eastanglia/20230916/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**

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