



# 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 — August 25, 2024

Dear Friends,

Happy Bank Holiday weekend!

Today is the 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time.

*"Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life: you have the message of eternal life"*

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

<https://www.youtube.com/live/cGLFjHUAjcU?si=drf4J5qun91hvjje>

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#### From the Office of Readings for 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time:

**A reading from the Constitution of the Second Vatican Council on the Church in the Modern World.**

*A glimpse of what is to come*

We do not know the time when earth and humanity will reach their completion, nor do we know the way in which the universe will be transformed. The world as we see it, disfigured by sin, is passing away. But we are sure that God is preparing a new dwelling place and a new earth. In this new earth righteousness is to make its home, and happiness will satisfy, and more than satisfy, all the yearnings for peace that arise in human hearts. On that day, when death is conquered, the sons of God will be raised up in Christ; what was sown as something weak and perishable will be clothed in incorruption. Love and the fruits of love will remain, and the whole of creation, made by God for man, will be set free from the frustration that enslaves it.

We are warned indeed that a man gains nothing if he wins the whole world at the cost of himself. Yet our hope in a new earth should not weaken, but rather stimulate our concern for developing this earth, for on it there is growing up the body of a new human family, a body even now able to provide some foreshadowing of the new age. Hence, though

earthly progress is to be carefully distinguished from the growth of Christ's kingdom, yet in so far as it can help towards the better ordering of human society it is of great importance to the kingdom of God.

The blessings of human dignity, brotherly communion and freedom – all the good fruits on earth of man's co-operation with nature in the Spirit of the Lord and according to his command – will be found again in the world to come, but purified of all stain, resplendent and transfigured, when Christ hands over to the Father an eternal and everlasting kingdom: "a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace." On this earth the kingdom is already present in sign; when the Lord comes it will reach its completion.

#### Responsory

- ℟. Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice. Break forth, O mountains, into singing, for the Lord will come,\* and he will have compassion on his afflicted.
- ℣. Justice in his days shall thrive, and abundant blessings of peace,\* and he will have compassion on his afflicted.

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#### Monday 26th August is Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God, Priest.

##### **Blessed Dominic Barberi (1792 - 1849)**

Dominic Barberi was born near Viterbo, Italy, in 1792 and joined the Passionist Order, urged on by an inner assurance that God called him to work as a missionary in England. He was ordained a priest in 1818 and worked in Italy and Belgium before coming to England in 1841. His first foundation was at Aston Hall in Staffordshire; he established four Passionist houses in all, and received many Anglicans into full communion, the most famous being John Henry Newman, who was received at Littlemore near Oxford on 9 October 1845. Blessed

Dominic was noted for the personal warmth of his approach to non-Catholics and for his zeal in preaching; he drew crowds in spite of his strong Italian accent. He favoured a higher profile for the small Catholic body in England; he went around in his Passionist habit and, while at Aston Hall in 1844, organised a Corpus Christi procession through the streets of the neighbourhood, which is believed to have been the first public procession of its kind in England in modern times. Blessed Dominic died at Reading on 27 August 1849 and was beatified by Pope Paul VI in 1963.

Source: <https://universalis.com/europe.england.eastanglia/20240826/today.htm>

YouTube has a film about Blessed Dominic Barberi with the Archbishop of Birmingham filmed six years ago. The link is: <https://youtu.be/KOocWPongAw?si=HF7y8oXjJRhxk7dK>

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## **Tuesday 27th August is the Memorial of St. Monica**

### ***Saint Monica (331 - 387)***

She was born at Thagaste in Africa of a Christian family. She was married young, to Patricius, and among her children was Augustine. He had a brilliant intellect and uncertain morals and his wayward spiritual career saw him at one time a Manichee and then a Neoplatonist. With many tears she prayed unceasingly to God for his conversion and her prayers were answered shortly before she died. She had a deep faith and outstanding virtue and is a wonderful example of a Christian mother.

Source: <https://universalis.com/europe.england.eastanglia/20240827/today.htm>

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## **Wednesday 28th August is the Memorial of St. Augustine, Bishop and Doctor of the Church**

### ***From Catholic Culture website:***

St. Augustine (354-430) was born at Tagaste, Africa, and died in Hippo. His father, Patricius, was a pagan; his mother, Monica, a devout Christian. He received a good Christian education. As a law student in Carthage, however, he gave himself to all kinds of excesses and finally joined the Manichean sect. He then taught rhetoric at Milan where he was converted by St. Ambrose. Returning to Tagaste, he distributed his goods to the poor, and was ordained a priest. He was made bishop of Hippo at the age of 41 and became a great luminary of the African Church, one of the four great founders of religious

orders, and a Doctor of the universal Church.

Source: <https://www.catholicculture.org/culture/liturgicalyear/calendar/day.cfm?date=2021-08-28>

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## **Thursday 29th August is the Memorial of the Passion of St. John the Baptist**

### ***From Universalis:***

Saint John the Baptist has two feasts to himself. One, in August, celebrates his death, and one, in June, celebrates his birth. And this is as it should be, for as Christ himself said, John was the greatest of the sons of men.

The greatest, but also the most tragic. A prophet from before his birth, leaping in the womb to announce the coming of the incarnate God, his task was to proclaim the fulfilment of all prophecies – and thus his own obsolescence. And *he did it*: with unequalled courage he spread the news that he, the greatest of all men, was the least in the kingdom of heaven. His disciples, and the devil, would have preferred him to fight, to build his sect, to defeat this upstart whom he himself had baptized, to seize his place in history. But he did not – and so, rightly, he *has* his place, and he has glory in heaven.

We envy the great and the talented, and sometimes we think that they themselves are beyond envy. But when they come across someone with greater gifts, as one day most of them will, they will see for the first time what it means to feel like us. Let us pray that they, like John the Baptist, may pass that test.

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

#### **From a homily by St Bede the Venerable, Priest**

##### *Precursor of Christ in birth and death*

As forerunner of our Lord's birth, preaching and death, the blessed John showed in his struggle a goodness worthy of the sight of heaven. In the words of Scripture: Though in the sight of men he suffered torments, his hope is full of immortality. We justly commemorate the day of his birth with a joyful celebration, a day which he himself made festive for us through his suffering and which he adorned with the crimson splendour of his own blood. We do rightly revere his memory with joyful hearts, for he stamped with the seal of martyrdom the testimony which he delivered on behalf of our Lord.

There is no doubt that blessed John suffered imprisonment and chains as a witness to our

Redeemer, whose forerunner he was, and gave his life for him. His persecutor had demanded not that he should deny Christ, but only that he should keep silent about the truth. Nevertheless, he died for Christ. Does Christ not say: I am the truth? Therefore, because John shed his blood for the truth, he surely died for Christ.

Through his birth, preaching and baptising, he bore witness to the coming birth, preaching and baptism of Christ, and by his own suffering he showed that Christ also would suffer.

Such was the quality and strength of the man who accepted the end of this present life by shedding his blood after the long imprisonment. He preached the freedom of heavenly peace, yet was thrown into irons by ungodly men; he was locked away in the darkness of prison, though he came bearing witness to the Light of life and deserved to be called a bright and shining lamp by that Light itself, which is Christ.

John was baptised in his own blood, though he had been privileged to baptise the Redeemer of the world, to hear the voice of the Father above him, and to see the grace of the Holy Spirit descending upon him. But to endure temporal agonies for the sake of the truth was not a heavy burden for such men as John; rather it was easily borne and even desirable, for he knew eternal joy would be his reward.

Since death was ever near at hand through the inescapable necessity of nature, such men considered it a blessing to embrace it and thus gain the reward of eternal life by acknowledging Christ's name. Hence the apostle Paul rightly says: You have been granted the privilege not only to believe in Christ but also to suffer for his sake. He tells us why it is Christ's gift that his chosen ones should suffer for him: The sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed in us.

Source: <https://universalis.com/europe.england.eastanglia/20240829/today.htm>

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**Friday 30th August is Saints Margaret Clitherow, Anne Line and Margaret Ward, Martyrs.**

***From Universalis:***

**St Margaret Clitherow, née Middleton (c.1553-1586)**

**Margaret** Middleton was born in York around 1553, lived there all her life, and died there on 25 March 1586. At 15, she married a butcher, John Clitherow,

and three years later became a Catholic. Her brother-in-law William was a Catholic and after ordination as a priest became a Carthusian; he may well have influenced Margaret's decision to become a Catholic. Imprisoned for her non-attendance at church, she taught herself to read and later ran a small school for her own and her neighbours' children. Her husband remained Protestant, but allowed her to hide priests in their house. It is said that she used to visit the Knavesmire (the Tyburn of the North) to pray for those who had been martyred there. She saw that her children were all educated in the faith through the services of a young man who had been imprisoned for his faith in York Castle. She knew this prison well having been detained there several times for non-attendance at Church of England services. In 1586 the secret hiding places in her home were discovered, and Margaret was put on trial. In order to prevent her children and servants from being questioned she refused to plead, for which the punishment was being laid on sharp stones and then crushed to death. Her body was secretly buried by the authorities but was later discovered by friends, who buried her privately elsewhere; though the place of her burial has not yet been found. Her daughter Anne was imprisoned for four years for refusing to attend a Church of England service, and finally became a nun at St Ursula's, Louvain. Her sons Henry and William became priests.

**St Anne Line (c.1565-1601)**

**Anne** Heigham was born at Dunmow (Essex) around 1565, and was hanged at Tyburn on 27 February 1601. In her teens, she became a Catholic and was disinherited, and in 1585 married Roger Line, also a disinherited convert, who was subsequently imprisoned then, already a sick man, exiled for his faith, dying in Flanders soon afterwards. Anne was left destitute and herself suffered poor health. She offered her services to the Jesuits and was asked to look after a house of refuge in London. She ran a large safe house for priests, taught children, and made vestments. To strengthen her resolution she took voluntary vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. On 2 February after a large number of people had been seen gathering at her house for Mass, she was arrested. Her trial was on 26 February. Despite the prosecution's failure to prove the charge of harbouring a priest the Lord Chief Justice directed the jury to find her guilty, and condemned her to be hanged the next day.



## St Margaret Ward

**Margaret** Ward was born at Congleton (Cheshire), but entered into the service of a family in London. She was arrested after assisting a priest, William Watson, who was himself awaiting execution to escape from prison (after a somewhat bizarre life he was eventually executed for having mounted an attempt to kidnap and usurp King James I). After many twists and turns she was eventually arrested but though severely tortured refused to reveal Watson's hiding place or to renounce her faith. She was tried at the Old Bailey, and executed on 30 August 1588.

Source: <https://universalis.com/europe.england.eastanglia/20240830/today.htm>

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## Saturday 31st August is St. Aidan, Bishop, and Saints of Lindisfarne

### From Universalis:

#### St Aidan (- 651)

Aidan, a native of Ireland, was a monk on Iona. When the Christian King Oswald returned from exile on Iona to his kingdom of Northumbria, he invited the monks of Iona to provide missionaries to instruct his people in Christianity. After initial difficulties, Aidan was consecrated bishop and sent with a group of Irish monks to begin this task.

He established a monastery on the island of Lindisfarne which became the centre of a major missionary effort in the North of England. The monastery also became a valuable centre of learning and an important training ground for the education of English boys who would continue the work of evangelisation.

From Lindisfarne Aidan journeyed throughout Northumberland, usually on foot, and working closely with King Oswald who found him to be a wise adviser and a good personal friend. After Oswald's death in 642, Aidan continued this work under his successor, Oswin, but when Oswin himself was killed nine years later, Aidan did not long survive him and died two weeks later in 651.

According to Bede, Aidan was a man of great gentleness and moderation, outstanding for his energetic missionary work. His influence on the North of England was enormous, and his wise promotion of Christian education among the native English laid the solid foundation for the spread of the Gospel in the centuries which followed his death.

*Middlesbrough Ordo.* Source: <https://universalis.com/today.htm>

## The annual Red Mount Procession last Sunday was a lovely occasion.

*From this week's newsletter:*

About 120 people took part in the Red Mount Procession last Sunday. It was a joyful celebration of Our Lady. Many thanks to all who helped – the KSC for stewarding, the young people who carried the statue and the banner, the singers, those who provided and served the tea and the King's Lynn Morris who honoured Our Lady with their music and dancing. A memorable event!

The event made news on the diocesan website. The link to the story is:

<https://www.rcdea.org.uk/historic-procession-in-norfolk-town-honours-our-lady/>

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One of our parishioners Pat Jones asked me to include this note in my email to you:

*A big Thank you to my comrade subscriber (who may wish to remain anonymous). The two of us have raised £358 for the parish, simply by signing up to "easyfundraising" and purchasing goods online. It is as simple as ABC. There is no con, you just order your goods as normal and if your seller is a participating member a donation will automatically be paid to our cause, The Catholic Parish of King's Lynn.*

*Do contact me if you have any queries: Pat Jones 07973 719135 and/or click on the link below.*

*Here's hoping.*

*Kind regards*

*Pat*

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/catholicparishkingslynn/?searchSessionId=03c6cf1d-348a-44ec-8b5d-ce3ac7b7f1e4>

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The link to our YouTube channel is:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8V030I7usRZiKoTlwBAKg>

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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