



Our Lady's Parish, Stowmarket

Tel. 01449 612 946 + Fr Simon Leworthy, PP + 29th August, 2021



SACRED LITURGY

Saturday (*Vigil*), 6pm - "Mass for the Parish"

Sunday, 8.30am - "Private Intention" (Bowden)

10.15am - + Ann Leworthy (Ford)

Monday, 10am - + Fr Stephen Durkin

Tuesday, 10am - + Fr Peter Durning, OP

Wednesday, 10am - Episcopal Election

Thursday, 10am - + Msgr Clarence Fisher

Friday, 10am - + Fr Tom Fitzgerald, OP

Exposition & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament with *Morning Prayer* - Thursdays, 9-10.45am

Confessions - Saturdays, 10-10.45am

Our Sick and Housebound - are remembered in the "Mass for the Parish" each weekend.

Recently Deceased - Ann Leworthy, Hilda Bolton, Rene Ashton, Robbie Shaw, Agnes Fitzsimons, Fr Andrew Smith, O.Praem., Fr John Woods, Kathleen Parkins.

Anniversaries - Patricia Firman, Mary Leary, James Grieves, Winifred Winward, Marguerite Gillespie, Swantje Kemp, Patrick Dougherty, Minnie O'Shaughnessy, Josephine Briggs, May Harnett, Mary Hoyle.

Collections last week -

Vigil £179

Fabric £45

Sunday Masses £509

Fabric £102

Thank you

Collections in church continue this weekend. The baskets will be passed round as formerly.

VARIOUS CONTACTS

PPC Chair - Mrs Josephine Lea (01449 721544)

Centre Bookings - Mrs Diane Bowden (01449 672527)

Stowmarket & District Foodbank - Contact: Mrs Josephine Lea

Parish Website - ourladystowmarket.org.uk

Items for Bulletin - pp@ourladystowmarket.org.uk

Stowmarket Foodbank - If you are able to donate any goods, they can be left either in the narthex of the church or in the Parish Centre. Current urgent needs are tinned new potatoes, packets of instant custard and tinned custard. Any cash donations can be put into the Parish Centre letter box in an envelope marked "Food Bank." Your continued support is appreciated.

Missions - Mrs Annie Bowen-Wright has kindly volunteered to take on the *Missio* Apostolate. If you have a full Red Box at home, please bring it in to the Sacristy. Donations may, also, be made, at present, via the options on the *Missio* website: missio.org.uk

The Parish Finance Committee meets in the Centre, at 7.30pm, on Tuesday, 31st August.

Seminarian Dr Anthony Reilly returns for his *Second Year* at Oscott College, this Tuesday. Thank you for making him so welcome and please take the time to say farewell, and let him know that you will be praying for him as he studies for the Priesthood.

ST THOMAS AQUINAS - TIPS ON PRAYING BETTER

1. Be Attentive. Although, strictly, we need only be intentional and not also perfectly attentive to merit by our prayer, it is nevertheless true that our attention is important. When our minds are filled with actual attention to God, our hearts too are inflamed with desire for Him.



St. Thomas explains that spiritual refreshment of the soul comes chiefly from being attentive to God in prayer. The Psalmist cries out, "It is your face, O Lord, that I seek!" (Ps 27, 8). In prayer, let us never cease to search for His Face.

2. Be Intentional. Merit in prayer - that is to say, whether it brings us closer to heaven - flows from the virtue of charity; and this flows from our will. So, to pray meritoriously, we need to make our prayer an object of choice.

St. Thomas explains that our merit rests primarily on our original intention in praying. It isn't broken by accidental distraction, which no one can avoid, but only by intentional and willing distraction. This also should give us some relief.

We need not worry too much about distractions, as long as we don't encourage them. We realize something of what the Psalmist says, namely, that God "pours gifts on His beloved while they slumber" (Ps 127, 2).

First Holy Communion - Parents, who would like their children to prepare for First Communion in 2022, can see Father at Sunday Mass for an Enrolment Form.

Date for the Diary - The Bishop will be visiting the Parish on Tuesday, 14th September, to install Father as Parish Priest of Stowmarket. He will also bless the refurbished Sanctuary. Holy Mass will commence at 6pm; and refreshments will follow in the Hall.

By 8th September, for catering purposes, please check the parish website for a free ticket, or indicate your proposed attendance on the clipboard provided in the Narthex.

March for Life UK - Saturday, 4th September, London. Contact: marchforlife.co.uk. See noticeboards.