



Our Lady's Parish, Stowmarket

Tel. 01449 612 946 + Fr Simon Leworthy, PP + 3rd December, 2023



SACRED LITURGY

Saturday, (*Vigil, Woolpit*), 6pm - +Bridget & Patrick Conlon (Fndn)

Sunday, 8.30am - *Mass for the Parish*

10.15am - + Sylvia Olive Dale (Marcellus-Boot)

Monday, 10am - NO MASS

Tuesday, 10am - NO MASS

Wednesday, 10am - NO MASS

Thursday, 10am - NO MASS

Friday, 10am - NO MASS

FEASTS DURING THE WEEK - Sunday: *St Francis Xavier*; Monday: *St John Damascene*; Wednesday: *St Nicholas*; Thursday: *St Ambrose*; Friday: *Immaculate Conception of Our Lady*.

Confessions - Saturdays

10 - 10.45am, Stowmarket; 5.30 - 5.50pm, Woolpit

OUR SICK/HOUSEBOUND - especially: Catherine Hayward, Terri Thornton, Veronica Hughes, Marjorie Shorter, Geoffrey Johannes, Nuala Rickards - are remembered in the "Mass for the Parish" each weekend. Please do pray for them.

RECENTLY DECEASED - Pat McSweeney, Robert Bucke, Anthony McEntee.

ANNIVERSARIES - Daniel Keenan, Albert Bell, Irene Gillard, Jim MacDonald, Richard Rushby, Winifred Day, Joseph Flinter, Gertrude Key, Mary McGinley, Roay Hayward, Gladys Unsworth, Frank Lea, Dermot O'Connell.

Collections last week -

Vigil (*Woolpit*) £183

Sunday £359

Thank you

VARIOUS CONTACTS

Parish Website - www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk

Items for Bulletin - pp@ourladystowmarket.org.uk

PPC Chair - Mrs Josephine Lea

Centre Bookings - Mrs Diane Bowden (01449 672527)

Missions - Mrs Annie Bowen-Wright

Stowmarket & District Foodbank - Mrs Josephine Lea

CAFOD - Mrs Pat Keating.

Safeguarding - Maria Whiting (01449 613681) and Paul McIntee (07860511487)

FOOD BANK UPDATE: If you can donate any goods, they can be left either in the Narthex or in the *Catholic Centre*. Any cash donations can be put into the *Centre* letter box in an envelope marked "FOOD BANK". *Please be as generous as you can during these times.*

Willing to help with the Singing? Please see Toni Grzedzicki, after Mass. *Able to help with Reading at the 10.15?* Please see Father.

Please check your post-box regularly for communications.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Coffee & Chat - 2nd & 4th Thursdays, in the Hall.

Christmas Afternoon Tea - in the Hall, 7th December, 2-4pm. All welcome; a list for names is in the Narthex.

Parish Pastoral Council - meets Tuesday, 12th Dec; at 7.15pm, in the Hall. *Recently elected:* A. Bowen-Wright, E. Dzerujo, R. Muntus, J. Spencer, R. Stephens.

Combined Churches Choir - Christmas Charity Event: A new musical entitled "Christmas Changes Everything." 7pm, Saturday, 16th Dec., in the Anglican church in Stowmarket. Free admission with a retiring collection for *East Anglian Children's Hospices* - a charity worthy of support.

Coffee today - in the *Catholic Centre* after 10.15 Mass

Rosary before Sunday, 8.30 Mass, begins TODAY - A parishioner has kindly offered to lead the Rosary, starting at 8.10am. If you would like to help "giving out and answering up", please be in touch with Nuala Rickards.

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Friday, 8th December

FROM ALL ETERNITY, God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit chose Mary to be the Mother of the Word Incarnate. It was unthinkable that she be defiled by sin, in any way, or for the least second of time.

THEREFORE, IN THE instant of creating Mary's person, the Blessed Trinity made her immaculate - literally stainless. This grace, like every other grace granted since the fall of Adam, was given her through the merits of Christ. Mary was truly saved, redeemed; not from an evil present, but from an evil threatened.

LET US REJOICE with Our Lady in the words the Church puts on our lips in the Introit of the Mass of this feast, every 8th of December -

"I rejoice heartily in the Lord, in my God is the joy of my soul; for He has clothed me with a robe of salvation, and wrapped me in a mantle of justice, like a bride adorned with her jewels."

Mobile 'phones - please remember to turn off mobile 'phones upon entering the church.

While I am away on Retreat, this week - please remember me in your holy prayers, as I shall remember you all in mine.

Walk With Me booklets for Advent - are available in the Narthex.

