



# Our Lady's Parish, Stowmarket



Tel. 01449 612 946 + Fr Simon Leworthy, PP + 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2023

## SACRED LITURGY

Saturday, (*Vigil, Woolpit*), 6pm - + Michael McBrien  
 Sunday, 8.30am - *Mass for the Parish*  
 10.15am - Fr Michael Rowe (intentions)  
 7pm (*Stowmarket*) - + Fr Stan Campbell  
 9pm (*Woolpit*) - + Fr Tom Crowley  
 Monday, 8.30am - *Mass for the Parish*  
 10.15am - + Msgr Lorenzo Dattrino  
 Tuesday, 10am - + Fr Bill Dowd  
 Wednesday, 10am - John Leworthy (intentions)  
 Thursday, 10am - + Frank Lea (Smith)  
 Friday, 10am - + Fr Hugh Dowdell

**FEASTS & FERIAS DURING THE WEEK** - Sunday: *Christmas Eve*; Monday: *Christmas Day*; Tuesday: *St Stephen*; Wednesday: *St John*; Thursday: *Holy Innocents*; Friday: *St Thomas of Canterbury*.

### Confessions - Saturdays

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

Holy Rosary - Sunday, 8.10am

**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** - Josephine Holles, Pat McSweeney.

**ANNIVERSARIES** - Amelia Buttrum, Mavis Green, Harriet Hill, Alfred Gooding, James Emmett, (Baby) Jessica Campbell, Paula Johannes, Alfred Morgan, Chris Wilson.

### Collections last week -

Vigil (*Woolpit*) £200

Sunday £574

*Dependant Priests' Fund* (16<sup>th</sup>/17<sup>th</sup> Dec.) £291.50

*Thank you*

## VARIOUS CONTACTS

Parish Website - [www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk](http://www.ourladystowmarket.org.uk)

Items for Bulletin - [pp@ourladystowmarket.org.uk](mailto:pp@ourladystowmarket.org.uk)

PPC Chair - Mr Paul McEntee

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 McEntee (07860511487)

Please check your post-box regularly for communications.

The recent 100 Club draw results: M. Pellegrotti, £40; M. Carrott, £30; C. Burleigh, £20. Prizes are in the letter rack.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Coffee & Chat - resumes Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup> January.

Please remember the Foodbank over Christmastide.

## CHRISTMAS MASSES & CONFESSIONS

Mass on Christmas Eve (Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> December)

7pm - Stowmarket (*preceded by carols from 6.30pm*)

9pm - Woolpit (*preceded by carols from 8.30pm*)

Mass on Christmas Day (Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> December)

8.30am - Stowmarket 10.15am - Stowmarket

Confessions for Christmas - Saturdays, 10-10.45am; 5.30-5.50pm (Woolpit). *Christmas Eve*, 6.15-6.45pm; 8.30-8.50pm (Woolpit). *Christmas Day*, 9.30-10am.



### Pope St Leo the Great - "On the Nativity"

THE INFANCY, WHICH the majesty of God's Son did not disdain, reached mature manhood by the growth of years and, when the triumph of His passion and resurrection was completed, all the actions of humility which were undertaken for us ceased.

YET THE CURRENT festival renews for us the holy childhood of Jesus born of the Virgin Mary: and in adoring the birth of our Saviour, we find we are celebrating the commencement of our own life. For the birth of Christ is the source of life for Christian folk, and the birthday of the Head is the birthday of the body.

ALTHOUGH EVERY INDIVIDUAL that is called has his own order, and all the sons of the Church are separated from one another by intervals of time, yet as the entire body of the faithful being born in the font of baptism is crucified with Christ in His passion, raised again in His resurrection, and placed at the Father's right hand in His ascension, so with Him are they born in this nativity.

FOR ANY BELIEVER in whatever part of the world that is re-born in Christ, quits the old paths of his original nature and passes into a new man by being re-born; and no longer is he reckoned of his earthly father's stock but among the seed of the Saviour, Who became the Son of man in order that we might have the power to be the sons of God. For unless He came down to us in this humiliation, no one would reach His presence by any merits of his own.

Used Stamps - are recycled by St Elizabeth's Hospice to generate funds. December is obviously a very good month for their collection. Please cut or tear the stamps from the envelope and leave them in the tub in the Narthex. (*Contact: Sheila Ashman*)

New Christmas Crib - the Parish's thanks to the *Coffee & Chat* group for raising monies to purchase the new Crib figures; and to Bill Bowden for kindly constructing the Crib itself. Most generous of everyone.