

## MASSES & SERVICES THIS WEEK

**Saturday 5th May** (first Mass of Sunday)  
18.00 St Edmund's Cassie Cooper †

**Sunday 6th May** **6th Sunday of Easter** (p677)  
08.30 St Edmund's Private Intention  
10.30 St Edmund's Mary Griffiths †  
10.30 Our Lady's, Lawshall Mary Josephine Dove †  
**15.30** *St Edmund's Adoration & Benediction*  
18.00 St Edmund's For the Parish

**Monday 7th May** **Easter Feria**  
09.30 St Edmund's Janice Chong-Kwan †

**Tuesday 8th May** **Easter Feria**  
NO MASS AT ST. EDMUND'S  
09.30 Our Lady's, Lawshall Brigid & James Dolan †

**Wednesday 9th May** **Easter Feria**  
10.00 St Edmund's Trevor Hackeson †  
*10.30 Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament & Confessions*

### SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION

19.00 Our Lady's, Lawshall Ints of Hackeson Family

**Thursday 10th May** **ASCENSION OF THE LORD**  
09.30 St Edmund's Marie March  
12.00 St Edmund's For the Parish  
16.30 West Suffolk Hospital Cora Gormley's Intention  
19.30 St Edmund's Special Intention

**Friday 11th May** **Easter Feria**  
09.30 St. Edmund's Mary & Gary Pugh †  
10.15 Lawshall Vale & Louisa's Intention

**Saturday 12th May** **Our Lady on Saturday**  
10.00 St Edmund's Anthony & Karen Sharp's Int

### MASSES AT 'MONTANA' GREAT BARTON

**Sunday 10.30;** Monday - Saturday 08.15;

### FORTHCOMING SPECIAL LANGUAGE MASSES

Saturday 19th May Polish Mass at 16.00 at St Edmund's.  
Saturday 2nd June Malayalam Mass at 15.30 at St Edmund's.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Wednesday after 10.00 Mass; Saturday 10.30—11.00 & by appointment



## St Edmund's Newsletter

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Registered Charity No. 278742 [www.stedmundkm.org.uk](http://www.stedmundkm.org.uk)

Twinned with St John's Parish, Siem Reap, Cambodia

### Sunday 6th May 2018 - 6th Sunday of

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2018

At the 6.00pm Vigil Mass on Saturday and the 10.30am Mass on Sunday, 28 of our young people will be receiving Holy Communion with us for the first time. This is a great cause of joy for them, for their families and for us as their Parish family. At their baptism their parents and godparents promised to ensure that these young people grew up in the knowledge and practice of their Catholic faith: to know God as Father, to rejoice in His love for them as His precious sons and daughters, to love Him and our neighbour in return, and all of this within the context of the parish community of which they became a part.

Today we are grateful that their parents have presented them for the next stage of their initiation: faithfully bringing them to the preparations sessions, attending the parents sessions themselves and celebrating with them the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.

Today the Lord will Himself give these children the pledge of His enduring presence and love in the gift of His Body & Blood in Holy Communion. His words of love and dedication are not mere words, but were fulfilled in the very real gift of Himself on Calvary. In the Eucharist we come into the presence of that gift and it is given to us.

The only demand of such love, is love in return. As He is faithful to us in His gift of self, so we are called to be faithful to Him in the gift of our lives in His service and that of each other. We are strengthened and empowered in this by the weekly reception of Holy Communion at Sunday Mass—our presence at Mass is a witness to our love of Him. So, on this important day, we commit ourselves once more to faithful in our love of Christ, and to continue to good witnesses and examples to our children.

Many congratulations to our First Holy Communion families, and many thanks to our dedicated catechists and all those who help to make our Liturgy today beautiful and eloquent.

Please also keep in your prayers the children who are to receive their First Holy Communion at the end of the month on the weekend of 26th/27th May,

*With every blessing, Fr. Mark*



## PARISH CLERGY:

Canon Mark Hackeson	Parish Priest
Fr Gerry Quigley	Assistant Priest
Fr Alvan Ibeh smmm	Assistant Priest
Revd Alan McMahan	Deacon

## PRAYERS FOR OUR PARISH

**FOR OUR SICK:** Sue & Tony Aldous, Pat Austin, Jane Bird, Imelda Brown, Ann Campbell, Gerald Curry, Pat Dowson, Bea Edgar, Helen Edrupt, Nicolette Finch, Malcolm & Janis Fincham Jacques, Sr Flora, Marion Fitzgibbons, Teresa Gleeson, Rita Grimer, Wayne Hackeson, David Higgins, Patti Hickson, Donald Hunt, Priscilla Lupton, Francis Nisbett, Dee Peters, Richard Reid, Bernard Reynolds, Claire Robinson, Mary de Roeper, David Smeeth-Cardy, Evelyn Stirling, Yohanan Suraj, Jason Stronza, Shelagh Szulc, Robin Taylor, Susan Toole, John Triggs, Tim Udall, Tessa Walton, Robert Watkinson, Pauline Wells, Romyne Wright, Jim Whyte. May the Lord bring them comfort and healing.

**FOR YVONNE FAIERS** who died recently. May she rest in peace and the Lord bring comfort to her family and friends.

**FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES ARE AT THIS TIME.** Mary Griffiths, Jim McKenna, Catherine Costello, Florence Flanagan, Iona Thorning, William Donovan, Douglas Baldwin, Morgan Jones, Gerald Hoyle, Terence Lacey, Helen Studd, Sidney Pettit, Margerite Bradley, Ken Green, Terence Murphy.

**THANK YOU** for your generosity in the last week. You gave **£1,698.31** in the collection and **£655** in standing orders and **£211.00** from Lawshall. .  
*Next weekend is World Communications Day and there will be a second collection for the Catholic Communications Network.*



**GOING INTO HOSPITAL?** If you are, **PLEASE** let us know other-wise the Chaplain will not know you are there; the only way we can find you is if you tell us, **so please let us know if you would like a visit.** If you or one of your relatives needs a priest in an emergency, **i.e. imminent danger death**, please ask a member of staff to ring the switch-board & bleep the Catholic Chaplain. We have the pager with us at all times.

## GRAND RAFFLE

**Tickets will be on sale after today's Masses for our Spring Grand Raffle.**

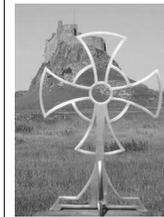
**1st prize— £100 2nd prize—Hamper 3rd prize Theatre Tickets  
plus many more.**

*Draw will take place on Pentecost Sunday following our International Mass*

and who are opportunistic. In life we come across a lot of people. Some in all honesty do care for us and can go to any length to prove to us how much they care us. I say this because I have experienced it, especially in this parish. God normally put those on our way through life. If you don't have such people, pray to God to send them to you and also try and become one to someone else. But yet there are those who claim to care but in actual sense, they care nothing about you. They only come to you because their is something they get from you. Their friendship or relationship with you is just utility based. They are just parasites. They only survive as long as they are gaining something from you. Any day you find yourself in any form of problem, that's it, you won't see them again. They can deny and reject you at anytime. The saying that "A friend in need is a friend indeed" is not found in the person's notebook. Quietly walk away from such people. They will waste your life. Don't see them as enemies, just keep them at arms length, but keep praying for them and showing them love as much as you can. This is what our Lord has commanded us to do.

May God help us and give us the grace and courage to walk away when we should from anything or person that negatively affects us and our relationship with God and our fellow human beings. Wishing you a lovely and blessed Month of May. God bless you all.

*Fr Alvan fralvanibe@yahoo.com)*



## **NORTHERN SAINTS YOUTH PILGRIMAGE 24 - 29 July 2018**

The Ignite Team is leading a pilgrimage to Your, Durham, Lindisfarne and Iona. For those age 16 - 35. *Bookings must be received by 15th June.*

For more information see [www.rcdea.org.uk/youth](http://www.rcdea.org.uk/youth)

## **Interested in joining the Ignite Team?**

Are you leaving school or university this summer, in between jobs or would like to do something 'different'? The Diocesan Youth Service is looking for people age 18 - 30 to join the Ignite Team from September 2018 - August 2019 (full time). The team share the Gospel Message with young people in a way they can relate to including using music, drama and tech. Accommodation, food, and a monthly allowance are provided. For more information email: [igniteteam@rcdea.org.uk](mailto:igniteteam@rcdea.org.uk)

## WEEKLY FOOD FOR THOUGHT FOR YOUTH

### Theme: Learn to walk away *part 2*

With joy I welcome you dear friends to the sixth Sunday of Easter. It's also the first Sunday of the month. We therefore thank God for the gift of the new month and ask for His blessings, guidance and protection in the new month. The month of May is normally dedicated to Our Lady and therefore we have in the Church May DEVOTION to Mary. It's a time we try to say our Rosary daily in honour of our Blessed Mother. So if you don't have a Rosary, try and get one and say it as often as possible whether as a person or group.

This week, I will be concluding the topic I started last week. There are three more things/people we need to walk away from in life.

The third thing you need to walk away from, is any thought that reduces your worth. Last week I said we need to walk from people who deliberately put us down. But sometimes, we can actually put ourselves down by the type of thoughts we have about ourselves. What and how we think about ourselves, we only chose to be useless or worthless by thinking that we are. There is a saying in my language that, "it is the name you give to your dog that it answers". Whatever you think about yourself is what you become. We need to always think positively about ourselves and not negatively. Positive thoughts attract positive things in our lives, negative thoughts will definitely attract negative things in our lives too. Walk away from any negative thought that makes you feel worthless and embrace thoughts that makes you feel important and precious. That is exactly how God sees you. He sees you not as useless but useful, not worthless but precious in His sight.

Next thing you must walk away from is failures and fears that stifle your dreams. In life, we do fail in one way or the other. But listen to this, "That you failed does not mean you are a failure". Remember that American president that tried several times to be elected as a president but failed. The important thing was not that he failed several times, but that he at last became a president of America. We become a failure only when we stop trying and accept that we have failed. To be a failure is what we choose ourselves. Winners never quit and quitters surely never win. Failure mentality and fear of the unknown can kill your dreams completely. You must walk away from such mentality. Always say to yourself just as our brother St Paul did, "I can do all things through He who strengthens me".

Last but not the least, always walk away from people who do not care for you

## THIS WEEK

### SUNDAY 6th MAY

**10.30 FIRST HOLY COMMUNIONS** at Mass. Please keep our young people and their families in your prayers.

**14.30 THANKSGIVING SERVICE** at St Mary's Church for 10th Birthday of Bury Town Pastors. All welcome.

**12.00 - 14.00 & 19.30 - 23.00 ST EDMUND'S SOCIAL CLUB** Bar open. Bingo 20.00

### MONDAY 7th MAY

**BANK HOLIDAY.** Mass at 09.30.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM** coach leaving at **09.50.**

**19.30 - 23.00 ST EDMUND'S SOCIAL CLUB** Bar open. Dominoes 20.00

### WEDNESDAY 9th MAY

**16.30 CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP** meet in the Presbytery. All welcome.

### THURSDAY 10th MAY

**SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION—HOLY DAY OF OBLIGATION**

**Vigil Mass at Lawshall Wednesday evening at 19.00**

**Masses at St Edmund's:**

<b>09.30</b>	<b>With St. Edmund's School</b>
<b>12.00</b>	
<b>16.30</b>	<b>At West Suffolk Hospital</b>
<b>19.30</b>	

**19.30 FINANCE COMMITTEE** meeting in the Presbytery.

### FRIDAY 11th MAY

**15.30 - 16.30 FAITH CLUB** in the Crypt. The new Six week programme for Years 1,2,3,4,5 and 6 to **learn**, to **understand** and to **celebrate** our faith. If you wish your child to join please let us know by contacting Anji 01284 704441, Hedwige 07774 068052 or Nadin on 07479 685367

**17.30 - 20.00 HEALING PRAYER SERVICE** with prayer, healing and Adoration at 'Montana', Great Barton. All welcome.

### SATURDAY 12th MAY

**19.00 PIZZA & DOUGHNUTS AFTER MASS** You are invited to the Crypt after the evening Mass to enjoy Pizza (£1/slice) and free doughnuts—and, of course, one another's company! **ALL WELCOME!**



## CHILDREN'S PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM



The annual pilgrimage takes place on **Tuesday 29th May** will be led by Bishop Alan Hopes. The day will begin with a procession from the village at 10.45, waling to the shrine along the safe path, formerly the Railway line, with pauses for prayer and hymns along the way. Mass at the Chapel of Reconciliation at 12.00, followed by a picnic at the shrine then a fun afternoon at the beach at nearby Wells-Next-The -Sea. Further details from Chris Storman 01493 717121.

## **CELEBRATE EAST ANGLIA - JUNE 2nd—3rd 2018**

Faith-filled, fun weekend for all ages, combining contemporary Christian music, inspirational speakers, workshops, celebration of Mass, children's and youth ministry, and much more. Come and Celebrate your faith! See [www.celebrateconference.org](http://www.celebrateconference.org) and click on 'East Anglia' for further details.

## **DIOCESAN SUMMER CAMP 2018**



Join others aged 8yrs-14yrs for faith, friends, food and lot of fun at Moreton Hall School. **Friday 24th - Monday 27th August.** Pick up a booking form from the parish office or go to [diocesansummercamp@gmail.com](mailto:diocesansummercamp@gmail.com).



**HELP NEEDED WITH CHURCH FLOWERS!** Whether you have lots of experience, are a keen amateur, or would like to try - your help would be much appreciated by our team of arrangers at St Edmund's. Encouragement and guidance given - Please contact the Parish Office 754358.

**HELPING HANDS' GROUP** if you are, or know of anyone who is housebound, lonely or in need of practical help, shopping, changing a light bulb etc, or just a visit, or lift to the doctors., contact Sue Fullman 488147 or Mike Sinnott 764236.



**STOREHOUSE FOODBANK** supplies between 4 and 8 families every day with enough food for three meals for three days. Donations can be placed in the box in Church. **Personal toiletries (incl toothpaste) Long Life milk, Pasta Sauce, Breakfast Cereals, incl porridge, tinned vegetables (incl potatoes) and biscuits, fresh sliced bread and tinned meat are needed every day.** Thank you to all at St Edmund's for your support.



## **THE WORD OF GOD**

**John 15:9 - 17**

9 Jesus said to his disciples: 'As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Remain in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. 11 I have told you this so that my own joy may be in you and your joy be complete. 12 This is my commandment: love one another, as I have loved you. 13 A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends. 14 You are my friends, if you do what I command you. 15 I shall not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father. 16 You did not choose me, no, I chose you; and I commissioned you to go out and to bear fruit, fruit that will last; and then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. 17 What I command you is to love one another.'

### **REFLECTION**

This Sunday's gospel continues from the previous Sunday, when we heard Jesus describe himself as the true vine. We are listening to the farewell teaching of Jesus to his friends on the night before he died. There are several major themes here.

Jesus speaks of the love that the Father has for him. This same love he bestows on his disciples. If they are to remain in this bond of love they will keep his commandments, just as he keeps the commandments of the Father. Through discipleship they are bound not only to Jesus but also to the Father.

This belonging to the Son and to the Father is the cause of great joy, a joy shared by the Son and the disciples. Jesus foresees that the joy of the resurrection, the joy of seeing his triumph over sin and death, will abide with the disciples.

The love of which Jesus speaks is not simply love of God and love of neighbour, as in the other gospels, but love which imitates the love Jesus has shown, a love ready to lay down one's life for others, the love of the Good Shepherd defending his sheep.

The disciples are no longer considered servants, but friends. They are to know what Jesus has learnt from the Father. Being drawn closer to Christ means an increasing closeness to the Father. Jesus the master chooses his disciples. We are chosen and commissioned to go out and bear fruit. The image of the true vine and the branches bearing fruit, with which this chapter of the gospel began, returns.

*Does the love I show really reflect the self-giving love of Christ?*

*Have I really accepted that Jesus has chosen me for a specific work?*

*We pray for those who see love as self-centred.*

*We pray for generosity and courage in our response to Christ*

**Reflections on the Sunday Gospels, written by Fr. Adrian Graffy**