

Our Lady and St Peter, Aldeburgh
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Newsletter for
Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 23/07

Masses during the Week

All Masses from Aldeburgh are live-streamed*

Saturday: 1800 Aldeburgh* (Mary Shorter+)
Sunday: 0915 Leiston (Diamond wedding – Ian and Jane Linden
1100 Aldeburgh* (Jesse Webb +)
Monday **No Mass today**
Tuesday 0900 Leiston
Wednesday 0900 Aldeburgh*
Thursday 0900 Leiston
Friday 0900 Aldeburgh*
Saturday 1800 Aldeburgh* (Alec Gray +)
Sunday 0915 Leiston (people of the parish)
1100 Aldeburgh*

Livestreamlink for Mass

https://studio.youtube.com/channel/UC-GsEOvS0m19a_jvjwglRDw/livestreaming

Welcome to anyone who is visiting us this weekend.

Please feel at home among the people of this corner of the Lord's vineyard and take our greetings to your own parish communities.

Confirmation will be celebrated in the parish on the evening of October 31st – so be careful with half-term plans, please. Several names were given to me some months ago, but I'd be grateful if those who are still interested would let me know once again. Normally Confirmation is for those in Year Nine or above, but Year Eight is possible, but no younger, please.

Fr Tony's Diary: Tuesday – Bishop's Council Meeting in Poringland 1030. Saturday – Diaconate ordination of Paul Raynes at the Cathedral – am.

Money Matters: Thank you for your collection last weekend, which totalled £232.34, and also for your generosity in the collection for Liam and Cameron which totalled the wonderful sum of £696.51. We're also grateful for the generous weekly standing orders, which currently amount to about £690 per week. And we continue to encourage you to set up one, if you haven't yet done so. In these days when not everyone has returned to mass, it is all the more necessary that we can be assured of a regular income, irrespective of Mass attendance. The only details you need are these: Sort Code 20-98-07: a/c number: 90777048. **And for Gift Aid purposes, the Charity number for the diocese is 278742.** Thank you for your continued generosity. The parish account is: St Peter's Catholic Church Parish Account': Registered Charity: No 278742'. If you have a problem trying to set up direct debit, please get in touch.

New altar servers: we were so lucky this year to have eight children making their first holy communion, and hope that some of you would like to become altar servers. We've started asking in Leiston and have four volunteers – so let's hear it from the Aldeburgh end!

Please remember in your prayers, Helen Standon, Joseph O'Mahoney, Liz O'Connor, Bernie McComish, Alex Vachell, Phil Harris, Giovanna Cimenti, Margaret Stubbs, Heather Mabey, Maureen Dawson, Brigid Simpson, Dominic Dobson, Fr Brendan Moffatt, Annie Morris, Kate Hoare, Helen McGuire, Merle Frew, Anne Alban, Derek Randall, Shane Dawson and Peg Regan. Pray for all who died recently, and for Glen Ogilvie, Mary Shorter, Doreen Fitzroy, and all whose anniversaries occur this week.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes: Our next pilgrimage to Lourdes as a diocese and as part of the wider Catholic Association family will take place from **Friday 18th-Friday 25th August**. This will be our first fully medically supported pilgrimage since the Covid 19 pandemic and we are greatly looking forwards to being in Lourdes again. Bishop Peter will be leading us on the pilgrimage, and indeed leading the whole Catholic Association Pilgrimage. We hope to top 100 East Anglian pilgrims, and I hope to be there as usual. Details can be found on the poster in the church porch, and on the website

Food Bank; we make regular contributions to our local food bank in Leiston, and your donations of the kind of food that is a proper contribution to a balanced diet, together with toiletries, is much appreciated.

CAFOD: update on the conflict in Sudan. Violent conflict continues in Sudan and thousands of people are running out of food, water and medicine. Working as part of the Caritas network, your previous donations to CAFOD are enabling our teams to provide practical help to families who have escaped to neighbouring countries, including South Sudan. Please pray for peace in Sudan. Find out more on the CAFOD website:

<https://cafod.org.uk/news/emergencies-news/sudan-conflict>

It is Thursday as I try to complete this newsletter, so it seems premature to express thanks for the party at the weekend. But I'm sure I'll have more to say next week

New Dawn In The Church – Catholic Charismatic Family Pilgrimage Conference In Walsingham From 31 July 2023 – 4 August 2023. New Dawn in the Church is a Catholic Charismatic Family Pilgrimage Conference that takes place each year at the Catholic National Shrine & Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham. This year the conference will take place from Monday 31st July to Friday 4th August and offers an outstanding programme of liturgy, sacraments, prayer, praise, worship, teaching, workshops, age-appropriate ministries (creche, children and youth), fellowship, and community. We will be joined by several renowned speakers, over twenty workshops, and various exhibitors including Radio Maria England, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society, Genesis Mission, March for Life UK, Rachel's Vineyard, SPUC, Cenacolo, Youth 2000, Mary's Meals and more. As Liaison Bishop for the

Catholic Charismatic Renewal, we are delighted to announce that Bishop David Oakley of Northampton Diocese will be joining us for the entire week. In addition to excellent Children and Youth Ministries, we will also be 'Celebrating World Youth Day' taking place in Lisbon the same week as New Dawn. Full conference details including how to register can be found at <https://www.newdawn.org.uk/new-dawn-2023/>.

Readings for 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

First reading: Wisdom 12:13,16-19

There is no god, other than you, who cares for every thing, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all.

You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there.

By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

Responsorial Psalm

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving,
full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer
and attend to the sound of my voice.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

All the nations shall come to adore you
and glorify your name, O Lord:
for you are great and do marvellous deeds,
you who alone are God.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

But you, God of mercy and compassion,
slow to anger, O Lord,
abounding in love and truth,
turn and take pity on me.

O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

Second reading: Romans 8:26-27

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

***May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our mind,
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.
Alleluia!***

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-43

Jesus put another parable before the crowds: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, "Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?" "Some enemy has done this" he answered. And the servants said, "Do you want us to go and weed it out?" But he said, "No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.'"

He put another parable before them: 'The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches.'

He told them another parable: 'The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through.'

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, 'Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us.' He said in reply, 'The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!'

Sunday Reflection

Once again we have an extensive reading from Matthew Chapter 13, in which the evangelist has gathered together the parables of Jesus. The parable of the weeds in the wheat is followed by the parable of the mustard seed, the parable of the yeast and then Jesus' explanation of the parable of the weeds.

This particularly troublesome kind of weed resembles wheat. It can easily be understood why the landowner instructs the labourers to remove the weed only at harvest time, for to pull it out beforehand would probably uproot the wheat and thus destroy the crop. All this has implications for the lesson of the parable.

The kingdom of heaven on earth survives in the midst of a world which is tarnished by sin in its many forms. Christians have to work out how to cope and not collude with the

reality of sin all around them. The parable also teaches that the time of the harvest will one day come, when God will take to himself those who have sought him by pursuing what is good and true, by living in faith, hope and love. Matthew frequently speaks of the judgments to come. He gives a dramatic description of the Last Judgement in chapter 25 of his gospel. The wicked are consigned to the fires of hell just as in this parable fire destroys the weeds. The fire should be understood as an image of the terrible pain that the loss of God involves. God does not inflict dreadful punishment on sinners, but those who reject what is good and true shut themselves off from the love of God and bring on themselves the terrible pain of the loss of God

Pope Francis has written a letter in the form of a beautifully crafted film, helping us understand the impact of climate change in a simple truth message. It is available on line:

<https://youtu.be/Rps9bs85BI>

