

Priest in Charge: Fr Michael Brookes
Email: michael.brookes@rcdea.org.uk
Parish Telephone: 01842 752266

Deacon: Rev. Justin Cross
Email: justin.cross@rcdea.org.uk
Mobile: 07970546758

Parish Website:
<http://www.stmarysthetford.org>

Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year A

Prayers and Readings are from page 42 in the missal

Entrance Antiphon:

Drop down dew from above, you heavens, and let the clouds rain down the Just One; let the earth be opened and bring forth a Savior.

Psalm Response:

Let the Lord Enter. He is the king of glory.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Emmanuel — which means, God with us. Alleluia.

Eucharistic Prayer: No. 2 (Page 605)

Communion Antiphon:

Behold, a Virgin shall conceive and bear a son; and his name will be called Emmanuel.

Readings: Isaiah 7:10-14. Ps 24(23). Romans 1:1-7. Matthew 1:18-24.

Divine Office: Week 4 (4th Week of Advent in Year 2 for daily Mass Readings)

Confessions Saturday 16.30 – 17.00 pm or by arrangement

St Mary's RC Parish – Thetford Newsletter

Sunday 21st December 2025 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Saturday 20 th	17.30 pm	For the Parish
Sunday 21 st <i>4th Sunday of Advent</i>	08.00 am	Lillian McDonnell+
	10.00 am	Joan MacDougall+
Monday 22 nd	No Mass	
Tuesday 23 rd <i>Benediction</i>	09.30 am	
<i>Mass</i>	10.00 am	Juliet Fisher & Family
Wednesday 24 th <i>Christmas Eve</i>	5.30pm	Sharon & Julian Wall
<i>Carol Service</i>	8.00pm	
<i>Mass</i>	8.30pm	Sr Mary Clair
Thursday 25 th <i>The Nativity of the Lord</i>	08.00am	Mary Cusack
	10.00 am	Mary Gorman
Friday 26 th <i>St Stephen</i>	No Mass	
Saturday 27 th	17.30 pm	
Sunday 28 th <i>The Holy Family</i>	08.00 am	
	10.00 am	

Please note: There will be no Coffee and Tea after mass this week

Please email items for the newsletter by the end of Wednesday each week to michael.brookes@rcdea.org.uk

Collections

Sunday 14th December: £542.80 (of which £130 is gift aided) plus £316 in direct-to-bank contributions (average weekly figure). Many thanks for your financial support.

Prayer Requests

We remember in our prayers those who are sick at this time: Fatima Anja, Deacon Justin Cross, Patricia & Vittorio Cocuccio, Alicya Frydryk, Hazel Fullbrook, Albert and Maureen Huggett, Aneta, Theresa Lescott, Sheila Sheppard, Madeline Tanner, and Clive Townsend; and pray for the repose of the souls of Olga Devonish and Mavis Bassett.

Christmas Befriending Lunch

The Mayor of Thetford Carla Barreto will again be hosting a **Christmas Befriending Lunch** in December to combat loneliness over the festive period. If you feel that you may know someone who may feel lonely at Christmas time, please contact Kate Bradley at mail@thetfordtowncouncil.gov.uk or on 01842 754247. The event is held in the daytime.

26 Club News

Winners this month are:

1st prize #1 Danielle Powles

2nd prize #51 Breda Calenti

3rd prize #44 Maggi Flood

Please collect your winnings from Terri Powles.

Volunteers Sought to Support School Admission Appeals

The Diocese of East Anglia Schools' Service is seeking volunteers to serve as school admission appeals panel members, helping ensure parents' rights are upheld when a

child is not offered a place at their preferred Catholic school. Appeals may be heard in person or via video conferencing, and volunteers can express a preference for the type of hearings they are comfortable with. All panel members will receive training from the Diocese.

Anyone interested in volunteering or finding out more is invited to contact Helen Bates, Assistant Director (Schools' Service), at the Diocese of East Anglia, 21 Ugate, Poringland, Norwich, NR14 7SH, by email at ssc@rcdea.org.uk or by telephone on 01508 495509.

Christmas Mass Times

Please note the service times listed overleaf: following Carols at 8pm, the late evening mass on Christmas Eve will be at 8.30pm. This is in addition to an earlier 5.30pm mass for children. Christmas morning masses on the 25th will be at 8am and 10am.

Maintenance Professional

Saint Mary's Parish Church is seeking a reliable, multi-skilled maintenance professional for short to medium-term work. The ideal candidate will have a strong work ethic, a range of trade skills, and a commitment to delivering high-quality results. Duties include general repairs, upkeep, and improvements to the church building and grounds. Contact Raul at: raulparreno@gmail.com

The Diocese of East Anglia is a registered Charity No 278742