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## Fourth Sunday of Easter Year A

Prayers and Readings are from p. 379 in the missal.

### Entrance antiphon:

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;  
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

### Responsorial Psalm:

The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

### Gospel Acclamation:

I am the good shepherd, says the Lord.  
I know my sheep and my own know me.

### Communion Antiphon

The Good Shepherd has risen,  
who laid down his life for his sheep  
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

### Readings:

Acts 2:14a, 36-41. Ps 23 (22). 1 Peter 2:20b-25. John 10:1-10.

### Marian Antiphon (at the end of the 5.30pm & 8.00am Mass)

Regina Caeli – please see the prayer cards.

### Daily Readings:

4<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter (Yr II)

### Divine Office:

Week 4

EGO  
SUM  
PASTOR  
BONUS



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# ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH THETFORD

*Celebrating 200 years proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ*

## Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2026

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday 25 <sup>th</sup>		1730	<i>McGuire family</i>
Sunday 26 <sup>th</sup>		0800	<i>Pro Populo</i>
		1000	<i>Patricia Beswick ✕</i>
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Feria	NO MASS	
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Feria	1000	
Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup>	St Catherine of Siena	1000	
Thursday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Feria	1830	
Friday 1 <sup>st</sup>	St Joseph	1730	Induction Mass

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Saturday 2 <sup>nd</sup>		1000	Rosary
		1600	Confessions
		1730	
Sunday 3 <sup>rd</sup>		0800	<i>Pro Populo</i>
		1000	

**Confessions** Saturday at 4 pm, or *by appointment after any Mass.*  
Don't forget to make your Confession during the Easter season!

## Dates for your diary

- 1<sup>st</sup> May: Induction of Fr Andrew as Parish Priest, 5.30 pm Mass  
4<sup>th</sup> May: Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham  
13<sup>th</sup>–14<sup>th</sup> June: First Holy Communions  
5<sup>th</sup> July: Mass with Bishop Peter to open Anniversary Year  
11<sup>th</sup> July: Parish Day of Recollection: a day of prayer & Recollection  
18<sup>th</sup> July: Ordination of Paul Gilbert to the Permanent Diaconate

**Prayer Requests** We pray for the sick: Fatima Anja, Patricia & Vittorio Cocuccio, Alicya Frydryk, Hazel Fullbrook, Albert & Maureen Huggett, Theresa Lescott, Irene Sheahan, Sheila Sheppard, Madeline Tanner, and Clive Townsend. We remember in our prayers those who have died recently, and their families and friends: Mavis Bassett, Delfim Bonfim, Olga Devonish, Luna Freitas, Ann Griffin, Mgr Peter Leeming, and Greg Warwick.

◦ **Singing to Mary.** As a parish under the protection of Our Lady, it is good that we sing together for her as often as possible! At the end of the Saturday 5.30 pm Mass and the Sunday 8 am Mass, we now sing the **Marian Antiphon** of the season – at present, the Regina Caeli. We have prayer cards printed with all the antiphons.



'The sheep follow Him for they know His voice.'

◦ **Visit of Bishop Peter Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May.** Bishop Peter will be visiting our parish on **Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May at 5.30 pm**, to celebrate Mass inducting Fr Andrew as parish priest, and to enjoy a parish celebration afterwards. We would like the Bishop to enjoy the different culinary traditions of our parish. If you have a favourite traditional dish that you are able to offer, please add your name to the list at the back of the church – thank you!

## Catechesis Corner – explaining the teaching of the Church

St Catherine of Siena (feast day 29<sup>th</sup> April) is one of the Doctors of the Church: these are the saints recognised for their immense contribution to the Church in terms of theology or doctrine. St Catherine was born in Siena in 1347, the 23<sup>rd</sup> of 25 children, the daughter of a tradesman. She wasn't from a grand family; she wasn't well-educated: and she didn't learn to write until a few years before her death – so you would not expect her to become a Doctor of the Church. But nothing is impossible for God. In one of her letters St Catherine writes: "Be the person God created you to be, and you will set the world on fire." If you become the person God has created you to be, rather than the person you have turned yourself into, you will set the world on fire. St Catherine of Siena – pray for us!

◦ This Sunday is the **World Day of Prayer for Vocations** and there will be a second collection for the Diocesan Priests' Training Fund after each Mass – thank you for your generosity.

◦ **May is the month of Mary!** One of the ways in which we will celebrate Our Lady's month is by **praying the Rosary on Saturday mornings at 10 am** – do come and join in, offering a decade for someone in need.

◦ **Ignite Festival** is back – an invitation to ALL young people in Year 8 upwards **2<sup>nd</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> May** at **St. Benedict's School in Bury St. Edmunds**. Come and experience your faith in a new and dynamic way. The weekend will include powerful talks, passionate prayer, live music, and lots of fun!

◦ **Parish phone number.** The Parish now has a mobile number, 07356 019511. The old landline will remain in place for the time being, but will automatically forward calls to the new number.

◦ **World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea.** If you are interested in going on this amazing pilgrimage, see [www.rcdea.org.uk/youth](http://www.rcdea.org.uk/youth). Places are limited - sign up soon!