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12th Sunday of the Year

Prayers and Readings p.731 in the missal (Year A).

Entrance antiphon:

The Lord is the strength of his people, a saving refuge for the one he has anointed. Save your people, Lord, and bless your heritage, and govern them for ever.

Responsorial Psalm:

In your great mercy, answer me, O Lord.

Gospel Acclamation:

The Spirit of truth will bear witness about me, says the Lord, and you also will bear witness.

Eucharistic Prayer:

Eucharistic Prayer III (5.30pm & 8 am).

Eucharistic Prayer I (10 am).

Communion Antiphon

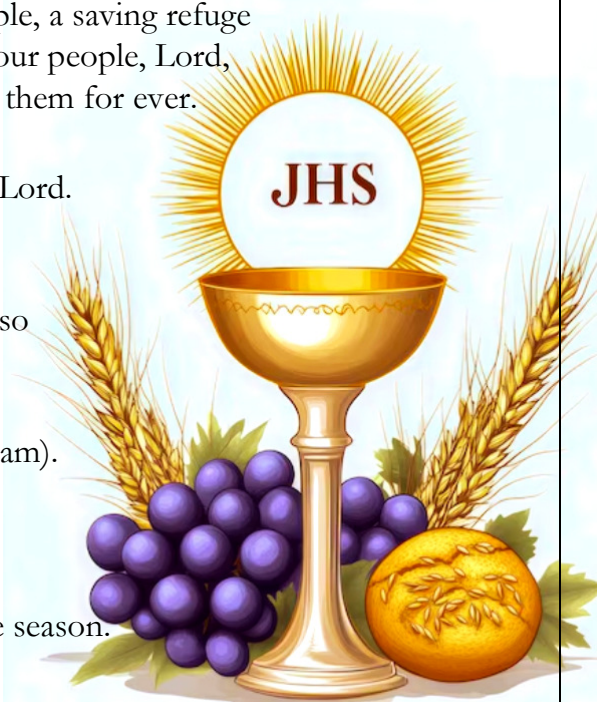
The eyes of all look to you, Lord, and you give them their food in due season.

Readings:

Jeremiah 20:10-13. Psalm 69 (68). Romans 5:12-15. Matthew 10:26-33.

Marian Antiphon (at the end of each Mass)

Salve Regina – please see the Marian Antiphon prayer cards.



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ST MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH THETFORD

Celebrating 200 years proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ

Sunday 21st June 2026

12TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Saturday 20th		1730	<i>Pro Populo</i>
Sunday 21st		0800	<i>Julia McManus</i> ✕
		1000	<i>For Life</i>
Monday 22nd	Ss John Fisher & Thomas More	NO MASS	
Tuesday 23rd	St Etheldreda	0930 Adoration & Benediction	
		1000	<i>Mac Lloyd</i> ✕
Wednesday 24th	Nativity of John the Baptist	1830	<i>Malcolm Hodgkins</i> ✕
Thursday 25th	Feria	1830	<i>Michael Beswick</i> ✕
Friday 26th	Dedication of the Cathedral	DIOCESAN JUBILEE MASS	

13TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

Saturday 27th		1600	Confessions
		1730	
Sunday 28th		0800	<i>Pro Populo</i>
		1000	<i>Michael Parreno</i>

Confessions Saturday at 4 pm, or *by appointment after any Mass.*
If you are anxious about Confession, speak to Fr Andrew first.

Dates for your diary

- 5th July: Mass with Bishop Peter to open Anniversary Year
11th July: Parish Day of Recollection: a day of prayer & Recollection
18th July: Ordination of Paul Gilbert to the Permanent Diaconate
19th Sept: Heritage Open Day

Prayer Requests We pray for the sick: Fatima Anja, Patricia & Vittorio Cocuccio, Alicya Frydryk, Hazel Fullbrook, Albert & Maureen Huggett, Ann Jones, Theresa Lescott, 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, Irene Sheahan, and Greg Warwick.

- **Refreshments after Mass** A reminder that coffee, tea and squash are available in the Hall after Mass on Sunday 10 am and Tuesday 10 am – come and see!
- **Gift aid.** If you pay UK tax on income or capital gains or a pension, please consider Gift Aiding your donations. For every £1 you donate to the parish each week, we can reclaim 25p from the government. It's a great help for the parish, and it doesn't cost you anything! Speak to John Robinson for more details.
- **Day for Life 2026** This Sunday we mark the Day for Life under the theme “The Wonder of the Child in the Womb,” recognising the loss of children who died before birth, and the grief of their parents. The **second collection** for Day for Life Fund will fund grants to organisations that promote respect for life from conception until natural death. You can also donate online via www.dayforlife.org
- The **Ordination of Paul Gilbert to the Permanent Diaconate** takes place at the Cathedral on **Saturday 18th July at 11.30 am**. There is a coach travelling from St Mary's to the Cathedral – sign up on the sheet at the back of the church. Please pray for Paul as he prepares to receive the grace of Ordination.

Catechesis Corner: the Church's teaching on life issues

The Church teaches that the dignity and sanctity of human life from conception to natural death is a foundational human right.

Pope Francis taught “it is not ‘progressive’ to try to resolve problems by eliminating a human life” – whether at the start of life, through abortion, or at the end of life through euthanasia or ‘assisted suicide’.

Pope Benedict taught that “the fundamental human right is the right to life itself. Abortion, consequently, cannot be a human right – it is the very opposite. It is a deep wound in society.” Similarly, “the

proper response to end-of-life suffering is loving care and accompaniment on the journey towards death – especially with organized structures of palliative care – and not ‘assisted suicide’.”

Particularly when the state does not fund and support proper palliative care, ‘assisted suicide’ is a grave injustice.

- Our **Day of Recollection on Saturday 11th July 10am to 3pm** will be on the subject of ‘Prayer’, as many people struggle to find time to pray or to pray as they would really like. Sign up on the sheet at the back of the Church.
- **Jubilee meeting.** We had a fruitful parish meeting last weekend to discuss the different ways in which we can celebrate our 200th Jubilee year. A schedule of events will soon appear, along with an appeal for volunteers to help out – watch this space!
- **Start of the Jubilee Year.** The Bishop is coming to celebrate Mass to open the Jubilee Year on **Sunday 5th July**. After the Mass we will have a **bring and share meal** in the hall. If you are able to contribute any dish, please sign up on the sheet at the back of the church – thank you!
- With the **ordination of a second deacon** for the parish, we are having to purchase **two new chairs for the Sanctuary**. One chair has been funded by a generous donation; if anyone would like to contribute to the cost for the other, please speak to Fr Andrew.