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Newsletter for Sunday, 9th March 2025, First Sunday of Lent.

Parish Mass Book p 153. Psalter: Week 1.

We pray for the Parish of Our Lady, Stowmarket, the Holy Land, Ukraine and for our twinned Catholic in Siem Reap and Prek Toal, Cambodia.

Times of Mass this week

Memorial Acc: Save us, Saviour...

Saturday	6.30 pm,	<i>Ron Halfyard RIP</i>	Wednesday	12.15 pm, Lent Feria	<i>Rev Justin Welby's Intentions</i>
Sunday	9.00 am,	<i>People of the Parish</i>	Thursday	----- Lent Feria	No Mass today
	11.00 am,	<i>Michael O'Donnell RIP</i>	Friday	12.15 pm, Lent Feria	<i>Nettleship Family intentions</i>
Monday	9.30 am, Lent Feria	<i>Mollyann Thompson & Mother RIP</i>	Saturday	10.00 am, Lent Feria.	<i>Di Bushell RIP (SVP)</i>
Tuesday	9.30 am, Lent Feria	<i>Gertrude Conway RIP</i>		6.30 pm, (2nd Sunday of Lent)	<i>Peter Restighini RIP</i>

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confessions): Saturday, 10.30 am or by appointment.

Teas and coffees after 9.00 and 11.00 am Mass. Your donations in January and February for CAFOD and Cambodia amounted to £182.81. Many thanks.

Children's Liturgy at 11.00 am Mass. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament on Friday, 11.40 am – 12.10 pm.

CATHOLIC EAST ANGLIA Please take your free copy of the March issue of the newspaper of the Diocese of East Anglia.

FRIDAY IS FAMILY FAST DAY Please donate to the CAFOD Lent Appeal through our parish collection next weekend to be a pilgrim of hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year. You'll be supporting communities suffering the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope. Please take a Fast Day envelope home today, donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030. Thank you very much for your support.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS IN LENT This Friday evening at 7.00 pm, here in St Etheldreda's Church with our friends from St Peter's Church.

On Wednesdays, the Stations of the Cross will be prayed at 11.45 am, before the 12.15 pm Mass, during Lent in place of the Rosary.

THREE LENT TALKS Many of you have asked for more talks of the kind we held in Advent, so we will be running another short series of talks again for Lent. They will be in the Parish Rooms on **Wednesdays 12th and 19th March and 2nd April, all at 6.30pm.** Subjects will include St John Henry Newman, how art can help explain Scripture, and a meditation on the Passion with the help of the famous Isenheim altarpiece. A poster with more details will be in the porch.

This Wednesday. George Herring, Church historian and author will speak on *John Henry Newman: a saint for the 21st century?* Refreshments will be served.

WE PRAY for Pope Francis, for Bishop Peter as he recovers after his stay in hospital and for all our sick and housebound, for the repose of the soul of **Derek Rosario**, whose Funeral Mass will be celebrated in St Etheldreda's on Friday, 21st March, at 12 noon, for all those recently deceased **and for the anniversaries** of Josephine Austin, Molly Ganson, Mollyann Thompson, Mary Gandy, Christianne Morris, William Cozens, William Parsons, Patricia Mann, Lucy Stone, Margaret Kiernan, James Walsh, Marguerite Coleridge, Queenie Pearce, James Edwards and Joy Kidd. May they rest in peace.

VACANCY IN THE DIOCESE OF EAST ANGLIA for a Director of Schools Service. Please see website for more details: <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/vacancies/>

MESSAGE FROM ELY SVP You can help Rough Sleepers in Ely by paying for tokens at Market Kitchen, to be exchanged for a hot drink or food for a rough sleeper.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEKEND: *Parish Offertory Plate* £743.60. (Standing Orders average £510). Thank you very much.

For the Catholic Chaplain at Addenbrooke's, call the Chaplains' Office, 01223 217769. **Relationship difficulties** Contact Marriage Care 0800 389380

COMING UP: No Mass on Thursday this week.

The Bible Study and Prayer Group meets on Saturday, 15th March, at 10.45 am. **The SVP** meets on Monday, 17th March, at 10.15 am.

CONGRATULATIONS to our children who made their First Confession on Saturday. Please continue to pray for them, their parents and their catechists.

Every blessing for the week ahead, Deacon Paul and Father David.

Prayers of the Faithful – First Sunday of Lent 2025

Priest:

Let us turn in prayer to God asking for the Holy Spirit to be our guide on our journey through this holy season.

Reader:

For the Church: that this Lent may help us to appreciate the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives and to respond generously to his inspiration...
Lord, in your mercy.

For our Holy Father, Pope Francis: that the Lord may grant him healing and strength for his mission, sustain him in hope, and bless him in peace...
Lord, in your mercy.

For our Bishop Peter: that he may continue his recovery from illness and be blessed in his ministry as the chief shepherd of the Church in East Anglia...
Lord, in your mercy.

For those preparing for Baptism and Reception into the Church and for our children in the First Communion programme: that in the journey to Easter they may grow each day in the love of God...
Lord, in your mercy.

For the suffering peoples of Ukraine and the Holy Land and for all who are victims of war and conflict: that their prayers for peace and justice may be heard...
Lord, in your mercy.

For the faithful departed and for our own needs, let us pause to pray...
Lord, in your mercy.

May our Blessed Lady, Health of the Sick and Refuge of Sinners, pray for us all: Hail Mary...

Priest:

Receive our prayers, Lord, in your kindness and compassion. Bring us closer to you in this time of penance and prayer, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

