

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST PANCRAS, IPSWICH

Deum diligere et quæ sunt Dei

‘To love God and the things of God’

The Presbytery
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to

Parish Priest:
Fr Joseph Welch

Sundays: Yr C
Weekdays: Yr 1

February is dedicated



Sunday 2nd February 2025

The Purification of the BVM

09:30 — Pro Populo

11:00 — Una McWeeny RIP

Monday 3rd February

St Blaise

10am — James Ball RIP

Tuesday 4th February

St Andrew Corsini

8am (TLM) — The *Domus* of the Parish

Wednesday 5th February

St Agatha

6pm — Holy Souls

Thursday 6th February

St Paul Miki & Comps.

12:15pm — Matthew Nothard 2/2

Friday 7th February

Feria

10am — Holy Souls

Saturday 8th February

St Josephine Bakhita

10am — Geraldine Fitzgerald RIP

Vigil of 5th Sunday of the Year

6pm — Holy Souls

Sunday 9th February

Dom. V post Epiphaniam

8am (TLM) — Pro Populo

5th Sunday of the Year

09:30 — John & Mary Smith's ints.

11:00 — Anne Abbott's ints.

CONFESSIONS:

Mon — Sat: 30 minutes before each Mass

& Sat: 5pm — 5:45pm

1st Friday: 6pm — 7pm

ADORATION: Sat: 5pm — 5:45pm

ROSARY: Mon — Fri: after Mass

DEVOTIONS TO O.L. OF IPSWICH &

S. PANCRAS: Sat after 10am Mass

TLM Masses: 2nd Sunday of the month at 8am. (Next 2nd Sunday Mass: 9th February.)

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HOLY YEAR 2025

SPES NON CONFUNDIT

‘And hope confounds not, because the charity of God is poured forth in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who is given to us.’ (Rom 5:5)

Christ Crucified Radiates Hope to a Fallen World
The Crucifixion by Tintoretto (1565)



CANDLEMAS

‘And after the days of her purification, according to the law of Moses, were accomplished, they carried him to Jerusalem, to present him to the Lord: As it is written in the law of the Lord: Every male opening the womb shall be called holy to the Lord: And to offer a sacrifice, according as it is written in the law of the Lord, a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons’ Lk 22:22-24

Forty days after His birth, Our Lord's parents took Him to the Temple in Jerusalem to do for Him what the Law required. The Blessed Virgin Mary made an offering and thanksgiving for her ritual purification following the birth of her Son, and the first born Son was presented to Almighty God and then bought back, as it were, through a ritual sacrifice of a pair of turtle doves or two young pigeons.

They met Simeon who had been assured by God that he would not see death until he had seen the Christ. This holy man took the Child in his arms and said that now God could dismiss His servant in peace because his eyes had seen the salvation of God who had come into the world as a light to the revelation of the peoples, and the glory of God's people, Israel (Lk 22:29-32).

It is this reference to the Light of the world that gives us our ceremony of Candlemas when, at the main Mass of the day, we walk in procession as if to the holy Temple of God, carrying in our hands the flame that symbolizes the Light who has come into the world and now dwells in our souls in the form of sanctifying grace.

MONDAY, 3RD FEBRUARY—THE FEAST OF ST BLAISE

The traditional Blessing of Throats

will take place at the end of the 10am Mass.



HOLY YEAR HANDBOOK

Copies of our parish handbook for the Holy Year 2025 are now available at the back of church, including an explanation of what a Holy Year is and how to gain the Holy Year Indulgence (some of which details are reproduced in the latest edition of the parish magazine also). Copies are free, but we ask for donations to help cover the costs please.



Please consider making a **STANDING ORDER** instead of a weekly cash contribution to the parish. Barclays Bank account name and no. St Pancras Catholic Church 00775843. Sort code: 20-44-51. Our parish is part of the East Anglia Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: registered charity no. 278742.

HOLY YEAR 2025

Suggestion for Spiritual Reading

Introduction to the Devout Life

by St Francis de Sales.

From the Saints

‘If I was to meet those slave raiders that abducted me and those who tortured me, I’d kneel down to them to kiss their hands, because, if it had not have been for them, I would not have become a Christian and religious woman.’

St Josephine Bakhita (f.d. 8th February)

Top tips for making an ordinary home into a Catholic home!

Turn off your smartphone and read a book!

Wednesday Evening talks continue this week at 7pm, straight after the 6pm Mass and rosary. All welcome.

The Blessed Carlo Acutis Group for 14-17 year olds will meet next on Thursday, 6th February at 7pm in church. New members welcome for a couple of hours of prayer, catechesis, and fun!

The Catholic Mothers’ Group next meets on Monday, 10th February at 11am (after the 10am Mass and rosary) for the 5 Cs: coffee, cake, catechism, conversation, and chaos. All Mothers & Toddlers welcome!

Book Club Will meet on Monday, 10th March at 7pm to discuss the 14th century book, *The Cloud of Unknowing*. All welcome.

Please remember that the normal practice is to kneel whenever the Blessed Sacrament is exposed on the altar for adoration (Saturdays, 5pm—5:45pm) and to continue kneeling during Holy Communion at Mass until the Blessed Sacrament is reposed back in the tabernacle and the tabernacle door is closed again.

Sick List Prayers are asked for Jim Convey, Larry Crowley, Paul Cummings, Alan Cutbush, Ciro Delabellera, Evelyn Flach, Halina Gajewska, Olga Harant, Linda Mitchell, Stephen Patten, Rosemary Pease, Brian Price, Judith Rogers, and Leighton Scott.

Of your charity Please pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently, and for all whose anniversaries occur at this time: Rachel Arkwright, Christine Cook, Margaret Rooney, Maria Cannone, Una McWeeny, George Sharpe, Mary Ward, Patrick Grehan, Robert Valentine, Claudia Wilding, Daniel Inman, Geraldine Abbot, Charles Doyle, Joseph Lambert, Regina Hulewicz, Patrick Usher, Marie Bowe, Katherine Reynard, Nigel Coote, Florence Nickols, Henry D’Andrade, Joan Walsh, Angela Walsh, Shirley Reynolds, Winifred Melero, William Smith, Agnes Dreda-Thornhill, Ella Davis, Mary Chriatian, Nicolo Conlon, Clifford Forbes, Patrick McPherson, Luke Langley, and Vanessa Manwaring. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

Fr Joseph writes: Today we start to look at the last of the Seven Sacraments, Holy Matrimony.

THE SACRAMENTS PT 48: HOLY MATRIMONY – A NATURAL BOND

‘Male and female He created them, and God blessed them saying, increase and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it’ (Gen 1:27-28), and again, ‘It is not good for man to be alone, let us make him a help like unto himself... Then the Lord God cast a deep sleep upon Adam, and when he was fast asleep, He took one of his ribs, and filled up flesh for it. And the Lord God built the rib which He took from Adam into a woman, and brought her to Adam. And Adam said, This is now is bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh... Wherefore a man shall leave his father and mother, and shall cleave to his wife, and they shall be two in one flesh,’ (Gen 2:18,21-24).

With these words from the opening chapters of the very first book of the Bible we can see that marriage as an institution not only pre-dates the time of Christ but forms part of the original plan of God for His creatures according to the natural order. From the outset God ordered His creation so that man and woman would share in His divine work of creation by bringing new life into the world, that the union of man and woman would be complementary one to another, and that in their complementarity they were to share, also, in God’s work of governance, helping in His work of ordering and being responsible for the world He had created. To this end, man and woman were intended by God from the very beginning to be His ‘coadjutors’, His fellow workers (1 Cor 3:9), in the work of creation and governance.

In other words, God ordered His creation according to a plan (it was not random), and that plan involved the co-operation of the very creatures He created. We have a role in God’s work. God has given to us a responsibility in helping to see this work through to completion.

What is more, whilst the account of creation in the Book of Genesis is punctuated with God’s blessing and approval – ‘And God saw that it was good’ (Gen ch.1: vv.10, 12, 17, and 21) – on the last day of creation, when God created man and woman and constituted them as a family to multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, He blessed His creation with the words, ‘and they were *very good*’ (Gen 1:31, emphasis added). From the beginning, the estates of *marriage* and *the family* were seen by God as ‘*very good*,’ and they became the foundation stones of the good ordering of the world He had made.

If something participates in God’s plan, and is created and established by Him precisely to help in the fulfilling of that plan, then we can say it is holy, precisely because it participates in the holiness of God. With all of this in mind, we can say that the estate of matrimony is a natural bond between one man and one woman, and that it is a holy bond, and has been from the beginning.

Previous columns in this series may be found on back numbers of the parish newsletter at:

www.stpancraschurch.org.uk/newsletter/