

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST PANCRAS, IPSWICH

Deum diligere et quæ sunt Dei

'To love God and the things of God'

The Presbytery
1 Orwell Place
Ipswich
IP4 1BD

Tel: 01473 252596
parishpriest@stpancraschurch.org.uk
www.stpancraschurch.org.uk

Parish Priest:
Fr Joseph Welch

Sundays: Yr A
Weekdays: Yr 2

December is dedicated to
the Immaculate Conception



Sunday 7th December 2025

Second Sunday of Advent

09:30 — Mary Rose Chow

11:00 — Anne Marie Dias' int. 1/3

Monday 8th December

The Immaculate Conception

10am — Pro Populo

Tuesday 9th December

Advent feria (Mass of Dom. II Adventus)

8am (TLM) — Holy Souls

Wednesday 10th December

Bds Henry Heath and John Robinson

6pm — Aisling Regan's int.

Thursday 11th December

St Damasus

12:15pm — Holy Souls

Friday 12th December

Advent feria

10am — Florence Njoku's int.

Saturday 13th December

Rorate Mass

7am (TLM) — Holy Souls

(Note: there is no 10am Mass today.)

Vigil of the Third Sunday of Advent

Gaudete Sunday

6pm — Charles Ukoh's int. 1/2

Sunday 14th December

Third Sunday of Advent

Gaudete Sunday

8am (TLM) — Pro Populo

09:30 — Holy Souls

11:00 — Anne Marie Dias' int. 2/3

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: 14th Dec.)

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)



THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION

Monday, 8th December

Mass with hymns: 10am
Confessions beforehand and
followed by the rosary.

'We declare, pronounce, and define that the doctrine which holds that the most Blessed Virgin Mary, in the first instance of her conception, by a singular grace and privilege granted by Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the human race, was preserved free from all stain of original sin, is a doctrine revealed by God and therefore to be believed firmly and constantly by all the faithful.'

Pope Blessed Pius IX - 1854



RORATE MASS

SATURDAY, 13TH DECEMBER AT 7AM

A Traditional Latin pre-dawn candlelit Mass in honour of Our Lady during Advent. Make this part of your Advent devotions, and commend yourself, and those who are dear to you, to the intercession of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of our soon-to-be-born Saviour.

(Please note: There will be no 10am Mass on this day.)

EXODUS 90 — for Men!

Men, if you're tired of being held back by the comforts and distractions of our time and desire to grow closer to God, **Exodus 90** is the path you've been searching for. The world tells us that freedom is doing whatever you want, whenever you want, with whomever you want: to do your own will. But true freedom is to do God's will. Freedom is for worship, sacrifice, and love.

See the poster at the back of church and e-mail Wojtek today!

Christmas at St Pancras

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT & BLESSING OF CRIBS

Sunday, 21st December at 4pm

Bring your Christmas cribs (or just one or two figures if the whole thing is too large to bring) and have it blessed as part of our last Sunday before Christmas. Followed by bring & share refreshments in the hall. All welcome.

CHRISTMAS CONFESSIONS

Friday, 19 th	9am—10am & 6pm—7pm
Saturday, 20 th	9am—10am & 4:45pm—5:45pm
Monday, 22 nd	9am—10am & 6pm—7pm
Tuesday, 23 rd	7:30am—8am & 6pm—7pm
Wednesday, 24 th	9am—10am & 5pm—6pm

No Confessions on Christmas Day



CHRISTMAS WEEK MASSES

Monday 22nd - 10am | Tuesday 23rd - 8am (TLM) | Wednesday 24th - 10am
*

CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES

Midnight (with carols from 11:30pm)
8am (TLM) 9:30am 11am
*

CHRISTMAS AFTERNOON

Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament — 5pm

A beautiful way to close your Christmas Day devotions. A hushed and prayerful stillness with some of your favourite carols, and a solemn blessing from Our Lord Himself. Get a breath of fresh air after lunch, come and adore the new-born Christ, and then return home to settle down for the evening.

FRIDAY, 26TH DECEMBER

Confessions: 11:45—12:15pm

Mass: 12:15pm

Rosary after Mass

SATURDAY, 27TH DECEMBER

Morning

Confessions: 9:30—10am

Mass: 10am

No Saturday morning devotions today

Evening

Confessions: 5pm—5:45pm

No Adoration today

Mass: 6pm

SUNDAY, 28TH DECEMBER

Masses: 8am (TLM) 9:30am 11am

MONDAY, 29TH DECEMBER

Mass at 10am (Confessions before & rosary after)

TUESDAY, 30TH DECEMBER

TLM at 8am (Confessions before & rosary after)

WEDNESDAY, 31ST DECEMBER

Mass at 10am (Confessions before & rosary after)

Please note the change of Wednesday Mass time.

THURSDAY, 1ST JANUARY

Confessions: 11:45pm—12:15pm

Mass: 12:15pm

Rosary: after Mass

FROM FRIDAY, 2ND JANUARY ONWARDS

Usual schedule begins again for

all Masses and Confession times

(but no Saturday morning devotions, and no Adoration on Saturday afternoons, 3rd & 10th January)

TWO BRING-AND-SHARE PARTIES TO BEGIN AND CONCLUDE OUR PARISH CELEBRATIONS

following the Carols by Candlelight on

Sunday, 21st December &

following the Epiphany Benediction on

Saturday, 10th January

SOLEMNITY OF THE EPIPHANY

Holy Day of Obligation for all Catholics

Tuesday, 6th January

EPIPHANY BENEDICTION

Saturday, 10th January at 3pm

HOLY YEAR 2025

Suggestion for Spiritual Reading

Sermons for Advent & the Christmas Season
by St Bernard of Clairvaux
(Cistercian Publications)

From the Saints

‘Let Your goodness, O Lord, appear to us, that we,
made in your image, may conform ourselves to it.’

St Bernard of Clairvaux

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

Pray the ‘Christmas Anticipation Prayer’ during Advent!

*‘Hail, and blessed be the hour and moment in which
the Son of God was born of the most pure Virgin
Mary, at midnight in Bethlehem, in the piercing cold.
In that hour vouchsafe, I beseech Thee, O my God, to
hear my prayer and grant my desire, through the mer-
its of our Saviour Jesus Christ and of His blessed
Mother. Amen.’*

THE BOOK CLUB will meet tomorrow, 8th December at 7pm, to discuss *The Creed in Slow Motion: An Exploration of Faith, Phrase by Phrase, Word By Word* by Martin Kochanski. (Fr Joseph still has one spare copy. Price: £11.43.)



CRIB COLLECTION
AID TO THE CHURCH IN NEED
acnuk.org

Our crib collection this year will be, once more, for Aid to the Church in Need who serve some of the most needy Christians in some of the worst trouble spots of the world. Please give as generously as you can through the collection box by the crib or by using our Dona machines at the back of church. Thank you.

Throughout Advent and the Christmas season, right up to Candlemas on 2nd February, ACN will—as in previous years—replace our usual parish charity of Mary’s Meals.

Sick List Prayers are asked for Peter Arms, Jim Convey, Vincent Convey, Sue Coppens-Browne, Larry Crowley, Alan Cutbush, Ciro Dellabella, Evelyn Flach, Halina Gajewska, Oliver Merlehan, 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: Terrence Morgan, Sheila Buckley, Julian Kowalski, Archie Smith, Victoria Weston, Mary Grant, Alan Claydon, Marlene Hynes, Alexander McCall, Nellie Kelly, Bridget Deenihan, Eva Jesova, Ellen Cole, Mary Donnelly, Georgina Wyatt, Diana Crisp, Sylvia Snowling, Michael Maksymowicz, Rosena Quigley, Harriet Hardwicke, John Gaffney, Albert Mountain, Tosca Pearce, Maureen Ronquillo, Albert Bull, Frank Sparrow, John Pryce, Cecilia Beanes, James Hayes, Joan Garrod, and Byron Allen. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

~ ~ ~

Fr Joseph writes: We continue our series on the Church.

The Church pt XIII — The Church is Holy

We are all aware of the harm done to the Church by various scandals in recent years, especially those caused by the bishops and priests themselves. For these, we must all do penance and make reparation. Yet these offences do not, in themselves, mar the beauty and the holiness of the Church Herself because the Church is not only, or even chiefly, a human institution but a spiritual entity, a supernatural reality.

Christ’s body was afflicted with many scars and wounds, with bruises and lacerations, with lashes of the scourge and with beatings, and yet His body—being the Incarnate Body of the Word-made-flesh—was still, in itself, sacred and unblemished.

So it is with the Church. The sins of each of us mar the beauty of the outward appearance of the Church, yet the Church, in and of Herself, remains without spot or wrinkle (Eph 5:27). We make up the membership of the Church, but the Church Herself is the Mystical Body of Christ and, as such, is constituted of a supernatural reality which, like the Person of Christ, cannot be less than holy even if, like Christ’s physical body, it can appear disfigured.

Our Lord attests to this holiness, despite the presence of sinners within the Church, when He teaches the parable of the wheat and the cockle which would only be separated once the harvest was gathered in (Mt 13:24-30), and again when He likens the Church to a fishing net which catches good and bad fish together (Mt 13:47-50). Furthermore, the Church is likened to Noah’s Ark into which all living beasts were gathered, both clean and unclean (Gen 7:8-9).

In addition to *being* holy, the Church is also the *means* through which we may come to participate in the holiness of God and become partakers in the divine nature (2 Peter 1:4).

Being the Mystical Body of Christ, the Church is She to whom all are called who thirst, that they might drink from the fountain, or wellspring, of salvation (Is 12:3 & 55:1; Jn 7:37). Through the graces of the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and of the Sacraments, through Her rituals and devotions, Her teachings and disciplines, our Holy Mother, the Church, leads Her children to holiness. The lives of all the canonized martyrs and saints, who have been raised to the altars of God, have shown forth the holiness of God—and of God’s Church—through the miracles attributed to their intercession and through the virtues of their lives. With them, also, innumerable ordinary folk have been sanctified down the ages by the blessings and graces of God poured through the Church, just as water and blood was poured forth from the pierced side of Christ as He hung upon the Cross.

The Church is both the channel by which God’s blessings are poured down upon us and the window through which He draws us upwards and to Himself. She is the Temple of the heavenly Jerusalem from out of whose side flow the waters of life (Ezek 47:1), and She is the heavenly city through whose midst flows the river of the water of life upon whose banks grow the tree of life that puts forth twelve fruits for the healing of the nations (Apoc 22:1).

And just as the holiness and the authority of the Church flow from Her Head, Christ Our Lord, so is the Church hierarchical in nature (as Christ Himself founded Her) rather than synodal, with Her holiness, like Her teachings, flowing down from above into the lives of those below.

REGULAR PARISH GROUPS & EVENTS

Online calendar: please go to our online calendar to see details of all our parish groups and events: stpancraschurch.org.uk/calendar/

Tea & coffee every Sunday in the parish hall following the 9:30 and 11am Masses. All welcome

Parish coffee morning in the parish hall every Friday following the 10am Mass & rosary. All welcome.

Church cleaning group every Friday morning following the 10am Mass & rosary. New volunteers welcome.

Wednesday Evening Talks at 7pm (following the 6pm Mass & rosary) throughout the autumn and spring. (Suspended for the time being.)

Thursday Lunches are held every second Thursday of the month at 1pm. (Every week in Lent.) These are social events and everyone is welcome. The lunch is free, although we invite donations to Mary's Meals.

St Carlo Acutis Group (for 14-17 year olds) every first Thursday of the month at 7pm in the church followed by discussion and games in the parish hall until 9pm. Newcomers welcome.

Catholic Mothers' Group for mums & toddlers every second Monday of the month in the parish hall at 11am (following the 10am Mass & rosary). Newcomers welcome.

Book Club every quarter (on the second Monday of March, June, September, and December) in the parish hall at 7pm. All welcome.

Catholic Young Adults, CYA, (for 18-35 year olds). This group is enjoying an extended break for the moment. Watch this space for updates.

The Pancratius is our monthly newsletter for younger readers (5-15 years old) packed with fascinating facts about the Catholic Faith and the Church, quizzes, jokes, suggested reading, and activities. Please feel free to take a copy or two.

The Parish Choir sings at the 11am Mass on Sundays and at the 7pm Mass on Holy Days. Rehearsals are on Fridays at 8pm. If you would like to join our choir please speak to Fr Joseph.

Brass cleaning Our team has been reduced recently and we are looking for more volunteers (once a month or thereabouts). If you might be able to help, please speak to Fr Joseph.

FIND Ipswich (Families in Need) Dry foodstuffs and personal care items may be left in the barrel at the back of the church for local people in need.

The Traditional Latin Mass (TLM—1962 Missal) is said every 2nd Sunday of the month at 8am, and usually on Tuesday mornings at 8am.

STANDING NOTICES

A warm welcome to new parishioners and visitors. If you have recently moved to the area please complete one of the Contact Details postcards at the back of the church and return it to Fr Joseph. Thank you.

Masses may be said for the living and the dead. Please enter the details on one of the Mass Offering envelopes available at the back of the church, place your offering inside the envelope, and return it to Fr Joseph. A typical offering is £10 for each Mass requested. We cannot guarantee your preferred date for the Mass but we will get as close to it as possible. Thank you.

Going into hospital by appointment or in an emergency? Please let Fr Joseph know. Ipswich hospital has a lay Catholic chaplain, Mrs Rachel Tearle, a member of St Mark's parish and an experienced nurse. If you would like support from the chaplaincy team, please refer by calling 01473 704100 or by sending an e-mail to chaplaincy@esneft.nhs.uk. For urgent chaplaincy needs 24/7, please call the switchboard at 01473 712233 and ask for the on-call chaplain. When making a referral, please provide the patient's name, ward (if known), and your contact details in case further information is needed.

Call a Priest in an emergency! If someone is dying, do not wait but call a priest to administer the Last Rites. If Fr Joseph is not immediately available, call one of the other priests in a nearby parish.

Gift Aid. If you are a British taxpayer but have not yet completed a Gift Aid form please do so. You can add considerably to the income of the parish at no further cost to yourself. Gift Aid forms are available at the back of the church. Completed forms should be returned to Fr Joseph. Thank you.

Legacies can provide much needed financial support to parishes. Please consider leaving a legacy in your will for St Pancras Catholic Church, Ipswich. Thank you.

Sunday sermons may be found on our parish website.

Tuesday is Fr Joseph's day off. The phone, the doorbell, and e-mails are unlikely to be answered on Tuesdays.

Please consider making a **STANDING ORDER** instead of a weekly cash contribution to the parish. Our bank details:
BANK: Barclays Bank. **ACCOUNT NUMBER:** 00775843.
SORT CODE: 20-44-51 **ACCOUNT NAME:** St Pancras Catholic Church.



Our parish is part of the East Anglia Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: registered charity no. 278742

The QR code will take you to our Dona machine donation page.

The parish **SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE** may be contacted by anyone of any age, at any time, with any safeguarding concerns:

Mim McMahon: 01394 274395 or 07813199275
mim@trianglemusic.info or mim.macmahon@gmail.com

Or contact the **DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING CO-ORDINATOR**,
Liam Sainsbury: 07931 952626
liam.sainsbury@rcdea.org.uk