

# St John the Evangelist

Fr James Callaghan OSB

# 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time

27 June 2021 (Year B)

**Parish Administrator:** Kathryn Lynam; **Assistants:** Emma Harrison and William Scrope  
Office Hours: Tuesday to Thursday, 9:00 to 3:00pm, Friday 9:30-3:30pm.

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**Safeguarding Representatives:** Mary-Clare Laidlaw and Mark de Groot

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*Facebook and website at stjohntheevangelisteasingwold.co.uk*

Please let Kathryn have your email for the bulletin, and search for our private Facebook group

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## Mass Times this Week:

Saturday 26	Feria
10:45am	Confessions
5:45pm	Mass: <i>Family &amp; Friends</i> <i>of Nicholas Wilson</i>
Sunday 27	13th Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:00am	Mass: <i>Horst Helle</i>
Monday 28	St Irenaeus, Bishop, Martyr, Mem
<u>Tuesday 29</u>	<u>Ss Peter &amp; Paul, Apostles, Solemnity</u>
<u>09:30am</u>	<u>Mass: <i>Private Intention</i></u>
Wednesday 30	Feria
09:30am	Mass: <i>Mary Garner</i>
Thursday 1	St Oliver Plunkett, Bishop, Martyr, Feast
Friday 2	Feria
09:30am	Mass: <i>Thanksgiving</i>
Saturday 3	St Thomas, Apostle, Feast
10:45am	Confessions
5:45pm	Mass: <i>Parish</i>
Sunday 4	14th Sunday in Ordinary Time
10:00am	Mass: <i>Doc Watson</i>

## COME BACK TO CONFESSION!

Since public confession became possible again, use of this vital source of healing and grace has been tragically low across the country – and also in our own parish. This is a great source of worry to me, and I am constantly reminded of the warning to priests/prophets in Ezekiel 3:18 or 33:8 (although even in writing this I wonder how many will bother to look it up...).

My dear friends, we all know we sin, but a lot of the time we live and think as though we don't, and we must face this! God has given us a pattern for living (of thinking, speaking and acting) but because we are human we often fall short of His plan. We are in fact called to be *fully human* and need to turn to our Father as often as we can and beg Him for the help we so badly need; coming to Him to confess our sins is His will for us; it is not up to human logic or self-comforting rationalisation to go against that and we try to do so at our great peril.

In the Catholic Church confession has been on the wane for many years – not due to covid but to an alarming secularisation of thought, a loss of the sense of the Sacred and, to put it bluntly, of wilful pride. Far too many priests and bishops have not attempted to confront this grave threat over the years and the people have suffered as a result: my friends, I wish to have no part in this!

*Of course* it is not always easy to come to confession: admitting what we have done comes easily to very few, but what a source of comfort and true healing it is. When we receive this Sacrament of Reconciliation we not only have our sins forgiven but also receive a huge influx of grace – that is to say, of the overwhelming love of God – and of strength. I need this sacrament and I can be equally sure that you do too, so please come: at the moment I hear confessions in the Lady Chapel on **Saturdays between 10:45am and 11:30am**. Please come! Make it necessary for me to provide *more* times for this great healing sacrament – believe me, I shall be overjoyed to do so!

May I repeat: I am bound (as every priest is) by the seal of the confessional. I can, and will, never reveal what people tell me. No priest carries around in his head what he has been told: we are well-trained in this! The priest is simply Christ's instrument; it is He who is speaking when the beautiful words of Absolution are spoken – it is, after all, He who forgives.

Every penitent in our church has the choice of sitting opposite me to confess or to confess anonymously, kneeling behind a screen. If you are not sure how to make your confession, any priest administering the sacrament will help you along – how could we not, when it is Christ who has longed for you to turn to Him in this way! Some people find they cannot bring themselves to confess to their parish priest – in that case, confess to a priest in another parish! I shan't know unless you tell me, and I will simply be glad you have been if you ever do.

Zechariah chapter 1 verse 3: "The Lord of Hosts says this: Return to me.....and I will return to you!" Take God at His word: the time may be short!

May God bless you all.

Fr James.

### **Prayer to St Michael**

Holy Michael, Archangel, defend us in the day of battle. Be our safeguard against the wickedness and snares of the devil. May God rebuke him, we humbly pray, and do Thou, Prince of the Heavenly Host, by the power of God, thrust down into hell Satan and all the wicked spirits who wander through the world for the ruin of souls.

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### **Thought for the Week**

*There are only three types of people; those who have found God and serve him; those who have not found God and seek him, and those who live not seeking, or finding him. The first are rational and happy; the second unhappy and rational, and the third foolish and unhappy.*

Blaise Pascal

### **First Holy Communions: Volunteer needed!**

Please contact Fr James if you would be able to give the children their weekly "lessons" for a course of at least 5 - 8 weeks. Fr James would be available for more information during the sessions.

### **Reminder of current restrictions**

Thank you to all those who are helping keep the church open, and, as predicted, we need to continue with what we have been doing, for a little while longer.

- Until we can ease spacing restrictions, both weekend Masses are fully booked. This makes it all the more important to let us know if you cannot attend one week.

- Church Access for Private Prayer: the church will be open during daylight hours. Please do come along for as long or short a time as you would like, leaving a note of your name on the sign-in sheet. This is just a health-precaution and the paper will be destroyed after three weeks.
- Confessions: Saturdays from 10:45am – 11:30am in the Lady Chapel. Do please take advantage of this opportunity.

### **Catholic Papers**

Please contact the producers directly if you would like to subscribe.

- Combined Catholic Universe and Times: 0161 820 5722  
www.thecatholicuniverse.com
- Catholic Herald: <https://catholicherald.co.uk>
- For editions of all the catholic papers you can also go on [www.ChurchPaper.co.uk](http://www.ChurchPaper.co.uk).

### **Message from SPUC – see [www.spuc.org.uk/MassLobby2021](http://www.spuc.org.uk/MassLobby2021)**

*SPUC is holding a Mass lobby of MPs on Friday 16 or Saturday 17 July 2021. We are asking pro-life supporters up and down the country to organise a meeting with their MP, at the MP's constituency office, on one of these dates. The DIY abortion policy is still in place, and there is a renewed threat of assisted suicide being legalised. Please ask your MP to lobby the Health Secretary to vote against both.*

### **Knitted Bible Display 2-4 July**

A display of over 30 tableaux illustrating popular Bible stories is coming to Easingwold Parish Church comprising knitted characters of Moses, Noah, Jacob etc., in appropriate surroundings. The scenarios have been created by St George's URC in Hartlepool, who have very kindly allowed us to borrow them. For more details, contact Lynne Price or Charlotte Cranfield at: [kalybobbins@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kalybobbins@yahoo.co.uk) or: [charli.cranfield@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:charli.cranfield@yahoo.co.uk)

### **Rotas**

Thank you to those who help out by stewarding and reading at all Masses. Please could we have a few more names for the flower rota? Many thanks!

	Steward(s)	Reader
Sat 26 June	Fulfords	Julian Fowell
Sun 27 June	Sheila Ward	Jenny Harp
Sat 3 July	Frams	Michael Fram
Sun 4 July	Anita	Susan Harrand

*For Masses on Wednesdays and Fridays I do hope that one of those present will be moved to read (the readings will be clearly indicated...); if no one is so moved, of course I shall read myself! God bless you all, and let's look forward to a return to the fullness of parish life as soon as possible. Fr James.*

### **Mass Intention Requests to Fr James**

If you would like a Mass said please write the intention on an envelope with the offering inside. With advanced notice we can try for a specific date, otherwise we will use the next available slot.

### **Bulletin availability: hard copy from box at kitchen door**

Please help yourself, or let Kathryn have your email if you would like a soft copy.

### **Eggs: slight delay in production**

Many thanks to Trish and Jane. Temporary lack of eggs due to furry Mr Fox, but hopefully a new

supply in a couple of months. You are still welcome to donate to the Poor Box. Many of you are doing so, because we were able to send a cheque for £100 to the Little Sisters of the Poor in Leeds.

### **Electric Organ available**

We have been advised that there is an electric organ surplus to requirements. Please see Kathryn if you would be interested.

### **Parish Contacts**

- St. Vincent de Paul (SVP): Pauline Willcox 823675  
*Catholic Women's League (CWL): Susan Harrand 823219*

### **Offertory Collections and Charities: Thank you for your offerings**

- Thank you for last week's offertory collections: £185
- APF Red Boxes – Anne Trimmings has advised that she is allowed to count the coins again, so if you have an overflowing box, please do bring it in – it can be left in the porch for collection.