CATHOLIC PARISH OF OUR LADY & ST JOSEPH

Sheringham & Cromer

Christmas Octave

Proper Psalter · **Readings**: Sundays: A · Weekdays: II

St Joseph Church & Priest's Office
58 Cromer Road, Sheringham,
Norfolk, NR26 8RT

Our Lady of Refuge Church
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Sunday 28 December			**Holy Family**
Saturday	5.30pm Confessions until 5.50pm		*at Cromer*
	6pm Anticipatory Mass	For the people	*at Cromer*
Sunday	9am Sung Mass	Susan Littlechild +	*at Cromer*
	11am Sung Mass	For the unborn & their mothers	*at Sheringham*
	3pm Old Rite Mass	Frede Jensen +	*at Sheringham*
Monday	29 December		**S Thomas of Canterbury**
	10am Mass	For vocations to the priesthood	*at Sheringham*
Tuesday	30 December		**Christmas Octave**
	10am Mass	Private intention (CD)	*at Sheringham*
Wednesday	31 December		**Christmas Octave**
	6pm Sung Mass & Benediction	In thanksgiving for 2025	*at Sheringham*
	followed by Mulled Wine and Mince Pies in the Hall to celebrate New Year		
Thursday	1 January		**Mary, Mother of God**
	10am Sung Mass	Bernie Williams +	*at Cromer*
	followed by Bubbles and Canapes in the Hall to celebrate New Year		
Friday	2 January		**Ss Basil & Gregory**
First Friday	10am Mass	Holy Souls	*at Cromer*
Saturday	3 January		**Holy Name of Jesus**
First Saturday	9.30am Mass	Mary Jensen +	*at Sheringham*
	10am Confessions		
	10am Rosary		
	5.30pm Confessions until 5.50pm		*at Cromer*

"The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace"

(Numbers 6: 24-26)

FROM THE PARISH PRIEST

2026 is the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of the Diocese of East Anglia by St John Paul II. Norfolk, Suffolk, Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, and the Soke of Peterborough were spliced off from the Diocese of Northampton (founded in 1850), because it was seen that we in East Anglia had a distinct identity and coherency of our own, and we had the capacity by then to be able to support ourselves as a particular Church. I like to think that there is some moral (if not legal!) continuity with the mediaeval Diocese of East Anglia founded in 630 by St Felix, our first bishop. East Anglia is one of only two *existing* dioceses in the *world* which are named after a region rather than a specific settlement. If you can tell me what the other one is after Mass today without looking it up on your phone, you may even get a prize!

Mid-January sees the *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity*. Canon Stoker has kindly invited me to preach at **Evensong** in **St Andrew, Holt, at 5pm on Sunday 11 January**. I would very warmly encourage you to attend if you can, not primarily to listen to me preach (!), but to commit ourselves to unity in Christ.

In reciprocation, there will be **First Vespers of Candlemas** with a **candle-lit procession** at **St Joseph** on **Sunday 1 February at 5pm**. Canon Stoker will preach. Other local Christian ministers and congregations will be invited to participate as well. We will host our guests in the Hall afterwards for refreshments and fellowship. I very earnestly encourage you to attend this, and to put it in your diaries now. It doesn't matter whether we ordinarily go to Mass in Our Lady of Refuge or in St Joseph; we can show that we are one in Christ, who is our eternal Temple. This is an opportunity for us to be generously welcoming to others, too. This event will be the first event in our parish diary for 2026 to celebrate this Diocesan Jubilee Year.

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pilgrimage to Rome: Monday 5 October – Friday 9 October 2026 (flying from Stansted). Cost: **£1,350** each based on 2 sharing, or **£1,450** for a single. These prices require a minimum of 20 pilgrims. Accommodation: Dinner, bed & breakfast. **Deposit: £350** required by **15 February 2026**. Full payment required by 6 July 2026. Please see the full itinerary in the porch or on the website.

Please check the newsletter very carefully for **weekday Mass times**. Everything is **different.**

On **New Year's Eve** we will have a thanksgiving **Mass at 6pm** in **St Joseph**, followed by **mulled wine and mince pies in the Hall** to celebrate 2025! On **New Year's Day**, there will be **Mass at 10am** in **Our Lady of Refuge** followed by **bubbles and canapés in the Hall** to celebrate 2026!

COLLECTION

Last weekend's collection figures will be available next weekend • **Thank you!**

Bank details for **donations** or **standing orders:**

Name: **Our Lady and St. Joseph Parish**
Sort code: **20-03-26**
Account number: **30783412**

Gift-aid envelopes are available for **visitors** who are UK tax-payers. Please complete in pen and place in the collection. Donations by **card** can be made using the **payment stations** at the **back of church**.

ANNIVERSARIES

Monica Lee 1988, Paddy Parker 2000, Dr Alex Pillaimayagam 2020, Josephine Drury 1985, William Ryan 1985, Nicodemo Stasi 1988, Frank Jackson 1963, Kathleen O'Dea 1980, Mark Buller 1992, Mary Silburn 1981, Elizabeth Bennett 1997, Beryl Milligan 2007, Hugh Arbuthnot 2020, George Kneller 2002, Terence Dakin 1999, Emily Lagan 2016, Louis Sanders, Marion Ward 1990, George Townend 1998, William Harris 1959, Margaret Crakauskas 1976, Doreen Rainsford 2006, Patricia Hurst 2023.

ETERNAL REST GRANT UNTO THEM O LORD