



# “Joy of All Who Sorrow”

No. 189 January, 2025



## **A St Nicholas Evening**

On the evening of Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> December – the eve of St Nicholas’ Feastday – the parish held the first of what it hopes will be a regular series of events dedicated to our children and young people. In total there were 13 young people with several contacting to say they would have wanted to come but were unable due to other commitments or illness. The evening started with a bring n’ share meal and then the young people separated into two groups: with the younger children staying in the College Dining Room to listen to a story read by Matushka Elizabeth of *St Nicholas and the Nine Gold Coins* and the older children accompanying Father to the church for a reading of the Life of the Saint and a spiritual discussion. After this the two groups met up again in the College Dining Room to sing two songs to St Nicholas, one Dutch and one Russian. Finally, the children, young people and adults came back to the Church for a Moleben and Akathist to St Nicholas after which everyone was anointed with oil from the lampada that hangs over the saint’s shrine in Bari. It was a wonderful evening and it was very special to have so many children singing the Akathist to St Nicholas as well as dear friends from our sister parish in Norwich.

## **New Trustees & Property Transfer**

Following a trustee meeting on Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> December the Mettingham Orthodox Trust that has legal oversight of the finances of the Parish appointed two new trustees: Tatiana Blana and Sergiu Sacaliuc. Tatiana is a Chartered Accountant and will be able to bring her accountancy skills and financial acumen to the benefit of the Trust and help us to acquire Gift Aid on our donations from the past four years. Sergiu Sacaliuc is a highly experienced Builder and Project Manager and will bring his practical skills and expertise to support the Trust. A further important decision which was made at this Trustee Meeting was for the Trust to seek to receive the whole of the Property of the White House and Grounds into its possession following a deed of transfer by Deacon Andrew. This is currently in process but marks another important milestone in our community’s history.

## **ROCOR Youth Conference**

On Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> and Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December, Fr Mark and Matushka Elizabeth attended the ROCOR Diocesan Youth Conference in and around our beautiful Cathedral in London. The Conference was attended by over 80 young people from nine different European countries within our diocese. The theme of the conference was on “Serving God and Serving People” and after performing a moleben to St John the Wonderworker for all the participants in the conference, Fr Mark delivered a talk offering his reflections on serving God and Man as an Orthodox priest and social worker and the importance of trusting in God’s Providence. Matushka and Father then stayed on to hear talks from Fr Quentin de Castelbajac from Lyon as well as Fr Aleksandr Groves from Hastings before leaving on Friday afternoon. The delegates then went on to hear further talks by Bishop Irenei and other clergy of the diocese as well as having time to visit various sites in the Capital. It was hugely encouraging to see so many young people, some still catechumens or recent converts, zealous to learn more about the Orthodox Faith and to get to know other young people. Matushka and Fr Mark were so enthused by the atmosphere of the conference that we will suggest at the next AGM that a fund should be opened to enable more young people from our parish to come and experience next year’s conference.

## **Nativity and Theophany Services & Blessings**

Full details of the forthcoming Great Feasts of the Nativity & Theophany of Christ are printed below in our service schedule. Please note that – weather permitting - we will have the Great Blessing of the Waters of our local River Waveney at the Wainford weirpool near the Silo Café (NR35 2RU) on the Sunday after Theophany. There is parking on the road, please don’t park at the Silo unless you have purchased something. Finally, Fr Mark will expect to come and bless all parishioners’ homes after the Feast of Theophany. Please contact him to arrange this.



PARISH & COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF THE IKON OF THE THEOTOKOS:

**JANUARY 2025**

**Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> January**

*7.30pm ~ Moleben to St John of Kronstadt & the New Year*

**Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> January**

*7.30pm ~ Great Vespers & Confessions*

**Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> January**

**(Sunday of the Holy Fathers | Forefeast of Nativity)**

**10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy**

**Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January**

*7.30pm ~ Great Compline with Litia*

**✘ Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January ✘**

**NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**

**10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy**

*followed by a Christmas Party & Carols*

**Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January**

*7.30pm ~ Moleben to the Ikon "Joy of All Who Sorrow"*

**Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January**

*7.30pm ~ Great Vespers & Confessions*

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> January**

**(Sunday after Nativity | The Kinsmen of the Lord)**

**10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy**

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> January**

*7.30pm ~ Moleben to St Seraphim of Sarov*

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January**

*7.30pm ~ Great Compline & Litia*

**✘ Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> January ✘**

**THEOPHANY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST**

**10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy**

*With Great Blessing of Water in the Church*

**Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> January**

*7.30pm ~ Moleben to the Ikon "Joy of All Who Sorrow"*

**Saturday 25<sup>st</sup> January**

*7.30pm ~ Great Vespers & Confessions*

**Sunday 26<sup>nd</sup> January**

**(Sunday after Theophany)**

**10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy**

**Approx. 2.30pm ~ Great Blessing of the Waters of the River Waveney**

*Above the Wainford weirpool by the bridge near the Silo Café (NR35 2RU)*

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> January**

*7.30pm ~ Moleben to St Varus with Litia*

For all other services and pastoral needs including baptism, marriage, molebens and panikhidas, please contact Priest Mark Tattum-Smith on:  
Tel. 01502 716914 / 07592482732 or Email: [marktattumsmith@gmail.com](mailto:marktattumsmith@gmail.com)