



“Joy of All Who Sorrow”

No. 191 March, 2025



Second Children’s Event on Preparing for Great Lent

On Wednesday 19th February we held our second evening for children this time on the theme of Preparing for Great Lent. It was lovely to have children from parishes in Walsingham, Norwich and Mettingham spending time together in learning and worship. After a bring and share meal, Fr Mark introduced the gathered children and young people to the curious Greek tradition of *Kyru Sarakosti*, or Lady Lent, where children make models of an old lady with no mouth and seven legs and then proceed to remove a leg each week in order to count down the seven Sundays through Lent and Holy Week to Pascha! After colouring-in pictures of Lady Lent and learning more about each of the Sunday commemorations, the evening ended with a moleben and Akathist to our beloved Patronal Ikon of the Mother of God: “*Joy of All Who Sorrow*”. The Photo above was taken after the moleben.

Reception of New Catechumen

On Sunday 16th February Ash Gooch was received into the catechumenate and named for St Cuthbert of Lindisfarne. May God grant Catechumen Cuthbert many years and guide him as he prepares for Holy Illumination.

Parish Registration

On 18th February we received formal notification that our church has been formally registered as a Place of Meeting for Religious Worship (No. 85809) and a Place for the Solemnisation of Marriages (No. 45680). As well as formalising our church as a place of public worship, this also means that Orthodox couples who wish to be married at Mettingham will not need to have a civil ceremony before receiving the Orthodox Service of Matrimony. This marks another important milestone in the life of our parish.

New church items

We received another package from St Elizabeth’s Convent of Minsk which this time included a new small spear for the Altar, a brass zapivka cup and a new litia plate for use at the Vigil services of Great Feasts.

Start of New St Edmund’s Mission

We were very pleased to hear that with the blessing of Bishop Irenei, Rdr Christopher Dive is assisting in restarting the Orthodox Mission Parish in Bury St Edmunds dedicated to the holy King and Martyr Edmund of East Anglia. Matushka Elizabeth has assisted in helping with the church music and Dcn Andrew donated our large ikons of Christ and the Theotokos for the new mission as well as a gold sticharion, candles, an Apostol and ikon cards. The first liturgy was served by Hieromonk Theodore from our Cathedral on Saturday 22nd February in St Mary’s Church in Bury St Edmunds and the community hopes to hold a Liturgy there each month. For more information, please contact Rdr Christopher Dive - 07500055415.

2025 Year of two Holy Confessors

By order of the Holy Synod, 2025 has been appointed a year of special commemoration of the repose of two great Hierarchs and holy confessors: Patriarch St Tikhon & St Jonah, Bishop of Hankow (Manchuria).

Parish AGM Second Sunday of Great Lent – Sunday 16th March

Our Parish AGM will be held after lunch on the Second Sunday of Great Lent 16th March. All members of the parish are encouraged to come and attend. This is a great opportunity to offer your services to the parish and to make suggestions for the year ahead. We will also need to appoint a new Treasurer and Secretary.

Unction at the Cathedral

Bishop Irenei will be presiding at the Service of Great Unction at our Cathedral in London on Saturday 29th March.



PARISH & COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF THE IKON OF THE THEOTOKOS:

MARCH 2025

Saturday 1st March

7.30pm ~ *Great Vespers & Confessions*

Sunday 2nd March

(Forgiveness Sunday)

10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy

(approx.) 2.30pm ~ Vespers of Forgiveness

Clean Monday – Clean Thursday 6th March

7.30pm ~ *Great Compline with Great Canon*

Saturday 8th March

7.30pm ~ *Great Vespers & Confessions*

Sunday 9th March

(1st Sunday of Lent: Sunday of Orthodoxy)

10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy followed by Moleben for Conversion of those in Error

Wednesday 12th March

6pm ~ 9th Hour & Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Saturday 15th March

7.30pm ~ *Great Vespers & Confessions*

Sunday 16th March

(2nd Sunday of Lent: St Gregory Palamas)

10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy

2pm ~ Parish AGM

Friday 19th March

St Felix of Dunwich, Apostle of East Anglia

6pm ~ 9th Hour & Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Saturday 22nd March

7.30pm ~ *Great Vespers & Confessions*

Sunday 23rd March

(3rd Sunday of Lent: Precious & Life-giving Cross)

10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy

(Approx.) 2.30pm ~ Passia

Wednesday 26th March

6pm ~ 9th Hour & Liturgy of the Presanctified Gifts

Saturday 29th March

2pm ~ Great Unction at the London Cathedral

57 Harvard Rd, Chiswick, London W4 4ED

7.30pm ~ *Great Vespers & Confessions*

Sunday 30th March

(4th Sunday of Lent: St John Climacus)

10.10am ~ Hours & Divine Liturgy

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