"Joy of All Who Sorrow"

No. 211 October 2026

Funeral of Priest Antony Bardsley

On 9th September, Fr Antony Bardsley, the former priest of our Parish, reposed at St Mary's Care Home in Bungay where he had been living for the past couple of years following being diagnosed with advanced dementia. After being washed and dressed in his priestly vestments, Fr Antony was then brought into the church on Wednesday 30th September. The day began with the Divine Liturgy for the Afterfeast of the Cross & Sts Sophia and her daughters: Faith, Hope and Love where fervent prayers were offered throughout the service for the repose of his soul. In the afternoon the Funeral Service was concelebrated with Priest Spasmir Ivanov from the St Alexander Nevsky's Parish in Norwich and Archpriest Yaroslav Hudymenko from our Cathedral in London who attended on behalf of Bishop Irenei. It was wonderful to see that some of Fr Antony's godchildren were able to pray at the service as well as those who had known Father when he had served and ministered to them in his many years as parish priest. After the Last Kiss, Fr Antony was then taken in procession for the last time around the church and up to the Graveyard on the little mound overlooking the church. Our sincere condolences go especially to Matushka Helen as well as to all of Fr Antony's children, family and friends. May his memory be eternal!

March for Life 2026

On Saturday September 5th at 12.30pm, Fr Mark served a Moleben to the Holy Innocents before the beginning of the Annual March for Life in central London at St. John's Gardens. It was good to see a few people from Mettingham as well as seeing Fathers, brothers and sisters from parishes across the UK.

Visit of Hieromonk Mark from Cardiff

On Sunday 6th September, we were delighted to welcome Hieromonk Mark (Underwood), the Rector of the Parish of the Kazan Ikon of the Mother of God from Cardiff. After concelebrating at the Divine Liturgy and presenting the cross, Hieromonk Mark gave a talk at Trapeza on Parish life in Cardiff and the two missions he oversees in the West of England as well as speaking to us about the new church they are in the process of purchasing. Later that day I was able to confirm that we had raised £1000 for their new building appeal which has now been transferred to their account. They are still a few thousand pounds off their goal and so we invite anyone who has not already given to please donate directly to their Gofundme fundraising page.

Prayers for children and students

On the same Sunday as Hieromonk Mark's visit, we had special prayers for all children returning back to school as well as to students going to or returning back to university including Catechumen Oliver & George Tattum-Smith and Kevin Sujith.

Heritage Open Day 2026

In a change to the original scheduled time, in the afternoon of Sunday 20th September, we had 8 visitors come and visit our church as part of the national Heritage Open Day. These were all local people who had heard about the church and had been wanting an opportunity to visit. Fr Mark gave them each an individual tour of the building and answered questions on Orthodox belief and worship. We hope that some of them may return to visit us again.

New Clergy Support Fund

With the blessing of the Holy Synod, a Clergy Support Fund is now in the process of being established in order to provide financial assistance and support to all deacons and priests of our diocese. More information will be released shortly.

Patronal Feast and Founder's Day

Our Patronal Feast for the Ikon of the Mother of God: "Joy of All Who Sorrow" falls on **Friday 6th November** with full details at the bottom of the Service Schedule. All parishioners should seek to be present on this day and to take the day of work if at all possible. Please note that we will also celebrate the 16th anniversary of the repose of our Foundress Mary Bond on **Sunday 15th November**.

PARISH & COLLEGIATE CHURCH OF THE IKON OF THE THEOTOKOS:
"JOY OF ALL WHO SORROW"

OCTOBER 2026

Saturday 3rd October
7.30pm ~ Vespers with Confessions
Sunday 4th October
(Sunday after the Exaltation of the Cross & Apodosis of the Feast)
10.10am ~ Hours and Divine Liturgy

Wednesday 7th October
7.30pm ~ Moleben to the Theotokos "Joy of All Who Sorrow"

Saturday 10th October
7.30pm ~ Vespers with Confessions
Sunday 11th October
(Venerable Chariton the Confessor & Venerable Cyril & Maria parents of St Sergius of Radonezh)
10.10am ~ Hours and Divine Liturgy

Wednesday 14th October
✠ Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos ✠
10.10am ~ Hours and Divine Liturgy

Saturday 17th October
7.30pm ~ Vespers with Confessions
Sunday 18th October
(All Holy Hierarchs of Moscow)
10.10am ~ Hours and Divine Liturgy
2pm (approx.) Litia for 40th day since repose of Priest Antony Bardsley

Wednesday 21st October
7.30pm ~ Moleben to the Theotokos "Joy of All Who Sorrow"

Saturday 24th October
7.30pm ~ Vespers with Confessions
Sunday 25th October
(Holy Fathers of the Seventh Ecumenical Council | St Wilfrid of York | St Martin the Merciful)
10.10am ~ Hours and Divine Liturgy

Wednesday 28th October
7.30pm ~ Panikhida with Prayer to St Varus

PATRONAL FEAST: 5 – 6th NOVEMBER
IKON OF THE THEOTOKOS: JOY OF ALL WHO SORROW
Thursday 5th November
6.30pm ~ All-Night Vigil
✠ Friday 6th November ✠
10.10am ~ Hours, Festal Liturgy & Cross Procession

For all other services and pastoral needs including baptism, marriage, molebens and panikhidas, please contact Priest Mark Tattum-Smith on:
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