

# SOCIAL NEWSLETTER

July 2024

Welcome all to the 4th issue of our Parish Social Newsletter

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## Strawberry Fair 2024

This year's event was tremendously successful with £700 raised for The Alzheimer Society.

With such a fantastic amount, we are planning to have a formal presentation of the cheque to the charity. So we will have a full report on the event when we can also include details of the presentation.

For now, a huge thanks to all of you who attended and for your generosity, and of course to all those who helped to make it a such a success.

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## Farewell to the Daughters of Divine Charity

Last Sunday we said a sad farewell to the Daughters of Divine Charity in Hunstanton.

St Theresa's Convent will be closing at the end of this month and Sr Mary and Sr Thomas More will move to new accommodation in Chesterfield with Fr Michael Johnstone. Meanwhile, Sr Danuta is due to return to Poland and will transfer to Krakow soon after.

The Sisters and Fr Michael joined us after Mass at OLSE for a buffet lunch which was very well attended by parishioners from both our churches. Fr Henry McCarthy led the tributes to the Sisters, and they were presented with cards and a parting gift: A framed print of the cliffs at Hunstanton to always remind them of their friends here.

Once again, a big thank you to everyone from both churches who contributed food and drink, and those who helped set up and clear away to ensure that we gave the good Sisters a lovely send off!

The Sisters extended a warm invitation to all of us if we are ever Chesterfield way!

## 3 Feast Days, 2 Churches, One Parish!

As mentioned in our previous issue, we want to celebrate the fact that we have 3 additional Feast days in our Parish.

At the end of June, we had a lovely service to celebrate the Feast of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour at OLSE. The service was made extra special with the singing of a new anthem to Our Lady (composed especially for our parish by our organist Fr John) as well as other hymns to Our lady.

After the service, tea/coffee and a delicious selection of cakes were enjoyed by about a dozen of us including Canon Peter.

Look out for information about the Feasts of St Edmund and St Cecilia later in the year.

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## Teas and Coffee after Mass

Don't forget that there are more regular opportunities to meet with fellow parishioners: Every week, you can catch up with others over a cup of tea/coffee and biscuits at each of our churches.

In OLSE, Hunstanton this is available after the 11.00am Mass on Sundays; and at St Cecilia, after 10:15am Mass on Wednesday. St Cecilia's also offer refreshments after 9:00am Mass on the first Sunday of each month.

It would be lovely to have more people join us on these occasions, and visitors as well as regular parishioners are always welcome.

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## Ecumenical Events

You may have noticed more on our Notice Boards and in the Newsletters recently about Ecumenical events. In the last few months, we have been working more closely with other Christian churches in our area. Our aim is to make the most of opportunities to pray together and getting together for social occasions.

In June we joined the other Christian communities at the Union Church in Hunstanton for the first in a series of Faith Meals. This will be a regular event every few months when we all join in prayer followed by a lunch. Each of the churches will take turns to host. Unfortunately, this time, due to a misunderstanding about times, most of us missed the service but afterwards we joined the other churches for a lovely buffet lunch provided by parishioners from all the churches.

We have shared our Social Calendar with the other churches and invited them to join us wherever possible - some attended the Strawberry Fair. Both this and the Faith Meal provided good opportunities to meet and chat with fellow Christians in our area.

We now have someone in the Parish who is leading on Ecumenical events for us – Andrew Wordsworth. Andrew will be pleased to hear any views and ideas you might have about increasing our outreach in the Christian Community.

### **What's coming up? - Parish Summer BBQ**

This year we are trialling a new approach to our late summer event: we want to try to include as many people as possible without causing a lot more work for those who help. So, we are inviting everyone to a summer picnic in the grounds of OLSE on Saturday 24 August between 12 noon and 3pm.

We will still be providing a BBQ with the usual burgers and hotdogs, as well as a selection of soft and alcoholic drinks – ALL FREE! Just bring along whatever else you might want to eat yourself. There will be some tables and chairs available but these are limited so if you can, please bring your own picnic table/chairs/rugs.

We especially want to encourage families to attend and really hope to see more children at this year's event. There may well be a few things which might interest them!!!

For the rest of us, there will be music, raffles and a Bottle Tombola and of course the chance to catch up with others.

**As usual, we depend on your generosity in terms of prizes for the Raffle and the Bottle Tombola so please do give what you can over the next few weeks.**

<b>Date and time</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Where</b>	<b>Contact point</b>
24 -Aug (time: 12 to 3)	BBQ	OLSE	Tom & Elizabeth Koning
3rd week October (time TBA)	Harvest Lunch	St Cecilia	Contact point to be advised
07-Dec (time TBA)	Christmas Fair	OLSE	Elizabeth Howe
Late December	Afternoon Tea	TBA	Contact point to be advised