

SOCIAL NEWSLETTER

May 2026

Hello everyone! It doesn't seem that long since our last newsletter, and yet that was way back at the end of January! Of course, we did have 6 weeks of Lent in between but that doesn't mean that we didn't do anything on the social front!

As always, do please let us know if you have any views or thoughts about our Parish Social Newsletters

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Pancake Evening – *Quite soon after the publication of our last Social Newsletter (and obviously the day before Lent began!) we held our annual Pancake Evening at St Cecilia's. This successful event was well attended by parishioners who came along to taste the delicious offerings, and as a bonus some took away some lovely raffle prizes.*

This much-loved annual event in our parish is only possible because of the time and effort put in by folks to provide the pancakes etc and those who run the evening. Our thanks to everyone who attended and also to those who help make this a success each year – particularly to Lorna Hutchinson who stepped in to organise this year's event.

Cake, cake and more cake! - Possibly a strange heading for a period which included 40 days of fasting and abstinence! BUT March and April were also the months during which many celebrated milestone Birthdays and anniversaries. And of course, these were great opportunities for us to gather and wish our fellow parishioners well – usually this was accompanied by cake!

Several Sunday Masses at OLSE and Wednesday ones at St Cecilia were followed by special celebrations. Most notably, Fr John Bloomfield's 70th Birthday was celebrated with a buffet lunch (including a bespoke cake!) at OLSE in March; and Jim and Louise Smith's 60th Wedding Anniversary began with a special Mass and Blessing at St Cecilia's followed by sandwiches, sausage rolls, cake.... And much hilarity!

These were just two of the many celebrations we have in our parish every month. Some are low key, others are more elaborate, and some even include alcohol – but nearly all have cake!



Fr John's Birthday cake

INTERNATIONAL LUNCH
(see Over)

Ecumenical

Lenten Meals - Once again during Lent this year our parish took part in the Churches Together Lenten Services and meals. Over the 6 weeks, each church took a turn to hold a service and then provide a simple lunch afterwards.

Most were well attended and as before our parish joined together with the Anglican Church of St Edmunds in Hunstanton both for the service and to provide the lunch (during which no less than 6 different types of soup were on offer!) for our turn.

World Day of Prayer – Although this is an annual service rather than a social event, it's getting a mention here because it was just such a beautiful gathering this year!

Each year a different nation takes responsibility for this International event in which thousands of churches around the world take part in the same service on the same day. This year's service was prepared by Nigeria. Our parish, together with an Ecumenical group of many other churches in the area has always played an active part in this annual event; and this year was no exception with Pat Nevin and Lorna Hutchinson taking part in the readings at the service in the Methodist church, Hunstanton. It was jam-packed - including a very good turn out from our own parish – as we listened to the readings and stories from Nigeria and all joined in prayers and songs. We were also blessed to have people who had personal experience of living in Nigeria tell us their own stories. Many said it was the best World Day of Prayer Service they had ever attended!

This service used to be the Women's Day of Prayer, but it has always been for everyone – if you have never been to one, make a note to look out for it next year. It is a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our brothers and sisters in Christ in other parts of the world.

International Lunch – 1 August 2026

I would like to attend the International Lunch

I will be bringing a contribution (not obligatory!)

Dates for your calendar

Strawberry Fayre – 13 June



That special time of year is nearly upon us as we look forward to this year's Strawberry Fayre!

This will take place on Saturday 13 June at St Cecilia. Between 2 -4pm (see poster in both churches)

Cost of tickets is £5.00 (children under 12 free)

There will be Raffles and a Tombola, as well as Cakes, plants, books and puzzles for sale.

If you can help with the event in any way, please contact Maureen Vernon

International Lunch – 1 August

We had originally planned to do this in April, but this was not possible due to other commitments. We are still hoping to run the event this year: 12 – 3pm OLSE

The idea is that we have a get together which reflects the diverse nature of our parish. All parishioners are invited and asked bring a plate of food to share if they can (which may or may not reflect nationality or simply something you like!). God willing it will be lovely and warm and we can have a picnic in the grounds of OLSE. Further details will be provided nearer the date, but for now we need to get a feel for interest in this event, so can you please complete the cut off slip at the bottom of this page and leave it in the church porch. If you have any questions please contact Pat Fuchter.

Name and Contact Details

