

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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🌐 www.marymagdalens.org

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Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia

🌐 www.rcdea.org.uk



Parish priest: Canon Mathew George ✉ parishpriest@marymagdalens.org

Parish school: St Pancras Catholic Primary School, Stratford Road, Ipswich, IP1 6EF

Head teacher: Mr Stephen Barker ☎ 01473 742074

Catholic chaplain to the Ipswich hospitals: Fr A Gates

Please contact Fr Gates if you are going into hospital (☎ 01473 726701) or let Fr Mathew know.

Mass is celebrated in the Ipswich Hospital chapel each Monday at 4 pm – all are welcome.

3rd Sunday of Easter

Sunday Readings: Year B

Weekday Readings: Third Week of Easter

We offer a warm welcome to all new parishioners and especially to any visitors.

Services This Week

Sunday 15th 8:00 am Ernie Lacey – foundation Mass
April 10:00 am * Richard Collis RIP
6:00 pm The people of the parish

Monday 16th Easter Feria
April 9:30 am Janes family

Tuesday 17th Easter Feria
April 9:30 am Albertina Vieira

Wednesday 18th Easter Feria – **in St Pancras school**
April 9:30 am Patrick and Eleanor Mayston

Thursday 19th Easter Feria
April 9:30 am Open intention

Friday 20th Easter Feria
April 9:30 am Albertina Vieira

Saturday 21st Easter Feria
April 9:30 Holy Souls – followed by Benediction

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sunday 22nd 8 am Open intention
April 10 am * Open intention
6 pm The people of the parish

* Tea and coffee is available in the church hall after Sunday 10:00 Mass – all are welcome

Today's Gospel

On the third Sunday of Easter, we continue to hear Gospel accounts of Jesus' appearances to his disciples following his Resurrection. Today's reading, taken from the Gospel of Luke, follows immediately after the report of Jesus' appearance to his disciples on the road to Emmaus. This is the event being recounted by the disciples in the opening verse of today's Gospel.

Even as they hear Jesus' greeting of peace, the disciples are startled and terrified. They are uncertain about what to make of the figure before them and, quite understandably, they mistake Jesus for a ghost. Yet the figure before them is not a ghost; Jesus invites them to experience his resurrected body with their senses, to look and to touch. The figure before them is flesh and bone, still bearing the marks of crucifixion, and their fears turn to joy and amazement.

As further proof of his identity and of his resurrected body, Jesus eats with his disciples. The disciples have known Jesus best through the meals that he has shared with them. By eating with his disciples after his Resurrection, Jesus recalls all these meals, and most importantly, he recalls the Last Supper.

Luke's report of the Last Supper and the meals that Jesus shared after his Resurrection unveil for us the significance of the Eucharist. Having shared a meal with his disciples, Jesus now uncovers for them the significance of what was written about him in the Scriptures. So, too, our celebration of the Mass is an encounter with Jesus, through the Word and the Sacrament of the Eucharist. As Jesus commissions his disciples to be witnesses to what Scriptures foretold, our celebration of the Eucharist commissions us. Like the disciples, we are sent to announce the good news of Jesus' forgiveness of sins.

Children's Liturgy

Today, there will be a meeting of the children's liturgy catechists at 11:00 in the Guild Room. This will be a preparation meeting for the first session, at which we will review the materials and aids to be ordered, will complete the paperwork for the Safe Guarding checks which need to be completed and will agree the date for the first children's liturgy class. All those who have already put their names forward as catechists are requested to attend, and anybody else that would like to get involved who has not already done so – well this is your chance.

Marriage and Family Life Coordinator

An opportunity has arisen within the diocese for the role of MFL coordinator. Duties include managing programmes of support such as marriage preparation and marriage enrichment, organisation of the Annual Marriage Celebration Mass, and involves working with parishes and other diocesan departments. Average of 20 hours per week to include occasional Saturdays, at £13 per hour, based at home. For more information contact Kerry Urdzik on mflc@rcdea.org.uk or telephone 01473 251301.

Easter Baptisms

Please pray for Isabelle Norman and Jonah Parsons who were baptised last Sunday. We welcome them to our parish community.

School Vacancies

There is currently a vacancy for the position of Head of School at the St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School in Norwich, and applications are invited for this post. More details of the role can be found on the diocesan web site. A copy of the advert for this position is in the narthex or can be downloaded from the parish web site. Closing date for applications is tomorrow, 16th April 2018.

There is a forthcoming vacancy for the position of Headteacher of St Mark's Catholic Primary School in Ipswich and applications are invited for this post. For more details and an application pack, please contact Headteacher Recruitment at headships@suffolk.gov.uk or telephone 01473 263943. Closing date for applications is tomorrow, 16th April 2018.

World Day of Prayer

Next Sunday, 22nd April, is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. Pope Francis has published a message to all Catholics regarding this, the fifty-fifth world day of prayer for vocations. His message can be read on the Vatican web site, or you can follow the link in the news item on our own parish web site.

Retiring Collection

Also next Sunday, 22nd April, there will be a retiring collection for the Diocesan Priests' Training Fund.

The Sick of the Parish

Please pray for those who are sick or housebound, especially for Collett Long who goes into hospital this week and for Margaret Arbon, Peggy Barron, Jason Beaumont, Michael Clarke, Deacon Peter Coates, Fabiana DiMascio, Ron Green, Fr. David Hennessy, Jo Kelly, Molly Mc Garry, Roger Mayhew, Yvonne Metcaf, Robert Mullan, Mary O'Reilly Maureen Sparks and Ken Banbridge.

Fr Mathew is preparing a list of the housebound who would like a regular visit from a priest or a Eucharistic Minister so that they can offered adequate pastoral care. If you know someone who would like a visit from a priest, with their permission please pass on their details to Fr Mathew.

Our Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Irene Sparks, Ernie Lacey, Ambrose Andrews, Herbert Littleboy, Albertina Vieira, Joan Long, David Cuddon, Fr. Roy Fosker, Rita Lavery, Petro Laba, David Silcock, Renata Carnall, Rosemary Lowry, Beryl Ingham and Cara Watson whose anniversaries occur about now.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

The Monday after Pentecost will from now on be celebrated as the Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church. A decree was issued on Saturday 3rd March 2018, by the Congregation for Divine Worship and the Discipline of the Sacraments. Cardinal Robert Sarah wrote that the new celebration will *"help us to remember that growth in the Christian life must be anchored to the Mystery of the Cross, to the oblation of Christ in the Eucharistic Banquet and to the Mother of the Redeemer and Mother of the Redeemed, the Virgin who makes her offering to God."*

The memorial will appear in all calendars and liturgical books for the celebration of the Mass and the Liturgy of the Hours. This year, the celebration will fall on Monday, May 21st 2018.

150 Club - End of Year

The complete list of prize winners for the year 2017-18 is pinned to the notice board in the narthex, or can be downloaded from the parish web site. The accounts for the year just ended are with the auditor for inspection – the figures will be published once this inspection is completed.

The subscription envelopes for the new year are now available for existing subscribers – if you have not yet received yours, please contact Michael Long.

If you are a new parishioner, or an established parishioner who has been meaning to join but not yet got round to it, please do sign up. Numbers are down at the moment and we need some new members to ensure the continuing viability of the venture which has raised over £80,000 since it was started and contributed over £46,000 to the parish. The membership forms are in the narthex, or can be downloaded from the parish web site. With the new year about to begin, now would be a very good time to finally take this step and join.

Parish Vacancies

Following the recent appointment of John Anderson-Hurst as parish treasurer, we are looking for a new parish representative for FIND (Families In Need in Ipswich). If you would be interested in filling this role, or would like to know more about it, please speak to Fr Mathew.

Mass Readings 3rd Sunday of Easter (Year B) 15th April 2018

Entrance Antiphon:	Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.
First Reading:	Acts. 3:13-15, 17-19 <i>You killed the prince of life. God, however, raised him from the dead.</i>
Responsorial Psalm:	Psalm 4:2, 4, 7, 9 Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.
Second Reading:	1Jn. 2:1-5 <i>He is the sacrifice that takes our sins away, and not only ours, but the whole world's.</i>
Gospel Acclamation:	<i>Alleluia, alleluia! Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us. Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us. Alleluia!</i>
Gospel:	Luke 24:35-48 <i>So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead.</i>
Communion Antiphon:	The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

Dates for Your Diary

Ipswich Catholic Women's League

The next meeting of the Ipswich CWL branch will take place on Tuesday next, 17th April, at 2:30 pm starting with Mass followed by the annual review, tea and chat in St Pancras church hall. The meeting is open and anyone will be welcome.

On Tuesday 24th April, the CWL will be holding a Springtime Tea Party in St Pancras church hall from 2:30 pm until 4:00 pm. This event replaces the Valentide Tea Party that had to be cancelled earlier in the year due to poor weather. Anybody with a ticket to the Valentide Tea Party can use it for admission to this event. Otherwise, tickets are available from members or at the door for £3.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham

This is one of the major events of the year in the life of the Diocese as Catholics from across the region gather at the National Shrine of Our Lady. This year, the pilgrimage takes place on Monday 7th May, starting at 12 noon with Mass followed by lunch, and procession to the Abbey grounds in Walsingham with prayer at the Site of the Holy House and Benediction. The Diocesan Pilgrimage is one of only three Pilgrimages which will in future be allowed to process down the holy mile, so it will be a significant, if not an historic, moment for us this year! It is hoped to arrange shared coach transport with other Ipswich parishes, so if you are interested in going, please let Fr Mathew know.

Celebrate East Anglia

The *Celebrate Conference* – a local faith-filled, family friendly conference for people in all stages of life – will take place on June 2nd and 3rd at Bury St Edmunds. The weekend includes talks, workshops, praise and worship, music, performing arts and opportunities for prayer. Mass will be celebrated by Bishop Alan on the Saturday, and there will be professionally organised activity programmes for young people in different age groups. Martin Pakes is part of the team organising this event, and is happy to offer a spare seat in his car to anybody wishing to attend. For more information go to www.celebrateconference.org and click on East Anglia.

Ignite Festival

The Ignite Festival is the main diocesan youth event of the year. All young people from year 8 upwards are invited to this festival which will take place in Swaffham over the weekend 5th/6th May 2018. The weekend will include powerful talks, passionate prayer, live music, and lots of fun stuff including sumo suit wrestling! This year the organisers, the Diocesan Youth Service, are particularly pleased to be welcoming Gabby and Paige from the TV show Bad Habits, Holy Orders. More information can be found at the festival web site www.ignitefestival.co.uk.