

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia

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

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

Head teacher: Mr Ian Kearns ☎ 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.



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time – 26th August 2018

Sunday Readings: Year B

***Weekday Readings: Twenty First Week of Ordinary Time,
Year II***

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

Services This Week

Sunday 26 th August	8:00 am	Martin Curry Foundation Mass
	10:00 am	Ford & Davis families
	6:00 pm	The people of the parish

Monday 27 th August	St Monica
	9:30 am

Tuesday 28 th August	St Augustine
	9:30 am

Wednesday 29 th August	The Passion of St John the Baptist
	9:30 am

Thursday 30 th August	Feria	
	9:30 am	Open intention
	11:00 am	Funeral service: Carole Johnson RIP

Friday 31 st August	Feria
	9:30 am

Saturday 1 st September	Feria
	9:30 am

2 nd September	8:00 am	Open intention
22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	10:00 am	Open intention
	6:00 pm	The people of the parish

Today's Gospel

In our Gospel reading today we hear the conclusion of the "Bread of Life discourse" in the sixth chapter of John's Gospel. In the preceding verses, we have heard Jesus explain that he is the Bread of Life, given so that those who believe may have eternal life. As Jesus has been teaching these things, John's Gospel describes a murmuring crowd unable to accept Jesus' words. In today's Gospel, the crowd has dwindled in number, and John no longer references them, or the Jews but instead describes the questioning of those considered to be Jesus' own disciples.

Today's Gospel first records the response of those in the crowd who are described as Jesus' disciples. Just as the larger crowd had struggled with Jesus' teaching, these disciples also cannot accept Jesus' words. Jesus responds by acknowledging their unbelief and by reiterating that only those chosen by the Father will follow Jesus to the end. John's Gospel reports that many of those who had been Jesus' disciples ceased to follow him at this point. The number of people following Jesus dwindled and it is to the Twelve that Jesus now turns his attention.

Simon Peter responds to Jesus' question as to whether those closest to him will also leave by announcing, on behalf of all the Twelve, that they have come to believe all that Jesus has taught about himself: Jesus is the one from God in whom they have found the path to eternal life.

This conclusion of the Bread of Life discourse focuses on personal faith in the life of Christian discipleship. Each person must make his or her own judgement about who Jesus is and in doing so determine the way of life that he or she will follow. God's grace invites us to be Jesus' disciples, but each person must respond to the grace of God and confess as his or her own the belief that Jesus is the one from God. This faith then commits us to the path of life, leading us to eternal life.

Catholic East Anglia

The September edition of the Catholic East Anglia newspaper is now available in the narthex. There is no charge for this publication. Please do take a copy with you today. The new edition contains news and pictures from a rare ordination at St John's Cathedral in Norwich, a celebration of Marriage and Family Life Diocesan and news of a church Lottery boost. The newspaper is also available to be read on-line on the Diocesan web site, or by following the link on our own parish web site.

First Holy Communion Programme 2018-19

The First Holy Communion Programme 2018-19 is now open for registration. Children aged 7 and above (entering Year 3 in September 2018) should apply for this programme. Registration forms are available in the narthex or can be downloaded from the parish web site. Please return your form enclosing a copy of the baptism certificate to Fr. Mathew or one of the children's catechists as soon as possible and no later than 16th September 2018, to help us plan for the programme. Please help us spread the word about registrations and encourage family and friends to get those forms in as soon as possible. If your child is in St. Pancras School, please contact the school about the programme.

Confirmation

We are joining St. Mark's and St. Pancras for the confirmation programme 2019. If you would like to join please speak to Fr. Mathew or Martin Pakes.

The Suffolk Historic Churches Trust Ride & Stride Campaign

The annual Churches sponsored cycle or walk takes place on Saturday 8th September. If you can help by welcoming visitors to our church, sign up on the rota form in the porch for the hour or hours you would be able to cover.

Share the Journey

Pope Francis has launched *Share the Journey*, a new global campaign to stand up for the rights of refugees and migrants. The timescale of the campaign is from now until the Pope goes to address the UN in September 2018. A week of action will also take place during Refugee Week in June. In support of the campaign, CAFOD are aiming to walk 24,901 miles - the distance around the whole world! All parishes and schools are invited to engage in this campaign. It's an act of solidarity to *Share the Journey* with our global neighbours fleeing their homes. Every step you take, together with others from across the England & Wales, will send a message to world leaders that they must step up too. They need to act with courage and compassion when they agree ambitious new UN

agreements on refugees and migration in 2018. Resources are available on the CAFOD website at: <https://cafod.org.uk> - please click the campaign heading.

The Sick of the Parish

Please pray for those who are sick or housebound: Margaret Arbon, Peggy Barron, Jason Beaumont, Michael Clarke, Deacon Peter Coates, Fabiana Di Mascio, Ron Green, Fr. David Hennessy, Jo Kelly, Molly Mc Garry, Molly & Roger Mayhew, Yvonne Metcalf, Robert Mullan, Mary O'Reilly and Maureen Sparks.

Offertory

The offertory collection from all Masses on Sunday 19th August amounted to £316.89. Thank you.

150 Club

The August prize draw of the parish 150 Club will take place after 10:00 Mass next Sunday, 2nd September. There are still plenty numbers available for new subscribers – if you are not already a member please do consider signing up to this worthwhile fund raising venture.

CAFOD – Support for Fairtrade

A year ago, Sainsburys, the largest retailer of Fairtrade products in the world, decided to remove the Fairtrade Mark from some of its most popular own-brand tea and instead to pilot its own “Fairly Traded” scheme. At the time, CAFOD among others expressed concern that the new “Fairly Traded” tea, and any other products that might follow it, could mean an unfair deal for the poor farmers and producers. At the time Sainsburys stated that the new approach would not leave farmers out of pocket and would have more positive outcomes, such as allowing increased investment and enhanced environmental measures. As part of a campaign to get Sainsburys to reconsider, CAFOD is asking, now the pilot is over, for concerned persons to write to Sainsburys to ask how the pilot scheme has met the stated objectives. A draft letter has been produced, and can be downloaded from the parish web site. This can be printed, your address added, signed and handed in to your local Sainsburys store. As a Fairtrade parish, we should all consider supporting the CAFOD campaign in this way.

Ipswich Fair Trade Shop

The Ipswich Fair Trade shop, a not-for-profit organisation in Upper Brook Street, is seeking volunteers to work in the shop. If you have some time you can spare and can help out, please contact Margaret Fish by email margaret.fish@thefairtradeshopipswich.co.uk or pop into the shop.

Our Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Paul Treiber, John Eaton, Vincent O'Brien, Rose Carter and Richard Twomey whose anniversaries occur about this time.

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.

F.I.N.D. “Families in Need in Ipswich”.

FIND was established as a registered charity in 1990 by Maureen Reynel MBE. It helps those that are deprived of a minimum standard of living, whether they are single, families, lone parents, children, elderly, sick, disabled or homeless. The FIND tub in the narthex could be your opportunity to reach out to those who have fallen on hard times locally. Gifts of food, particularly non-perishables, especially welcome. You can learn more about the work of FIND by visiting its web site www.findipswich.org.uk.

Caritas East Anglia Development Worker

The Diocese of East Anglia is to appoint a part-time development worker for Caritas East Anglia for at least one year to research and promote current social action initiatives in the diocese and to develop a diocese-wide strategy. Caritas East Anglia aims to encourage, support and co-ordinate works of social outreach in the Diocese. By organising diocese-wide celebrations of the current activities in parishes and sharing what is being done elsewhere, the development worker will demonstrate the value of Catholic Social Action and encourage parishes to be more ambitious in what they seek to achieve. Applications are invited for this role – the job description can be found on the Diocesan web site or by following the link from the Parish web site. Closing date for applications is 30th September.

Mass Readings for the Twenty First Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year B) 26th August 2018

Entrance Antiphon:

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all day long

Collect:

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world, our hearts may be fixed on that place where true gladness is found. Through Our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever.

First Reading:

Josh. 24:1-2, 15-18

We will serve the Lord, for he is our God.

Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel together at Shechem; then he called the elders, leaders, judges and scribes of Israel, and they presented themselves before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: "If you will not serve the Lord, chose today whom you wish to serve, whether the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River, or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are now living. As for me and my House, we will serve the Lord". The people answered, "We have no intention of deserting the Lord our God and serving other gods! Was it not the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery, who worked those great wonders before our eyes and preserved us all along the way we travelled and among the peoples through whom we journeyed? We too will serve the Lord, for he is our God".

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 33:2-3, 16-23

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Second Reading:

Eph. 5:21-32

The mystery has many implications for Christ and his church.

Give way to one another in obedience to Christ. Wives should regard their husbands as they regard the Lord, since as Christ is head of the church and saves the whole body, so is a husband the head of his wife; and as the church submits to Christ, so should wives to their husbands, in everything. Husbands should love their wives just as Christ loved the church and sacrificed himself for her to make her holy. He made her clean by washing her in water with a form of words, so that when he took her to himself she would be glorious, with no speck or wrinkle or anything like that, but holy and faultless. In the same way, husbands must love their wives as they love their own bodies; for a man to love his wife is for him to love himself. A man never hates his own body, but he feeds it and looks after it; and that is the way Christ treats the church, because it is his body and we are its living parts. For this reason, a man must leave his father and mother and be joined with his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery has many implications; but I am saying it applies to Christ and the church.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!

Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

Gospel:

John 6:60-69

Who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life.

After hearing his doctrine many of the followers of Jesus said, "This is intolerable language. How could anyone accept it?" Jesus was aware that his followers were complaining about it and said, "Does this upset you? What if you should see the Son of Man ascend to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life, the flesh has nothing to offer. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and they are life. But there are some of you who do not believe". For Jesus knew from the outset those who did not believe, and who it was that would betray him. He went on, "This is why I told you that no one could come to me unless the Father allows him." After this, many of his disciples left him and stopped going with him. Then Jesus said to the twelve, "What about you, do you want to go away too?" Simon Peter answered, "Lord, who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life, and we believe; we know that you are the Holy One of God".

Prayer over the Offerings:

O Lord, who gained for yourself a people by adoption through the one sacrifice offered once for all, bestow graciously on us, we pray, the gifts of unity and peace in your church. Through Christ Our Lord.

Communion Antiphon:

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.