

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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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 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.

6th Sunday of Easter

Sunday Readings: Year B

Weekday Readings: Sixth Week of Easter

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

Services This Week

Sunday 6 th May	8:00 am	Charles Vieira
	10:00 am *	Geraldine Lofthouse, Ken Bainbridge
	6:00 pm	The people of the parish
Monday 7 th May	Easter Feria	No Mass Today
Tuesday 8 th May	Easter Feria	
	9:30 am	Albertina Vieira
Wednesday 9 th May	Easter Feria	
	9:30 am	Holy Souls
Thursday 10 th May	Feast of the Ascension of the Lord, Holyday of Obligation	
	9:30 am	Ken Bainbridge
	7:30 pm	The people of the parish
Friday 11 th May	Easter Feria	
	No Mass Today	
Saturday 12 th May	Easter Feria	
	9:30 am	Holy Souls – followed by Benediction
Sunday 13 th May	8:00 am	GCJ Vieira
	10:00 am *	Henry Teuma RIP
Seventh Sunday of Easter	11:30 am	First Holy Communion children
	6:00 pm	The people of the parish

* Tea and coffee is available in the church hall after 10:00 Mass today – all are welcome
No tea and coffee after Mass next week because of First Holy Communion celebrations.

Today's Gospel

Today's Gospel follows immediately after the Gospel proclaimed last week, in which Jesus taught that he was the vine and that his disciples were the branches. In that example, we learned that our union with Jesus will lead to fruitful service. Today's reading extends this teaching to describe the kind of service that Christians are called upon to offer to others.

In John's Gospel, we hear Jesus affirm that he is known by the Father and that his disciples will know the Father by knowing Jesus. In this passage, however, Jesus reminds his disciples that this knowledge is to be expressed in love. Those who know Jesus well - and Jesus says that his disciples do know him - will love one another. Knowledge leads to love, which leads to action. Even more, a true disciple shows a particular kind of love, sacrificial love. John reminds his community that Jesus also taught that a disciple is one who had been chosen - chosen by Jesus. To be chosen by Jesus, however, is not to be set apart from the world, rather to be chosen by Jesus is to be sent to serve the world as he did.

The disciples of Jesus were chosen and were sent into the world to bear fruit by serving others, by sacrificing for others, in love. We know that Jesus himself gives us the greatest example of the kind of love and service that he teaches to his disciples. He has, in fact, laid down his life for his friends, for his disciples, and for us. Through his death and Resurrection, we have received the grace to love others as Jesus has commanded.

The Ascension

Thursday next, 10th May, is the feast of the Ascension and a Holyday of Obligation on which Catholics are obliged to attend Mass. Mass will be at 9:30 am and 7:30 pm. Children from St Pancras school will be attending the 9:30 am Mass in church.

Retiring Collection

Today there will be a retiring collection after each Mass for First Holy Communion flowers.

150 Club

The April prize draw of the parish 150 Club will be made in the church hall after 10:00 Mass today. Why not join us for a cup of coffee?

Readers

We are organising a Reader's Training Evening for our readers on 6th June from 7.00pm to 9.00pm. It would be a wonderful opportunity for our existing readers, who are so generous in helping us listen to the Word of God at our Sunday and weekday Masses, to reflect and pray about their ministry and the privilege of proclaiming the Word of God to us and to learn how to do it even better. If you are not a reader yet, you are welcome to attend the evening and then decide whether God is calling you to this ministry for His people. Either way, feel free to talk to Fr. Mathew or Martin Pakes our Confirmation Catechist who organises the Reader's rota.

World Communications Day

Next Sunday, 13th May, is World Communications Day 2018. It's a day when we pray for all those who work in the media. In his message for this day, Pope Francis speaks of journalists as "*protectors of news*". Their task is "*not just a job, but a mission*". To support the church's work in this important field, the Communications Office of the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales is a team working in the media to publicise and promote Catholic content within mainstream media. Recently it played a key role in securing a special investigation by the Evening Standard and the Independent into the scourge of modern slavery and works behind the scenes with broadcasters and print journalists to articulate Catholic views on news stories. To help support its work, there will be a retiring collection next Sunday, 13th May, after all Masses.

First Holy Communion

Nine of our children (parish Group) will be celebrating their First Holy communion during the Mass at 10.00 am next Sunday, 13th May. On the same day 15 others (school group) will celebrate their First Holy Communion at a special Mass at 11.30 am. Please pray for our children and their families. Since the school is not able to provide music for the special Mass, I would like to invite as many parishioners as possible to be present for the Mass at 11.30 am to support the families and to lead the singing.

After each service, there will be a celebration in the parish hall, or in the church garden if weather permits, so please note there will not be tea and coffee available after 10:00 Mass that morning.

Eucharistic Ministers

On the feast of Corpus Christi, which is celebrated on Sunday 3rd June this year, our Eucharistic Ministers will be re-commissioned at the Mass they normally attend. This is an opportunity for those who are undertaking this Ministry to renew their commitment. It also presents us with an occasion to express appreciation to all who are willing to serve our parish in this special way and to say something about the importance of this ministry. In the first place the ministers facilitate the orderly distribution of Holy Communion without that being unduly prolonged – leaving time for a time of quiet reflection once everyone is back in their places in the church. Their ministry also makes it possible for everyone at Mass to receive Holy Communion under both kinds. The third important service which Eucharistic ministers render is to bring consolation to our sick and housebound, who are enabled, by their ministry, to receive Holy Communion every week; to be united with our Sunday act of worship; and, of course, to enjoy some human companionship and some regular contact with the everyday life of the church in this community. If you would like to be considered to become a Eucharistic minister, please speak to Fr Mathew.

Ipswich Catholic Women's League

The Ipswich Catholic Women's League would like to thank everyone who supported the *Springtime Tea Party*, in St Pancras Hall on Tuesday 24th April. The event raised a splendid £396.75 for its various Charities.

Weekly Offertory

The offertory on Sunday 22nd April was £367.09. The retiring collection, for the Diocesan Priests Training Fund, came to £165.70. The offertory on Sunday 29th April was £473.49. Thank you.

Easter House Blessings

There is a beautiful tradition of having one's home blessed with the water that was blessed at the Easter Vigil. You are very welcome to ask Fr. Mathew to do this for you during Eastertide.

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 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 be 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.

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.

Our Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Patrick McManus, Provost Augustine Peacock, John Breby, Mary Dodson, Peter McWalter, Phyllis Cullen, Eileen Mills, Michael Byron, Mary Hollis, Reginald Park, Frank Gay and John Smith 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.

Quiz Evening

The Friends of St Albans are holding a Quiz Evening at St Alban's Catholic High School, Digby Road, Ipswich, IP4 3NJ -Saturday 19th May 2018, 7.00 for 7.30 pm start. Teams of up to 8 (age 15 and over), however if not in a team, come along and you can be assigned to a team. £8.00 per person, including fish/sausage/vegetarian roll and chip supper (advanced booking essential due to food orders). Licensed bar, raffle prizes. For tickets please contact the School Office on 01473 726178. All proceeds go to the Friends of St Albans (registered charity).

Mass Readings 6th Sunday of Easter (Year B) 6th May 2018

Entrance Antiphon:	Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.
First Reading:	Acts. 10:22-26, 34-35, 44-48 <i>The Holy Spirit has been poured out on the pagans too.</i>
Responsorial Psalm:	Psalm 97:22-26, 34-35, 44-48 The Lord has shown his salvation to the nations.
Second Reading:	1Jn. 4:7-10 <i>God is love.</i>
Gospel Acclamation:	Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: <i>"If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him"</i> . Alleluia!
Gospel:	John 15:9-17 <i>A man can have no greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.</i>
Communion Antiphon:	If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete to abide with you forever, alleluia.
Regina Caeli	
Celebrant: Queen of heaven, rejoice!	Response: Alleluia!
Celebrant: For He whom you did merit to bear	Response: Alleluia!
Celebrant: Has risen again as He said!	Response: Alleluia!
Celebrant: Pray for us to God.	Response: Alleluia!
Celebrant: Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary!	Response: Alleluia!
Celebrant: For the Lord is truly risen.	Response: Alleluia!
Celebrant: Let us pray, O God, who was kind enough to give joy to the world through the resurrection of Christ your son, grant we beseech you that that through His Mother, the Virgin Mary, we may obtain the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ our Lord. Response: Amen.	

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 tomorrow, 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! There will be no Mass at St Mary Magdalens church on Monday as Fr Mathew will be attending the pilgrimage.

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.

Children's Pilgrimage to Walsingham

The annual children's pilgrimage to Walsingham will take place on Tuesday 29th May, which is during school half term week. The day will begin with a procession from the village at 10:45 am, walking to the shrine along the former railway line, with pauses for prayers and hymns along the way, with Mass at the Chapel of Reconciliation at 12:00. After a picnic lunch at the shrine, the day will finish on the beach at nearby Wells-Next-the-Sea. More details are available from Christine Storman, tel. 01493 717121 or email chriessies@hotmail.com.