

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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🌐 www.marymagdalens.org

📧 @marymagdalens

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.

2nd Sunday of Easter (Low Sunday)

Sunday Readings: Year B

Weekday Readings: Second Week of Easter

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

Services This Week

Sunday 8th April
8:00 am Stephen and grand parents
10:00 am * Doreen & Noel Andrews – foundation Mass
6:00 pm The people of the parish

Monday 9th April
Solemnity of the Annunciation of the Lord
9:30 am Janes family

Tuesday 10th April
Easter Feria
9:30 am Joel Lecorno

Wednesday 11th April
Feast of St Stanislaus – **No Mass Today**

Thursday 12th April
Easter Feria
9:30 am Open intention

Friday 13th April
Easter Feria
9:30 am Albertina Vieira

Saturday 14th April
Easter Feria - **No Mass today**

Third Sunday of Easter

Sunday 15th April
8 am Elsie Robinson – foundation Mass
10 am * Richard Collis
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

Today's reading from the Gospel of John is proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter in each of the lectionary cycles. This fact alone should alert us to the significance of the encounters with the resurrected Jesus that are described in this reading. This Gospel combines two scenes: Jesus' appearance to his disciples after his Resurrection and Jesus' dialogue with Thomas, the disciple who doubted.

In today's Gospel, Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun; as Jesus was sent by God, so Jesus sends his disciples. He gives his disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit so that they will be able to accomplish this task. Jesus' words to his disciples also highlight the integral connection between the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit. With the grace of the Holy Spirit, we can share forgiveness and reconciliation with others.

Thomas, the doubting disciple in today's reading, represents the reality of the Church that comes after this first community of witnesses to Jesus. All but the first disciples of Jesus must believe without seeing. Like Thomas, we may doubt the news that Jesus, who was crucified and buried, appeared to his disciples. Our human nature seeks hard evidence that the Jesus who appeared to his disciples after his death is indeed the same Jesus who was crucified. Thomas gives witness to us that the Jesus who was raised is the same Jesus who died, and through the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are among those who are blessed, for we have not seen and yet believe.

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 who will be baptised at 11:15 and Jonah Parsons who will be baptised at the 12:00 today, Sunday, 8th April.

Congratulations and welcome to Wenison Da Trindade Jesus, Isaac Boateng, Ruby Boateng, Scarlet Boateng and Sapphire Boateng who were baptised at the Easter Vigil last week, and also to Elissaela Manacas, Chanel Miguel and Luena Miguel who were baptised at the 10:00 Mass on Easter Sunday. Please remember them all, their parents, godparents, sponsors and families in your prayers.

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 Monday week, 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 Monday week, 16th April 2018.

Ellen Armes and Noel Andrews RIP

This week we have held Requiem Masses for two long standing members of our parish family. Ellen Armes, a regular daily Mass attendee going back to the times of Fr Conlon and Fr Bull, and Noel Andrews one of the last remaining members of the founding families of the parish. May the Lord welcome them into his kingdom. Please pray for the repose of their souls, and remember the families that mourn their passing.

Low Sunday

The first Sunday after Easter has traditionally been called "Low Sunday". The origin of this name is not certain but it is believed to have come about simply to distinguish it from the great Easter festival of the preceding Sunday, which has been called "High Sunday". There is no truth in the explanation facetiously put about by some clerics that Mass attendance is typically low on this Sunday in comparison to Easter Sunday!

The Sick of the Parish

Please pray for those who are sick or housebound, especially 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 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 we can offer them 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 Alice Woolley, Emmie Stoneman, Kevin Barrett, Timothy Curran, Margaret Flynn, Doreen Andrews and Ernie Lacey 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 Draw

The final draw of the current year for the parish 150 Club was made last Sunday. Congratulations to the prize winners who were:

Monthly Prizes	1 st	£15	No 102	Mrs J Di Mascio
	2 nd	£10	No 113	Mrs J Wilson
	3 rd	£5	No 98	Mrs L Dolby
	4 th	£5	No 228	Mr C Croker
Bonus Prizes	1 st	£100	No 252	Mrs M Ogden
	2 nd	£50	No 222	Mrs C Sims
	3 rd	£50	No 13	Mrs V Davison
	4 th	£50	No 233	Mr T Butcher
	5 th	£50	No 96	Mrs M von Fragstein
	6 th	£40	No 146	Mr R Fox
	7 th	£25	No 24	Mrs S Matuszczyk
	8 th	£25	No 170	Mrs C Moore
	9 th	£25	No 194	Mr & Mrs M Mayston
	10 th	£20	No 42	Mrs E Carter

The subscription envelopes for the new year are also now available for existing subscribers. 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.

Mass Readings 2nd Sunday of Easter (Year B) 8th April 2018

Entrance Antiphon:	Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.
First Reading:	Acts. 4:32-35 <i>United, heart and soul.</i>
Responsorial Psalm:	Psalm 117:2-4, 15-18, 22-24 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his love has no end.
Second Reading:	1Jn. 5:1-6 <i>Anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world.</i>
Gospel Acclamation:	<i>Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said "You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe". Alleluia!</i>
Gospel:	John 20:19-33 <i>Eight days later, Jesus came.</i>
Communion Antiphon:	Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

Children's Liturgy

Further to the recent Mass led by the Ignite Youth Mission Team, we hope to start our Children's liturgy sessions soon. To this end, there will be a meeting of the catechists on Sunday 15th April 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.

Catholic East Anglia

The April issue of the diocesan newspaper, Catholic East Anglia, is available now in the narthex. Please take a copy – there is no charge! It can also be downloaded from the diocesan web site rcdea.org.uk.

The editor, Keith Morris, is still trying to identify a communications champion in each parish who would send in news items and pictures and help distribute the paper, making sure it is displayed prominently and handed out at the end of Mass. If you would be interested in this role at St Mary Magdalen parish, please speak to Fr Mathew or advise him using the contact form on the web site.

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.

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.