



**A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP ALAN HOPES  
FOR THE CATHOLIC COMMUNITY  
OF  
S MARY MAGDALENE IPSWICH**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As you know, Fr Matthew George has been struggling with health issues for some time. Two weeks ago it was arranged that he should spend time in a Centre which is run by the Catholic Church in Mangalore, India. Fr Matthew has been there for the last two weeks. Initially he will spend three months there and any more time that is needed to bring about recovery, renewal, healing and a strength for the future. Please pray for him and for those who are treating him.

Meanwhile, I am extremely grateful to Fr Matthias Odigbo. He will be serving in our Diocese for the next eighteen months before he returns home. He has generously agreed to look after S Mary Magdalene's parish until such time as Fr Matthew is able to return home. Fr Matthias has also agreed to minister as the Chaplain to the Ipswich Hospital during this time. I would ask you to collaborate with him in his ministry, to support him and to encourage him.

I am grateful to you for your patience and commitment.

With all good wishes and prayer for a truly blessed and peaceful Christmas,

Yours devotedly in Christ,

+Alan S Hopes  
Bishop of East Anglia