

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

468 Norwich Road, Ipswich, IP1 6JS

☎ 01473 741975

☎ 07939 920844

🌐 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 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.



Nativity of John the Baptist – 24th June 2018

Sunday Readings: Year B

Weekday Readings: Twelfth Week of Ordinary Time, Year II

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

Services This Week

Sunday 24 th June	8:00 am	Open intention
	10:00 am*	Fox and Rose families
	6:00 pm	The people of the parish
Monday 25 th June	Feria	
	9:30 am	Janes family
Tuesday 26 th June	Feast of the Dedication of the Cathedral	
	No Mass	
Wednesday 27 th June	Feria – Mass in church not in school	
	9:30 am	Harry Leslie Robinson – foundation Mass
Thursday 28 th June	Feast of St Irenaeus	
	9:30 am	Elsie Mary Lacy – foundation Mass
Friday 29 th June		Feast of Sts. Peter & Paul – Holyday of Obligation
	9:30 am	For the people of the parish
	7:30 pm	Open intention
Saturday 30 th June	Feria	
	9:30 am	Open intention – followed by Benediction
1 st July	8:00 am	Fryatt family
13 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10:00 am*	Open intention
	6:00 pm	The people of the parish

* Everybody is invited to join us for tea or coffee after Mass in the church hall

Today's Gospel

The first two chapters of Luke's Gospel alternate between stories of two births. One is the annunciation and birth of John the Baptist, and the annunciation and birth of Jesus is the other story. The story of John sets the very Jewish environment into which Jesus and John were born. Jesus' annunciation and birth begins to move the Gospel into the environment of the Roman empire.

In the verses before those read today, the birth of John the Baptist has been announced by the angel Gabriel to Zechariah, who was performing his duties as a priest in the Jerusalem Temple. Gabriel then announced the birth of Jesus to Mary in her home in Nazareth. Zechariah and his wife, Elizabeth, are an old couple who have never had children. Mary is engaged to Joseph, but they have not yet come to live together.

We read today that Elizabeth's neighbours and relatives rejoice with her because God has shown her mercy in the birth of a son. But they are confused when she tells them that his name is to be John, which means "God has been gracious." Zechariah has been unable to speak since Gabriel appeared, because, unlike Mary, he doubted the angel's word. But when he writes on a tablet "John is his name" all are amazed, and a great fear comes upon everyone. Fear, along with joy and praise, is for Luke the appropriate response to God's mercy. People ask, "What, then, will this child be?" But this question has already been answered by the angel. "He will be great in the sight of the Lord. He will turn many of the children of Israel to the Lord their God."

Zechariah responds with praise in his famous canticle, the Benedictus. But that is not read today. Instead we jump to the last verses of the chapter, which explain that John will become strong in spirit living in the desert until it is time to show himself to the people of Israel. When John appears again at the beginning of Chapter 3, after the stories of the birth and childhood of Jesus, he will prepare those people for the ministry of Jesus by preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.

Saint Peter and Saint Paul

On Friday 29th June we celebrate the solemnity of saints Peter and Paul. It is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass times: 9.30am and 7.30pm. Peter is the first head of the Roman Church, our leader in the faith and Paul the great missionary, scholar and fearless preacher. Paul's epistles give the earliest application of the Gospel message in everyday life. He brought the call of God to the nations while Peter raised the church from the flock of Israel. Both are very different in their character, talents and approach yet one in their love and commitment to the Gospel and the Lord. Both had a martyr's death. Both learned from their mistakes and are prototypes for ordinary Christians. Next Sunday there will be a retiring collection for Peter's Pence. This is to support the Holy Father and his staff in their service of the universal Church.

Prayer for Vocations

Every parish in the diocese is assigned a week to pray for vocations to priesthood and religious life from that parish. Next week is our turn to pray for vocations from our parish family. Next week at all masses there will be special prayers for vocations to priesthood, religious life and permanent diaconate from our parish. We need to pray for and actively encourage our young men and women (and the not so young) to think about and discern the possibility of offering their lives in serving the church as priests, permanent deacons and consecrated men and women. Let us pray that many will generously offer their lives to God. If you are one of those thinking about discerning the possibility of pursuing vocation, please speak to Fr. Mathew.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

Today we begin the children's Liturgy of the Word during the Mass at 10.00am. Please feel free to give your comments and feed back so that we can improve on what we are starting in imparting faith to our young ones.

Changes to the Data Protection Law

Churches hold a lot of data about their worshippers, like Baptism, Confirmation, First Holy communion, marriage and death records. They also hold some financial data regarding standing orders and to satisfy Gift Aid requirements. Most importantly churches have their worshippers address and contact details. Diocesan guidance on the new GDPR regulations, which came into

force in May, mean that parishioners need to explicitly authorise the church to allow the use of this data for contact purposes, and to define the manner of that contact. Forms are available in the narthex or can be downloaded from the parish web site - if you have not completed a GDPR form, please do so this week and give it to Fr Mathew.

150 Club

The June prize draw of the parish 150 Club will take place today after 10:00 Mass in the hall. This draw will include the first quarter bonus prize. Why not join us in the hall after Mass for a cup of coffee and a chat with your fellow parishioner? There are still many subscriptions unallocated – if you are not a member please do consider if you can help support your parish through this venture, and sign up today. Application forms are in the narthex or can be downloaded from the parish web site.

Catholic Basics – 123

A new group has been established at St Pancras church and will be holding just three sessions in the month of July on Tuesday evenings. Each session will consist of:

- 1 a talk;
- 2 a bible/catechism study;
- 3 share your thoughts and questions.

You are invited to join the group for these sessions which will be held in St Pancras church hall:

- Tuesday 3rd July – *The Promises of Christ*
- Tuesday 10th July – *The role of Mary in our lives*
- Tuesday 17th July – *Prayer and how to do it.*

Each session, which is open to all, will run from 7:30 to 9:00 pm. Please bring a bible and catechism if you can.

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.

This week, it is the turn of St Mary Magdalen parish to carry out the Sunday morning visit to Ipswich Hospital to take Holy Communion to those Catholic in-patients that have requested this. Please remember these patients especially in your prayers.

Our Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Frederick Albon, Hugh Scott, Michael Poch, Paolo Buglione, Catherine Crewdson, Clive Ivemy, Margaret Robinson, Margaret Twomey and Frank Morris 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.

Offertory

The offertory collection from all Masses on Sunday 17th June was £388.49 and the second collection for the work of Life charities realised £90.62. Thank you.

Mass Readings for the Nativity of John the Baptist (Year B) 24th June 2018

Entrance Antiphon:

A man was sent from God, whose name was John. He came to testify to the light, to prepare a people fit for the Lord.

First Reading: Isa. 49:1-6 *I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.*

Islands, listen to me, pay attention, remotest peoples. The Lord called me before I was born, from my mother's womb he pronounced my name. He made my mouth a sharp sword, and hid me in the shadow of his hand. He made me into a sharpened arrow, and concealed me in his quiver. He said to me, "*You are my servant (Israel) in whom I shall be glorified*"; while I was thinking, "*I have exhausted myself for nothing*"; and all the while my cause was with the Lord, my God was my strength. And now the Lord has spoken, he who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him: "*It is not enough for you to be my servant, to restore the tribes of Jacob and bring back the survivors of Israel; I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth*".

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 38:1-3, 13-15

I thank you for the wonder of my being

Second Reading: Acts. 13:22-26 *Jesus, whose coming was heralded by John.*

Paul said: "God made David king of our ancestors, of whom he approved in these words, '*I have elected David son of Jesse, a man after my own heart, who will carry out my whole purpose.*' To keep his promise, God has raised up for Israel one of David's descendants, Jesus, as Saviour, whose coming was heralded by John when he proclaimed a baptism of repentance for the whole people of Israel. Before John ended his career he said '*I am not the one you imagine me to be; that one is coming after me and I am not fit to undo his sandal*'. My brothers, sons of Abraham's race, and all you who fear God, this message of salvation is meant for you."

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! As for you, little child, you shall be called a prophet of God, the Most High. You shall go ahead of the Lord to prepare his ways before him. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 1:57-66, 80 *His name is John*

The time came for Elizabeth to have her child, and she gave birth to a son; and when her neighbours and relations heard that the Lord had shown her so great a kindness, they shared her joy. Now on the eighth day they came to circumcise the child: they were going to call him Zechariah after his father, but his mother spoke up. "No", she said, "he is to be called John". They said to her "But no one in your family has that name", and made signs to his father to find out what he wanted him called. The father asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John". And they were all astonished. At that instant his power of speech returned and he spoke and praised God. All the neighbours were filled with awe and the whole affair was talked about throughout the hill country of Judaea. All those who heard of it treasured it in their hearts. "What will this child turn out to be?" they wondered. And indeed the hand of the Lord was with him. Meanwhile, the child grew up and his spirit matured. And he lived out in the wilderness until the day he appeared openly to Israel.

Communion Antiphon:

Through the tender mercy of our God, the Dawn from on high will visit us.

Grandparents Pilgrimage

On Sunday 22nd July, the National Grandparents Pilgrimage to the shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham will take place. This will commence at 11:00 am with reconciliation, music and song and include Mass celebrated by Bishop Alan at 12 noon. More information can be found on the poster in the narthex, or from the Catholic Grandparents Association web site www.catholicgrandparentsassociation.org.

Northern Saints Youth Pilgrimage

The Ignite Team is leading a pilgrimage to York, Durham, Lindisfarne and Iona for those aged between 16-35. The pilgrimage will take place from July 24th to 29th this year, and to confirm a place, bookings must be made by 15th June. More information can be found on the Diocesan web site – www.rcdea.org.uk/youth.