

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me;
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.*

COLLECT

Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God,
the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ
with righteous deeds at his coming,
so that, gathered at his right hand,
they may be worthy to possess the heavenly Kingdom.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 2:1-5

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In the days to come
the mountain of the Temple of the Lord
shall tower above the mountains
and be lifted higher than the hills.

All the nations will stream to it,
peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:

*"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the Temple of the God of Jacob
that he may teach us his ways
so that we may walk in his paths;
since the Law will go out from Zion,
and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem."*

He will wield authority over the nations
and adjudicate between many peoples;
these will hammer their swords into ploughshares,
their spears into sickles.

Nation will not lift sword against nation,
there will be no more training for war.

O House of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 121

RESPONSE: *I rejoiced when I heard them say:*

"Let us go to God's house."

1. I rejoiced when I heard them say:

"Let us go to God's house."

And now our feet are standing
within your gates, O Jerusalem. **R.**

2. It is there that the tribes go up,

the tribes of the Lord.

For Israel's law it is,
there to praise the Lord's name.

There were set the thrones of judgement
of the house of David. **R.**

3. For the peace of Jerusalem pray:

"Peace be to your homes!

*May peace reign in your walls,
in your palaces, peace!" R.*

4. For love of my brethren and friends

I say: "Peace upon you!"

For love of the house of the Lord

I will ask for your good. **R.**

SECOND READING Romans 13:11-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans.

You know "the time" has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia!

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy

and give us your saving help.

Alleluia!

GOSPEL Matthew 24:37-44

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: "As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.

"So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make,

gathered from among your gifts to us,

and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below,
gain for us the prize of eternal redemption.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

The Lord will bestow his bounty,

and our earth shall yield its increase.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May these mysteries, O Lord,

in which we have participated,

profit us, we pray,

for even now, as we walk amid passing things,

you teach us by them to love the things of heaven

and hold fast to what endures.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

468 Norwich Road, Ipswich, IP1 6JS

Document Ref: SMM001-MD-MFL-397-A

☎ 01473 741975

📠 07414 735102 (text only)

🌐 www.marymagdalens.org

📧 @marymagdalens

Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia

🌐 www.rcdea.org.uk

Parochial Administrator: Fr Luke Goymour

✉ parishpriest@marymagdalens.org

Assistant Priest: Fr Paul Chanh

✉ paulchanh@gmail.com

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

Head of School: Mrs Lucille Martin ☎ 01473 742074

Catholic chaplain to the Ipswich hospitals: Awaiting new appointment.

Please contact either Fr Paul, Fr Luke or one of the other Ipswich priests if you or a family member are going in to hospital.

Please consider setting up a standing order in favour of the parish instead of a weekly cash offering.

Bank: Barclays **Account Name:** St Mary Magdalen Roman Catholic Parish **Account number:** 70777323 **Sort code:** 20-44-51



First Sunday of Advent – 27th November 2022. Sunday Readings: Liturgical Year A

Services This Week

Sunday Hymns: Entrance: No. 50 *At the Name of Jesus* verses 1-3. Recession: No. 397 *O Jesus Christ Remember* verses 1-3.

Saturday 26 th November	5:30 pm	Confessions	
	6:00 pm	Vigil Mass	offered for the Vieira family.
Sunday 27 th November	8:00 am	Holy Mass	offered for the Holy Souls.
	10:00 am	Holy Mass	offered for the people of the parish. Eucharistic Minister J Poll <i>Tea and coffee will be available in the Garden Room after 10:00 Mass – please do come and join us</i>
Monday 28 th November	Advent Feria No Mass Today		
Tuesday 29 th November	Advent Feria		
	12:00 noon	Holy Mass	Memorial Mass offered for Frank Sutton RIP
Wednesday 30 th November	St Andrew, Apostle. Patron Saint of Scotland		
	12:00 noon	Holy Mass	offered for Frederick Dooley RIP
Thursday 1 st December	Advent Feria		
	10:00 am	Holy Mass	offered for Phyllis May McBride RIP
Friday 2 nd December	Advent Feria		
	10:00 am	Holy Mass	followed by Exposition and a Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Today's Gospel: Today is the first Sunday of Advent, which is also the first Sunday of a new liturgical year for the Church. The Advent season is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. In this season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. Key themes of the Advent season are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice.

In this new liturgical year, Lectionary Cycle A, the Gospel of Matthew will be the primary Gospel proclaimed. In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus speak about the need for wakefulness, for watchful waiting, for the coming of the Son of Man. Matthew's Gospel is dated by most scholars after the year 70 AD. Most believe that Matthew wrote for a primarily Jewish community, but one that was no longer centred on the Temple in Jerusalem. These were Jewish Christians trying to come to terms with their relationship to Judaism in a new situation: Judaism after the destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem. There may have been Christians who believed that the events of the world around them gave evidence of the imminent return of the Lord in glory.

Today's passage from Matthew is rather straightforward. No one knows the precise time of the coming of the Lord in glory, so watchful waiting and vigilance are required. The passage speaks to the uselessness of looking for signs; there will be none. As a thief sneaks in during the night, so will be the Lord's coming in glory. The question for us as members of the Christian community is how do we prepare for this? Today's passage speaks more about the manner of waiting, rather than the details of the preparation. Jesus compares the vigilance required of Christians to the vigilance of a homeowner who knows the plans of the thief. If one knows that the thief's action is imminent, one remains watchful. As Christians, we know that our Lord is coming even if not the precise timing. Jesus calls us to be watchful and vigilant, like the homeowner - we become lax in our Christian living, we may be caught unprepared.

Advent Wreath: Today, the first Sunday of Advent, we place upon the sanctuary our Advent wreath. This is a circular garland of evergreen branches representing eternity on which five candles are arranged: three purple candles and one pink around the wreath and one white one at its centre. During the season of Advent, one candle on the wreath is lit each Sunday as a part of the Advent services. Each candle represents an aspect of the spiritual preparation for the coming of the Lord, Jesus Christ and as a whole, these candles represent the coming of the light of Christ into the world.

Each Sunday in Advent, a particular Advent candle is lit. Catholic tradition states that the four candles, representing the four weeks of Advent, each stands for one thousand years, to total the 4,000 years from the time of Adam and Eve until the birth of the Saviour.

On the first Sunday of Advent, the first purple candle is lit. This first candle represents hope or expectation in anticipation of the coming Messiah and is typically called the "*Prophecy Candle*" in remembrance of the prophets, primarily Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ:

Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Emmanuel.

World Youth Day: There will be a retiring collection after all Masses this weekend for the work of the Diocesan Youth service. This was due last Sunday on World Youth Day but has been carried over as it was not well publicised last week.

Church Cleaning: We are re-instating the cleaning rota for church and need volunteers to help spread the workload. If you can spare a couple of hours per month, and let's face it that's not much to ask, then please speak to Linis Dolby or email churchcleaning@marymagdalens.org. The more that can help, the less the load will be on any individuals. Thank you to those who attended yesterday to help with the deep clean of the church - these sessions will be repeated monthly.

Sacristans: We are looking to recruit some sacristans. These are responsible for preparation for Mass – ensuring that the altar, sacred vessels, gifts of bread and wine etc are ready beforehand. We have one person who has already come forward but more would be welcome – if you would like to be involved please speak to Fr Paul so that appropriate training can be arranged.

Altar Servers: We are also seeking more altar servers – girls or boys, young or old – who would like to be involved in this special ministry. We have two new volunteers who will be starting training but more will be very welcome. If you are interested, again please speak to Fr Paul.

Frank Sutton RIP: Many of you will remember Frank Sutton who with his wife Rosina, was very active in the parish and school in years past. Sadly Frank passed away on 1st November peacefully at home, with his family around him, after a long battle with cancer. A cremation has already taken place, but here will be a memorial Mass for Frank on Tuesday 29th November at 12 noon. Please pray for the repose of his soul, and for the comfort of his widow, family and friends who mourn his passing.

FIND Christmas Appeal 2022: In previous years, FIND has focussed its Christmas seasonal appeal on its *Giving Tree*, where individuals take a gift label from the tree, buy that gift, wrap and return it to the FIND tub. However, this year, primarily due to a shortage of storage space, the FIND Christmas appeal is for store gift cards which can be passed to those in Ipswich less fortunate than us. Between now and Christmas, FIND will be issuing some 900 food boxes to make sure it can provide for both Christmas and January. Having store vouchers will enable recipients to buy fresh foods or gifts of toys, clothes and other items. Suggested providers are Sainsbury's, ASDA, ALDI, Co-op, Waitrose, Smythes, The Entertainer toy store, Argos, Primark and M&S. Any vouchers must have receipts with them so that it is certain that they have been 'loaded'. Please put any donated vouchers, along with the corresponding receipt, in an envelope marked FIND and drop it in the collection plate at any Mass by Sunday 11th December to allow for collection and distribution.

Our Own Dear Departed: Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Charles Dwyer, Sheila Capon, Bernard McDonagh, Joseph Clougherty, Mildred Courtney, John Mahoney, Harry Head, Doris Williams, Margaret Janes, Laura Beavis, Czeslaw Kacsprzak, Mario Pasini, Lelio di Franco, Stanislaw Wojciechowski, Charles "Rod" Long, Miriam Wiseman, Percy "Ron" Bates, Cynthia O'Mara, Valerie Jenkins, Agnes Eaton, Casilda Janssen and Walter Richardson whose anniversaries occur about this time. A complete list of anniversaries can be found on the parish web site.

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.