

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*See, I have God for my help.
The Lord sustains my soul.
I will sacrifice to you with willing heart,
and praise your name, O Lord, for it is good.*

COLLECT

Show favour, O Lord, to your servants and mercifully increase the gifts of your grace, that, made fervent in hope, faith and charity, they may be ever watchful in keeping your commands. 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 Wisdom 12:13. 16-19

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

There is no god, other than you, who cares for everything, to whom you might have to prove that you never judged unjustly. Your justice has its source in strength, your sovereignty over all makes you lenient to all. You show your strength when your sovereign power is questioned and you expose the insolence of those who know it; but, disposing of such strength, you are mild in judgement, you govern us with great lenience, for you have only to will, and your power is there. By acting thus you have taught a lesson to your people how the virtuous man must be kindly to his fellow men, and you have given your sons the good hope that after sin you will grant repentance.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 85

RESPONSE: O Lord, you are good and forgiving.

1. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of love to all who call.
Give heed, O Lord, to my prayer and attend to the sound of my voice. **R.**
2. All the nations shall come to adore you and glorify your name, O Lord: for you are great and do marvellous deeds, you who alone are God. **R.**
3. But you, God of mercy and compassion, slow to anger, O Lord, abounding in love and truth, turn and take pity on me. **R.**

SECOND READING Romans 8:26-27

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

The Spirit comes to help us in our weakness. For when we cannot choose words in order to pray properly, the Spirit himself expresses our plea in a way that could never be put into words, and God who knows everything in our hearts knows perfectly well what he means, and that the pleas of the saints expressed by the Spirit are according to the mind of God.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our mind,
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.
Alleluia!*

Or

*Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessed are you, Father,
Lord of heaven and earth,
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom
to mere children. Alleluia!*

GOSPEL Matthew 13:24-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

(for shorter form read between > <)

> Jesus put a parable before the crowds, "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a man who sowed good seed in his field. While everybody was asleep his enemy came, sowed darnel all among the wheat, and made off. When the new wheat sprouted and ripened, the darnel appeared as well. The owner's servants went to him and said, 'Sir, was it not good seed that you sowed in your field? If so, where does the darnel come from?' 'Some enemy has done this,' he answered. And the servants said, 'Do you want us to go and weed it out?' But he said, 'No, because when you weed out the darnel you might pull up the wheat with it. Let them both grow till the harvest; and at harvest time I shall say to the reapers: First collect the darnel and tie it in bundles to be burnt, then gather the wheat into my barn.' " <

He put another parable before them, "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed which a man took and sowed in his field. It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all and becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come and shelter in its branches."

He told them another parable, "The kingdom of heaven is like the yeast a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour till it was leavened all through."

In all this Jesus spoke to the crowds in parables; indeed, he would never speak to them except in parables. This was to fulfil the prophecy:

I will speak to you in parables and expound things hidden since the foundation of the world.

Then, leaving the crowds, he went to the house; and his disciples came to him and said, "Explain the parable about the darnel in the field to us." He said in reply, "The sower of the good seed is the Son of Man. The field is the world; the good seed is the subjects of the kingdom; the darnel, the subjects of the evil one; the enemy who sowed them, the devil; the harvest is the end of the world; the reapers are the angels. Well then, just as the darnel is gathered up and burnt in the fire, so it will be at the end of time. The Son of Man will send his angels and they will gather out of his kingdom all things that provoke offences and all who do evil, and throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth. Then the virtuous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Listen, anyone who has ears!"

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O God, who in the one perfect sacrifice brought to completion varied offerings of the law, accept, we pray, this sacrifice from your faithful servants and make it holy, as you blessed the gifts of Abel, so that what each has offered to the honour of your majesty may benefit the salvation of all.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*The Lord, the gracious, the merciful,
has made a memorial of his wonders;
he gives food to those who fear him.*

Or

*Behold, I stand at the door and knock, says the Lord.
If anyone hears my voice and opens the door to me,
I will enter his house and dine with him, and he with me.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

468 Norwich Road, Ipswich, IP1 6JS

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☎ 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. If you can Gift Aid your donation, please complete a form which you can find in the church porch.

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



The 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday 23rd July 2023: Sunday Readings: Liturgical Year A Services during the coming week – Sixteenth Week of the Year, Year I

Saturday 22 nd July	5:30 pm	Confessions
July	6:00 pm	Vigil Mass for the 16 th Sunday in Ordinary Time, open intention. Reader I Suttle, Offertory R Hennon
Sunday 23 rd July	8:00 am	Holy Mass, open intention. Reader J Cleary, Eucharistic Minister C Moore
July	10:00 am	Holy Mass offered for the people of the parish. Reader A James, offertory Pakes Family, Eucharistic Minister M Geisel
<i>Please join us for tea and coffee in the Garden Room after 10:00 Mass, prepared & served by Karen & Dorothy</i>		
Monday 24 th July	Feria	No Mass Today
Tuesday 25 th July	St James	10:00 am Holy Mass, open intention
Wednesday 26 th July	Saints Joachim and Anne, parents of the Blessed Virgin Mary	12 noon Holy Mass, open intention
Thursday 27 th July	Feria	10:00 am. Holy Mass, open intention
Friday 28 th July	Feria	10:00 am Holy Mass, open intention, followed by Exposition and a chaplet of Divine Mercy
Saturday 29 th July	5:30 pm	Confessions
July	6:00 pm	Vigil Mass of 17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time, offered for Rosario "Roan" Tablante RIP.

Today's Gospel: In today's Gospel, Jesus offers three parables to describe the Kingdom of Heaven. He also explains why he speaks to the crowds in parables and interprets the parable of the sower for the disciples. This reading is a continuation of Jesus' discourse that we began reading last Sunday. All three parables use commonplace experiences of the time to describe aspects of the Kingdom of Heaven. The first parable is longer and more detailed than the next two, and it alerts us to the two-fold reality of the Kingdom of Heaven. The beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven can be found in this world. The fruition of the Kingdom of Heaven, however, will not be realised until the final judgment. In the meantime, as Jesus' explanation to the disciples cautions, any effort to judge the progress of the Kingdom of Heaven is premature. Only God, in the final judgment, will distinguish the fruit of the Kingdom of Heaven and offer its reward. The second and third parables call to our attention the abundance that will result from the small beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven. Just as a mustard seed - the smallest of all seeds - will become a large bush, so too God will bring his Kingdom to full bloom. As a small amount of yeast will leaven the entire batch of bread, so too God will bring about the expansion of his Kingdom. In each case the image is of the superabundance that God brings out of even the smallest of signs of the Kingdom. Contained within these parables are words of caution as well as words of consolation. In the parable of the sower we are warned against judging others - to judge and uproot the "weeds" prematurely will harm the wheat; final judgment rests with God. In the parables of the mustard seed and the yeast, we are consoled by the message that God can work wonders and produce abundance from even the smallest beginnings of the Kingdom of Heaven. *Courtesy of Loyola Press*

First Holy Communion 2023: Congratulations to Ellie-May, Darcie, Tuscani, Noah, Penelope, Jedidiah, Seweryn, Ernestas, Elianna, Jessica, Olivia, Faustas, Kacper, Santino, Mila, Oliwer, Oliver, Rudairo, Aibhilin, Amari-Rose, Deneal and Albie who made their First Holy Communion last weekend. Please remember them in your prayers

Ladies Tea & Chat: The ladies of the parish will meet for their monthly get together on Friday next, 28th July, at 2:30 pm in the Garden Room. All are welcome.

St Albans Catholic High School: St Albans, the Ipswich Catholic High School, has a full intake of Year 7 pupils this September, with a substantial waiting list. The deadline for applications for 2024 intake is 31st October, and to ensure that all Catholic families, especially new ones moving in to the area, have the opportunity to visit the school, there will be Open Mornings between 9:15 and 10:25 am on Monday and Tuesday 2nd & 3rd October. Additionally there will be an Open Evening on Wednesday 20th September from 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Places on any of these sessions need to be booked in advance on the school website st-albans.suffolk.sch.uk

The Sick of the Parish: The names of the sick have been published weekly now for many years. In order to ensure it is current, and, under GDPR rules we do not breach any individual's confidentiality, we ask that any person who is sick or unwell and wants to ask for prayers to be said for them, to give their names to Fr Paul so the list can be re-established.

We ask your prayers for all our brothers and sisters who are unwell, afflicted, housebound or distressed. Lord, comfort and relieve them according to their needs, and grant them the love and consolation of your Spirit. Amen.

Our Own Dear Departed: Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Margaret McManus (1981), Eileen de Souza (2012), Laura Croker (2002), Veronica "Mary" Brooks (2011), Evelyn Davies (1985), Stephen Moss (1963), James Barrett (1973), Frederick Scoging (1976), Michael Rock (2005), Karl Barc (1989) and Mary Sheridan (1986) whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Eternal rest grant to them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. May their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace