

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.  
Should they cry to me in any distress,  
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.*

**COLLECT**

O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

**FIRST READING** Isaiah 55:6-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.  
Seek the Lord while he is still to be found,  
call to him while he is still near.  
Let the wicked man abandon his way,  
the evil man his thoughts.  
Let him turn back to the Lord who will take pity on him,  
to our God who is rich in forgiving;  
for my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
my ways not your ways – it is the Lord who speaks.  
Yes, the heavens are as high above earth  
as my ways are above your ways,  
my thoughts above your thoughts.  
The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** Psalm 144

**RESPONSE: *The Lord is close to all who call him.***

1. I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever.  
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,  
his greatness cannot be measured. **R.**
2. The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures. **R.**
3. The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
who call on him from their hearts. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Philippians 1:20-24, 27

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians.  
Christ will be glorified in my body, whether by my life or by my death. Life to me, of course, is Christ, but then death would bring me something more; but then again, if living in this body means doing work which is having good results – I do not know what I should choose. I am caught in this dilemma: I want to be gone and be with Christ, which would be very much the better, but for me to stay alive in this body is a more urgent need for your sake.  
Avoid anything in your everyday lives that would be unworthy of the gospel of Christ.  
The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
Blessings on the King who comes,  
in the name of the Lord!  
Peace in heaven  
and glory in the highest heavens!  
Alleluia!*

Or

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
Open our heart, O Lord,  
to accept the words of your Son.  
Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL** Matthew 20:1-16

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to his disciples: “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner going out at daybreak to hire workers for his vineyard. He made an agreement with the workers for one denarius a day, and sent them to his vineyard. Going out at about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place and said to them, ‘You go to my vineyard too and I will give you a fair wage.’ So they went. At about the sixth hour and again at about the ninth hour, he went out and did the same. Then at about the eleventh hour he went out and found more men standing round, and he said to them, ‘Why have you been standing here idle all day?’ ‘Because no one has hired us’, they answered. He said to them, ‘You go into my vineyard too.’ In the evening, the owner of the vineyard said to his bailiff, ‘Call the workers and pay them their wages, starting with the last arrivals and ending with the first.’ So those who were hired at about the eleventh hour came forward and received one denarius each. When the first came, they expected to get more, but they too received one denarius each. They took it, but grumbled at the landowner. ‘The men who came last’, they said, ‘have done only one hour, and you have treated them the same as us, though we have done a heavy day’s work in all the heat.’ He answered one of them and said, ‘My friend, I am not being unjust to you; did we not agree on one denarius? Take your earnings and go. I choose to pay the last-comer as much as I pay you. Have I no right to do what I like with my own? Why be envious because I am generous?’ Thus the last will be first, and the first, last.”

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

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Receive with favour, O Lord, we pray,  
the offerings of your people,  
that what they profess with devotion and faith  
may be theirs through these heavenly mysteries.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;  
may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.*

Or

*I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my sheep, and mine know me.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Graciously raise up, O Lord,  
those you renew with this Sacrament,  
that we may come to possess your redemption  
both in mystery and in the manner of our life.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

# St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

468 Norwich Road, Ipswich, IP1 6JS

Document Ref: SMM001-MD-MFL-459-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. 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



## Our Lady of Walsingham – Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2023: Sunday Readings: Liturgical Year A Services during the coming week – Twenty-fifth Week of the Year, Year I

Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> 5:30 pm Confessions  
September 6:00 pm Vigil Mass of Our Lady of Walsingham, offered for the repose of the soul of Terry Spellman RIP.  
Reader: R Cork, Offertory: Cork Family

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> 8:00 am Holy Mass, offered for the people of the parish. Reader: C Moore, Eucharistic Minister: C Moore  
September 10:00 am Holy Mass offered in thanksgiving for the life of Heather Poll RIP. Reader: J Iannelli, Offertory:  
Fox Family, Eucharistic Minister: W Lobo

*Please join us for tea and coffee in the Garden Room after 10:00 Mass, prepared & served by Theresa & Dorothy*

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> Feria  
September **No Mass Today**

Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> Feria  
September **No Mass Today**

Wednesday S Vincent de Paul  
27<sup>th</sup> September **No Mass Today**

Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> Feria  
September 10:00 am Holy Mass offered for the Vieira Family  
Friday 29<sup>th</sup> Saints Michael, Gabriel and Raphael - Archangels  
September 10:00 am Holy Mass, offered for the repose of the soul of Martin Curry RIP (Foundation Mass)  
followed by Exposition and a Chaplet of Divine Mercy

Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> 5:30 pm Confessions  
September 6:00 pm Vigil Mass of 26<sup>th</sup> Sunday, offered for the repose of the soul of Heather Poll RIP (Poll Family)

**Today's Gospel:** In today's Gospel, Jesus tells the parable of the workers in the vineyard, which, on the surface, appears to be an offense to common sense. Those who work a longer day ought to be paid more than those who work just an hour or two. When viewed in this way, the landowner seems unfair. That is because we are reading into the parable our own preconceived notions of how fairness and equality should be quantified. A close read shows us that the landowner paid on the terms that were negotiated. The landowner, it seems, has acted completely justly. The parable goes beyond that, however, and we come to see that the landowner is not simply just, he is exceptionally just. He is radically just. He has given those who laboured in the field for a full day their due pay. But he has also given a full-day's wage to those who worked only a single hour. No one is cheated, but a few receive abundantly from the landowner just as we receive from God more than what is merely justifiable or due. God, like the landowner, is radically just and abundantly generous. The workers who complain are made to look foolish as they lament the fact that landowner has made all workers equal. Indeed, what more could one ask for than to be treated as an equal at work or anywhere else? The parable reminds us that although God owes us nothing, he offers abundantly and equally. We are occasionally tempted to think that our own actions deserve more reward, more of God's abundant mercy, than the actions of others. But God's generosity cannot be quantified or partitioned into different amounts for different people. When we think that way, we are trying to relate to God on our terms rather than to accept God's radically different ways. *Courtesy of Loyola Press*

**Parish 150 Club:** The September prize draw of the parish 150 Club will be made next Sunday, 1<sup>st</sup> October, in the Garden Room after 10:00 Mass. There is plenty of room for new subscribers – why not sign up today? Membership forms are available at the back of the church. Come in after Mass and join us for tea and coffee, and your newly allocated numbers can go straight into next week's draw!

**Thank You:** A special thank you to all those who helped at, and supported, the parish picnic in the church gardens on 9<sup>th</sup> September, and also to those who helped last weekend to make the bishop's visit a success. Photographs from the parish picnic can be seen at the back of church.

**RCIA Forms:** Any person considering becoming a Catholic or wanting to enter full Communion with the Catholic Church, should complete one of the RCIA Registration forms which can be found at the back of the church and on the parish web site. Details of the RCIA course will be published shortly. Completed forms should be handed to Fr Paul or Fr Luke.

**First Holy Communion 2024:** Parents of children seeking to make their First Holy Communion next year please note registration forms are now available at the back of church and on the web site. Closing date for registration is 8<sup>th</sup> November.

**The Sick of the Parish:** We ask your prayers for Patrick Doran and 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 Mary "Barbara" Moss (2009), Paul Constable (1992), Fr Anthony Sketch, former parish priest, (2012), Wolfgang Barc (1977), Cecelia Allpress (2006), Alison Clarke (2010), Emilia Ciufu (2019), Patrick Macken (1980), Edward Cuffe (2002) and Martin Curry (1999) 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.*