

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*God is in his holy place,
God who unites those who dwell in his house;
he himself gives might and strength to his people.*

COLLECT

O God, protector of those who hope in you, without whom nothing has firm foundation, nothing is holy, bestow in abundance your mercy upon us and grant that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may use the good things that pass in such a way as to hold fast even now to those that ever endure. 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 1 Kings 3:5. 7-12

A reading from the first book of the Kings.

The Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream and said, "Ask what you would like me to give you." Solomon replied, "Lord, my God, you have made your servant king in succession to David my father. But I am a very young man, unskilled in leadership. Your servant finds himself in the midst of this people of yours that you have chosen, a people so many its numbers cannot be counted or reckoned. Give your servant a heart to understand how to discern between good and evil, for who could govern this people of yours that is so great?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon should have asked for this. "Since you have asked for this" the Lord said "and not asked for long life for yourself or riches or the lives of your enemies, but have asked for a discerning judgement for yourself, here and now I do what you ask. I give you a heart wise and shrewd as none before you has had and none will have after you."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 118

RESPONSE: *Lord, how I love your law!*

1. My part, I have resolved, O Lord,
is to obey your word.
The law from your mouth means more to me
than silver and gold. **R.**
2. Let your love be ready to console me
by your promise to your servant.
Let your love come to me and I shall live
for your law is my delight. **R.**
3. That is why I love your commands
more than finest gold.
That is why I rule my life by your precepts:
I hate false ways. **R.**
4. Your will is wonderful indeed;
therefore I obey it.
The unfolding of your word gives light
and teaches the simple. **R.**

SECOND READING Romans 8:28-30

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

We know that by turning everything to their good God co-operates with all those who love him, with all those that he has called according to his purpose. They are the ones he chose specially long ago and intended to become true images of his Son, so that his Son might be the eldest of many brothers. He called those he intended for this; those he called he justified, and with those he justified he shared his glory.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Alleluia, alleluia!
I call you friends, says the Lord,
because I have made known to you
everything I have learnt from my Father.
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 13:44-52

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
(for shorter form read between > <)

> Jesus said to the crowds, "The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field which someone has found; he hides it again, goes off happy, sells everything he owns and buys the field.

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls; when he finds one of great value he goes and sells everything he owns and buys it. <

"Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a dragnet cast into the sea that brings in a haul of all kinds. When it is full, the fishermen haul it ashore; then, sitting down, they collect the good ones in a basket and throw away those that are no use. This is how it will be at the end of time: the angels will appear and separate the wicked from the just to throw them into the blazing furnace where there will be weeping and grinding of teeth.

"Have you understood all this?" They said, "Yes." And he said to them, "Well then, every scribe who becomes a disciple of the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who brings out from his storeroom things both new and old."

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

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, we pray, the offerings which we bring from the abundance of your gifts, that through the powerful working of your grace these most sacred mysteries may sanctify our present way of life and lead us to eternal gladness. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and never forget all his benefits.*

Or

*Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.
Blessed are the clean of heart, for they shall see God.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We have consumed, O Lord, this divine Sacrament, the perpetual memorial of the Passion of your Son; grant, we pray, that this gift, which he himself gave us with love beyond all telling, may profit us for salvation. 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 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time - Sunday 30th July 2023: Sunday Readings: Liturgical Year A Services during the coming week – Seventeenth Week of the Year, Year I

Saturday 29 th July	5:30 pm 6:00 pm	Confessions Vigil Mass for the 17 th Sunday in Ordinary Time, offered for Rosario "Roan" Tablante RIP. Reader R Cork, Offertory Cork Family
Sunday 30 th July	8:00 am 10:00 am	Holy Mass, offered for the people of the parish. Reader A Smith, offertory Cleary Family, Eucharistic Minister E Cleary Holy Mass offered for Samuel Harris-Eze. Reader N Fox, offertory Fox Family, Eucharistic Minister R Shorten
<i>Please join us for tea and coffee in the Garden Room after 10:00 Mass, prepared & served by Ascension & Rosemary</i>		
Monday 31 st July		St Ignatius of Loyola No Mass Today
Tuesday 1 st August		St Alphonsus 10:00 am Holy Mass, offered for John Earley RIP
Wednesday 2 nd August		Feria 12 noon Holy Mass, open intention
Thursday 3 rd August		Feria 10:00 am. Holy Mass, open intention
Friday 4 th August		St John Vianney 10:00 am Holy Mass, offered for Agnes Gorman and Family RIP, followed by Exposition and a chaplet of Divine Mercy
Saturday 5 th August	5:30 pm 6:00 pm	Confessions Vigil Mass of 18 th Sunday in Ordinary Time, open intention.

Today's Gospel: Today's Gospel concludes three weeks of readings from the 13th Chapter of Matthew's Gospel. Throughout these three weeks we have heard Jesus teaching crowds about the kingdom of heaven, and we have heard Jesus interpret some of his teachings for the disciples. In this week's Gospel Jesus offers three more short parables. The first two parables describe the great value of the kingdom of heaven. In the first, Jesus says that the kingdom of heaven is like a buried treasure that is worth possessing even if it means giving up everything else. In the second, Jesus proposes that the kingdom of heaven is like a pearl of great worth for which one will sell everything else to possess. These parables teach us that we are to place everything we value in the service of the pursuit of the Kingdom of God. The third parable that Jesus proposes in today's Gospel is different from the first two, but it is reminiscent of the parable of the sower we heard last week. The kingdom of heaven is compared to fishing with a wide net. After the fish have been collected, the good fish are kept and the bad fish are thrown away; so too, in the final judgment, will the wicked and the righteous be separated. Today's Gospel concludes with a curious statement about the scribe who understands the kingdom of heaven. Here a metaphor is offered: this scribe is like the head of a household who "brings from his storeroom both the new and the old." The scribes referred to here are experts of Mosaic law. It is possible that Jesus is here instructing the early Christian community on how to proceed in the interpretation of Jewish law with respect to Jesus' "new" teaching. Jesus' teaching about the kingdom of heaven does not replace the Jewish tradition; it interprets it in a different light. *Courtesy of Loyola Press*

World Youth Day: Inaugurated by Pope John Paul II in 1985, World Youth Day was established with three aims: first celebrating and putting trust in the young; second, making pilgrimage; and third, encountering the Catholic community. World Youth Day 2023 runs from 1st to 6th August in Lisbon, Portugal, culminating in Mass celebrated by Pope Francis on 6th August. Fr Luke will be in attendance as part of his Diocesan Youth role, with a party of young people from our Diocese, and will be away from 26th July to 9th August. We pray for all our young people, priests, and volunteers at World Youth Day in Lisbon that the Lord keep them safe and that they may be open to a life changing encounter with Jesus Christ.

Fr Paul: Fr Paul will be away from the parish on pilgrimage from 8th to the 23rd August, and during this time there will be no weekday Masses. Masses will resume on Thursday 24th and cover is being arranged for the normal Sunday Masses.

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 John Perry (1986), Josef Sczczepanko (1986), Mark Cooper (1999), Cyril Robinson (1970), Anne Morgan (1988), Ann Garnett (1988), Leonard Gray (2007), Elijah O'Connor (1963), William Brennan (1983), Rachel Styles (1987), Paul O'Donovan (1997), Guiseppina Iannelli (2016), Stephen Fox (1983), Patricia Jellings (1993) and Barrie Johnson (2009) 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