

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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🌐 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.



23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – 9th September 2018

Sunday Readings: Year B

Weekday Readings: Twenty Third Week of Ordinary Time, Year II

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

Services This Week

Sunday 9 th September	8:00 am	Joan & Edward Pennington RIP
	10:00 am*	Open intention
	6:00 pm	The people of the parish

Monday 10 th September	Feria
	09:30 am

Tuesday 11 th September	Feria
	09:30 am

Wednesday 12 th September	Feria – Mass in school, not in church
	09:30 am

Thursday 13 th September	St John Chrysostom
	09:30 am

Friday 14 th September	Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross
	09:30 am

Saturday 15 th September	Our Lady of Sorrows
	09:30 am

Sunday 16 th September 24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00 am	Holy Souls
	10:00 am*	Tina's intention
	6:00 pm	The people of the parish

* Tea and coffee will be available in the church hall after 10:00 Mass – please do come and join us

Today's Gospel

Today's Gospel is from St John replaces the scheduled reading in the lectionary from St Mark. This is a repeat of the Gospel reading we heard three weeks ago on the 20th Sunday and is at the direction of Bishop Alan in support of a pastoral letter being read at all Masses today.

This reading elaborates further on the teaching that Jesus began in the preceding verses of St John's Gospel. Earlier, the crowds wondered about how Jesus could say that he had come down from heaven because they knew Jesus to be the son of Joseph. In this Gospel, some have difficulty with Jesus' teaching that he is the living bread sent from God. Recall that Jesus had told them that just as God gave the Israelites manna to sustain them in the desert, so now God has sent new manna that will give eternal life. Jesus himself is the bread sent by God; Jesus' flesh is the bread that is given for the life of the world.

Among the stumbling blocks for those who heard but did not understand Jesus is the teaching that the bread that Jesus will give is his own flesh. To many ears, Jesus' words are jarring and difficult to hear. Many who heard Jesus could not accept what he said. Many today continue to struggle to accept these words. But they are important words because they reveal our intimate connection with Jesus.

This is the mystery that is at the heart of our Eucharistic theology. In the elements of bread and wine, Jesus' Body and Blood are made truly present. When we share in the Body and Blood of Christ, Jesus himself comes to dwell within us. This communion with the Lord makes us one body, brings us eternal life, and sends us forth to be Christ's body for the life of the world.

Pastoral Letter

As mentioned above, today there is a pastoral letter from Bishop Alan Hopes, to be read at all Masses. Bishop Alan's letter can also be read on line on the Diocesan web site or by following the link on the parish web site.

Retiring Collection

As announced last Sunday, there will be a retiring collection taken after all Masses today in aid of the Catholic Education Service.

Home Mission: Sunday 23rd September

Each year in the Catholic Church, on the third Sunday of September, we celebrate Home Mission Sunday. On this day the Bishops invite parishes to pray for the mission of the Church in England and Wales and there is a second collection to support the Bishops' work of evangelisation. The Home Mission Desk sits within the Department for Evangelisation and Catechesis and acts as a point of reference for evangelisation in dioceses, movements and Catholic organisations in England and Wales. It also helps to develop and produce resources for the formation of adult faith and coordinates additional projects as instructed by the Department. The Desk is also responsible for responding to enquiries that come in to the Catholic Faith Enquiry Office.

Tea and Coffee

Tea and coffee after the 10:00 Mass in the church hall will recommence after the summer break from today, 9th September. It would be wonderful to see more parishioners after Mass for a more social gathering. Will those involved in this please note there is a new rota for the period to the end of this year on the notice board in the narthex, or a copy can be downloaded from the parish website.

150 Club

The August prize draw, which was postponed last Sunday, a further week and will take place today, Sunday 9th September, in the hall after the 10:00 Mass.

First Holy Communion Programme 2018-19

The First Holy Communion Programme 2018-19 is now open for registration. Children aged 7 and above (entering Year 3 in September 2018) should apply for this programme. Registration forms are available in the narthex or can be downloaded from the parish web site. Please return your form enclosing a copy of the baptism certificate to Fr. Mathew or one of the children's catechists as soon as possible and no later than next Sunday, 16th September 2018, to help us plan for the programme. Please help us spread the word about registrations and encourage family and friends

to get those forms in as soon as possible. If your child is in St. Pancras School, please contact the school about the programme.

Children's Liturgy

The children's liturgy held during the 10:00 Mass on Sundays, will recommence today, Sunday 9th September, in the Guild Room. This is aimed at younger children - below first Holy Communion age – who will be very welcome. If you would like to be involved in leading or assisting with Children's Liturgy, please speak to Fr Mathew or email childrensliturgy@marymagdalens.org: the more that are involved in this, the better.

Monica Wright RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Monica Wright, who recently passed away. The funeral service will be held on Friday 21st September at 3:00 pm. Monica and her husband Michael, were married at St Mary Magdalens. Please remember her and her bereaved family in your prayers.

Confirmation

We are joining St. Mark's and St. Pancras for the confirmation programme 2019. If you would like to join please speak to Fr. Mathew or Martin Pakes.

School Vacancy

There is a vacancy for Executive Head Teacher at St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Lowestoft, and St Mary and St Peter Catholic Primary School, Gorleston (the 'Coastal Catholic Schools'). Further details, job description and person specification can be found on the Diocesan web site: <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/school-vacancies/>, or follow the link on our parish web site. Closing date for application is midday, Wednesday 19th September.

Quiz Night

The annual Deanery Quiz, organised by the Knights of St Columba, will be held in St Mary's church hall, Woodbridge Road, on Saturday 6th October starting at 7:30. Three teams of 4 persons are invited from each parish, with entry price of £5 per person including a buffet supper. Full details can be found on the poster in the narthex.

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, Roger Mayhew, Yvonne Metcaif, Robert Mullan, Mary O'Reilly and Maureen Sparks.

Offertory

The figures for the offertory collection for the last two Sundays, and the retiring collection last week for the relief effort in Kerala, are not yet available but will be published as soon as they are.

Our Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Patrick Clifford, Katherine Ann Brett, Jennifer Bishop, Canon William Burrows, Thomas Finnegan, Hilda Moss and Mary Bulbeck 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.

Beanstalk Volunteer Recruitment

Beanstalk is a children's literacy charity which recruits, trains and supports volunteers to work with children who struggle with reading. It has recently launched its Story Starters programme which supports children aged 3 and 5 years old to develop their language and communication skills to ensure that they are ready to read when they start school. It is currently working with Highfield and Wigwams nurseries and is looking to recruit volunteers to support some of their children. Their volunteers make a real difference to the children they support as well as finding the experience very enjoyable and rewarding. If you might be interested in offering some of your time to this worthwhile cause, please contact Claire Wall for further information – Claire.wall@beanstalkcharity.org.uk, or call 0845 450 0301. More information can be found on its web site www.Beanstalkcharity.org.uk/become-a-story-starter.

Entrance Antiphon:

You are just, O Lord, and your judgement is right; treat your servant in accord with your merciful love.

Collect:

O God, by whom we are redeemed and receive adoption, look graciously upon your beloved sons and daughters, that those who believe in Christ may receive true freedom and an everlasting inheritance. 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.

First Reading: Isa. 35:4-7 *The ears of the deaf shall be unsealed and the tongues of the dumb shall be loosed.*

Say to all faint hearts, "Courage! Do not be afraid. Look, your God is coming, vengeance is coming, the retribution of God; he is coming to save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, the ears of the deaf unsealed, then the lame shall leap like a deer and the tongues of the dumb sing for joy; for water gushes in the desert, streams in the wasteland, the scorched earth becomes a lake, the parched land springs of water.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 145:7-10

My soul, give praise to the Lord.

Second Reading: James 2:1-5 *God chose the poor to be heirs to the kingdom.*

My brothers, do not try to combine faith in Jesus Christ, our glorified Lord, with the making of distinction between classes of people. Now suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring on, and at the same time a poor man comes in, in shabby clothes, and you take notice of the well-dressed man, and say "Come this way to the best seats"; then you tell the poor man, "Stand over there" or "You can sit on the floor by my foot rest". Can't you see that you have used two different standards in your mind, and turned yourselves into judges, and corrupt judges at that? Listen, my dear brothers: it was those who are poor according to the world that God chose, to be rich in faith and to be heirs to the kingdom which he promised to those who love him.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Speak Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

Today there is a Pastoral Letter and Bishop Alan would like us to read the Gospel for the 20th Sunday

Gospel: John 6:51-58 *My flesh is real food and my blood is real drink.*

Jesus said to the crowd: "I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give is my flesh, for the life of the world". Then the Jews started arguing with one another: "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" they said. Jesus replied: "I tell you most solemnly, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Anyone who does eat my flesh and drink my blood has eternal life, and I shall raise him up on the last day. For my flesh is real food and my blood is real drink. He who eats my flesh and drinks my blood lives in me and I live in him. As I, who am sent by the living Father, myself draw life from the Father, so whoever eats me will draw life from me. This the bread come down from heaven; not like the bread our ancestors ate: they are dead, but anyone who eats this bread will live for ever".

Prayer over the Offerings:

O God, who give us the gift of true prayer and of peace, graciously grant that, through this offering, we may do fitting homage to your divine majesty and, by partaking of the sacred mystery, we may be faithfully united in mind and heart. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon:

Like the deer that yearns for running streams, so my soul is yearning for you, my God; my soul is thirsting for God, the living God.

Prayer after Communion:

Grant that your faithful, O Lord, whom you nourish and endow with life through the food of your Word and heavenly sacrament, may so benefit from your beloved Son's great gifts that we may merit an eternal share in his life. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.