

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia

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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.

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 23rd September 2018

Sunday Readings: Year B

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

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

Services This Week

Sunday 23 rd September	8:00 am	Open intention
	10:00 am*	Open intention
	6:00 pm	The people of the parish

Monday 24 th September	Our Lady of Walsingham
9:30	Open intention

Tuesday 25 th September	Feria
9:30	Open intention

Wednesday 26 th September	Feria
9:30	Open intention

Thursday 27 th September	St Vincent de Paul
9:30	Open intention

Friday 28 th September	Feria
9:30 am	Joel Le Roux – followed by Rosary

Saturday 29 th September	Sts Michael, Gabriel and Raphael - Archangels
9:30	Open intention – followed by Benediction

Sunday 30 th September	8:00 am	Martin Curry RIP
26 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10:00 am*	Open 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

In today's Gospel, we hear Jesus again predict his passion, death, and Resurrection to his disciples. The setting here is important. Jesus and his disciples are preparing to journey through Galilee, a Jewish territory in which Jesus has already encountered problems with the Pharisees; perhaps this is why Mark indicates that Jesus was trying to journey in secret. In predicting his passion, Jesus is acknowledging the danger they will face and is trying to preparing his disciples for it. Yet Mark tells us that the disciples did not understand what Jesus was saying and were afraid to ask what he meant. Such hesitation on the part of the disciples is not characteristic behaviour - Peter had no fear about rebuking Jesus in last week's Gospel. Perhaps this is an indication that the disciples were aware that a new situation was emerging.

Mark paints a vivid picture - having arrived at Capernaum, Jesus and his disciples enter a house. In this private place, Jesus asks his disciples about the argument they had while they were journeying. Again, the disciples are uncharacteristically silent and afraid to answer. They have been found out. Jesus then summons the Twelve, whom Mark identified earlier in his Gospel as those chosen by Jesus to preach and to drive out demons. To this select group of disciples, Jesus teaches that those who would be first in God's kingdom must be servants of all.

Jesus then calls forward a child and teaches the Twelve that to receive a child in Jesus' name is to receive both Jesus and the One who sent him. We might easily fail to understand the significance of this action. In first-century Palestine, children were without status or power, possessing no legal rights. In this action, Jesus is teaching his disciples and us that when we serve the least ones among us, we serve Jesus himself. Who are the people without power or status in our society that Jesus is calling us to serve? Do we do so willingly? Jesus teaches that God's judgment of us will be based on this criterion alone.

Children's Liturgy

The children's liturgy held during the 10:00 Mass on Sundays is proving to be a great success and well received by the children and parents. This is aimed at younger children - below first Holy Communion age - who will be very welcome when this continues today. . We are very grateful to those who have come forward to volunteer as leaders and helpers, but more help is always 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.

Will all those who assist with children's liturgy, please note there will be a short meeting with the parish safeguarding coordinator in the Guild Room after 10:00 Mass next Sunday, 30th September.

Advance Notice – CAFOD Harvest Fast Day

This year, CAFOD will be holding its Harvest Fast Day on Friday 5th October, when we are all invited to eat a simple meal in solidarity with those in the world who have less than adequate food available to them, and to give the resulting savings to CAFOD in the collection taken on the following Sunday. Gift Aid envelopes are available and tax payers are encouraged to increase the value of any donation by means of the Gift Aid scheme. More information on this will follow over the next two weeks, and further details can also be found on the CAFOD web site.

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.

Annual Walsingham Pilgrimage for the Sanctity of Life

On Sunday 7th October, the annual Pilgrimage for the Sanctity of Life to Walsingham will take place, led by Archbishop Kevin McDonald. All are warmly invited to unite in this day of prayer. Further details can be found on the poster in the narthex or pick up a leaflet also in the narthex.

Quiz Night 1

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.

Quiz Night 2

The Friends of St Albans is holding a Quiz Evening at St Alban's Catholic High School on Friday 28th September, at 7:00 for a 7.30 pm start. Teams will be of up to 8 persons (age 15 and over), but individuals will be welcome to come along and will be put into a team. Admission is £5.00 per

person. You are welcome to bring along your own food. Nibbles will be provided and there is a licensed bar and raffle. For tickets please contact St Alban's School Office on 01473 726178.

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.

Our Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Patrick Macken, Mary Moss, Wolfgang Barc, Edward Cliffe and Martin Curry 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.

Hedge Cutting

Next Saturday, 29th September, a working party is required between 10:00 am and 12:30 to help cut and tidy the various hedges around the church property and carry out other miscellaneous gardening jobs. Please don't leave it to the 80 year olds! Let's see some new, younger faces for a couple of hours. Coffee, tea and even biscuits will be provided. Some step ladders and hedge trimmers will be provided but please bring along your own too if you have them. We also want to dispose of the cuttings so if you can help with transporting these to the Council dump in large bags that too would be gratefully appreciated. Please see poster in the narthex for more details and to sign up.

Light a Candle Service of Remembrance

On Saturday 27th October at 11:00 am, an ecumenical service of remembrance will take place at St Mary & St Botolph church, Whitton Church Lane, Ipswich, led by its rector Rev Mary Sokanovic, and attended by the Ipswich Hospital chaplain and Fr Mathew. The service is organised by Hunnaball funeral directors and is intended to bring together those who have suffered bereavement in their lives and offer them comfort and reassurance as they remember their departed loved ones. If you would like to attend, please advise Hunnaball's by telephone 01473 748808 or by email ipswich@hunnaball.co.uk.

Diocesan Charismatic Renewal Day

The next Diocesan Charismatic Renewal Day will take place at St Mary's church, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, on Saturday 13th October starting at 10:00 am, the theme being *Knowing God's mercy and discerning his will*. The day will be led by Gemma Wildsmith, a trained youth worker with many years experience in young adult Christian formation and member of the national leadership team for *Celebrate* events. The day will include praise and prayer, Holy Mass, adoration, reconciliation and prayer for healing. Tea and coffee will be provided but please take your own packed lunch.

150 Club

The September prize draw of the parish 150 Club will be held in the church hall after 10:00 Mass on Sunday 30th September. Why not join us for coffee after Mass and you can then collect your prize in person! New members of the 150 Club are always welcome – there is a large pool of numbers that are not taken and so plenty of room for new parishioners, or not-so-new- parishioners who have not yet got round to joining.

Offertory

Owing to illness, publication of the details of the recent week's collections has been delayed. The collection for Sunday 26th August was £630.17, 2nd September was £364.41 and 9th September was £472.58. Retiring collection taken 2nd September for catholic Education was £302.30 and for Aid for Kerala on Sunday 9th September it was £383.92. Thank you.

St Mary Magdalen Choir

After a break, the choir is re-starting. A first rehearsal was held this week on Wednesday 19th September and a schedule of future rehearsal dates will be published. New members are always welcome – please speak to Fr Mathew or use the contact form on the parish web site to send a message to "Choir".

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 neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may 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.

First Reading:

Wis. 2:12, 17-20 *Let us condemn him to a shameful death.*

The godless say to themselves, "Let us lie in wait for the virtuous man, since he annoys us and opposes our way of life, reproaches us for our breaches of the law and accuses us of playing false to our upbringing. Let us see if what he says is true, let us observe what kind of end he himself will have. If the virtuous man is God's son, God will take his part and rescue him from the clutches of his enemies. Let us test him with cruelty and with torture, and thus explore this gentleness of his and put his endurance to the proof. Let us condemn him to a shameful death since he will be looked after – we have his word for it."

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 53:3-6, 8

The Lord upholds my life.

Second Reading:

James 3:16-4:3 *Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness.*

Wherever you find jealousy and ambition, you will find disharmony, and wicked things of every kind being done; whereas the wisdom that comes down from above is essentially something pure; it also makes for peace, and is kindly and considerate, it is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good; nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy in it. Peacemakers, when they work for peace, sow the seeds which will bear fruit in holiness. Where do these wars and battles between you first start? Isn't it precisely in the desires fighting inside your own selves? You want something and you haven't got it; so you are prepared to kill. You have an ambition that you cannot satisfy, so you fight to get your way by force. Why you don't have what you want is because you don't pray for it; when you do pray and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly, you have prayed for something to indulge your own desires.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

Gospel:

Mark 9:30-37 *The Son of Man will be delivered. If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself servant of all.*

After leaving the mountain Jesus and his disciples made their way through Galilee; and he did not want anyone to know because he was instructing his disciples; he was telling them "The Son of Man will be delivered into the hands of men; they will put him to death; and three days after he has been put to death he will rise again". But they did not understand what he said and were afraid to ask him. They came to Capernaum, and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the road?" They said nothing because they were arguing which of them was the greatest. So he sat down, called the twelve to him and said, "If anyone wants to be first, he must make himself last of all and servant of all". He then took a little child, set him in front of them and out his arms round him, and said to them, "Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me".

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.

Communion Antiphon:

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

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.