

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: Awaiting new appointment

Please let Fr Mathew know if you are going into hospital.

Mass is celebrated in the Ipswich Hospital chapel each Monday at 4 pm – all are welcome.

31st Sunday in Ordinary Time – 4th November 2018

Sunday Readings: Year B

Weekday Readings: Thirty First Week of Ordinary Time, Year

II

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

Services This Week

Sunday 4 th November	8:00 am	Fryatt family
	10:00 am*	Winifred Mary Flory – foundation Mass
	6:00 pm	The people of the parish

There will be a retiring collection after all Masses today for the St Edmund's fund.

Monday 5 th November	Feria No Mass
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Tuesday 6 th November	Feria No Mass
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Wednesday 7 th November	Feria No Mass
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Thursday 8 th November	Feria No Mass
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Friday 9 th November	The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica No Mass
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Saturday 10 th November	St Leo the Great No Mass
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Sunday 11 th November	8:00 am	
32 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	10:00 am*	
	6:00 pm	The people of the parish

* Children's Liturgy will be celebrated during the 10:00 Mass on Sundays for pre-first Holy Communion children.

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

Today's Gospel

As we continue to read from Mark's Gospel, our Lectionary skips a chapter that helps set the context for today's reading. If we were to read the sections skipped, we would hear about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, his cleansing of the Temple, and the questioning of Jesus' authority by the chief priests, scribes, and elders. The context, therefore, for this Gospel reading, is Jesus' growing exposure before the Jewish authorities. Jesus is being questioned and tested by the Jewish authorities, yet the scribe who addresses Jesus in today's Gospel seems to be an admirer; he is not testing Jesus.

The question posed in today's Gospel requires Jesus to interpret the Law of Moses. The Mosaic Law consists of the Ten Commandments and many additional commandments, numbering into the hundreds. For a devout Jew, adherence to the Mosaic Law is an expression of faithfulness to God's covenant with Israel. The ranking of these commandments was regularly debated among the teachers of the Law.

Jesus was not the only Jewish religious teacher to connect these two commandments, love of God and love of neighbour. Both of these commandments were central elements of the religious tradition that Jesus learned from his Jewish community and these commandments continue to be central aspects of contemporary Jewish religious understanding. Jesus' response to his questioners proposed an integral connection between these two aspects of the Jewish Law. Love of God finds its expression in our love for our neighbour. Many believe, however, that this connection was heard in a new and fresh way when spoken by Jesus.

The scribe who questions Jesus in today's Gospel engages in a positive dialogue with Jesus. He agrees with Jesus' teaching that the commandments to love God and love neighbour stand above the commandment to offer worship and sacrifice in the Temple, and with this dialogue, Jesus appears to close the debate with the Jewish authorities as Mark reports that no one dared to question Jesus further.

St Edmund's Fund

Caritas East Anglia encourages, supports and co-ordinates works of social outreach in the diocese. It is a member of the Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN), the social action arm of the Catholic Church in England and Wales. The management team of Caritas East Anglia includes representatives of each deanery and of caring organisations active in the diocese. The St Edmund's Fund, which makes crisis grants to needy individuals and families, is administered by Caritas East Anglia, and to assist in this work, there will be a retiring collection taken after all Masses today.

Weekday Masses

There will be no weekday Masses this week as Fr Mathew is away on retreat with the other priests of the Diocese.

Red Wednesday

Make a Stand for Faith and Freedom on Wednesday 28th November 2018. Christians around the world are being persecuted because of their faith. Will you show your support for the Suffering Church? Aid to the Church in Need is being joined by Christian Solidarity Worldwide for this campaign, but your help is needed.

Persecution against Christians in the worst-affected regions reached a new peak, the impact of which is only now beginning to be felt in all its horror. Join in on Wednesday 28th November – #RedWednesday, and stand in solidarity with persecuted Christians and faith minorities who suffer unjustly for their peacefully-held beliefs. Let's spread the word and use social media to make #RedWednesday 2018 a campaign that cannot be ignored.

A Mass will be celebrated for Persecuted Christians by Bishop Alan Hopes at the Cathedral Church of St John the Baptist at 7pm on Wednesday 28th November.

Offertory Collection

The collection taken at all Masses on Sunday 28th October was £566.50. Thank you.

Catholic East Anglia

If you have not yet done so, please take a copy of the free Diocesan newspaper Catholic East Anglia available in the narthex. Alternatively, you can read a copy on-line at the Diocesan web site or follow the link on the parish web site.

Confirmation 2019

Confirmation preparation for 2019 is due to begin on November 9th. Anyone who hasn't yet returned forms or would like to join, please urgently get in touch with either Father Mathew or Martin Pakes.

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 Metcalf, Robert Mullan, Anna Nelli and Mary O'Reilly.

Fr Mathew is preparing a list of the housebound who would like a regular visit from a priest or a Eucharistic Minister so that they can be offered adequate pastoral care. If you know someone who would like a visit from a priest, with their permission please pass on their details to Fr Mathew.

Our Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Walenty Biplobrzycki, Minnie Spooner, Margaret Woods, Mary Dwyer, Cyril Youngman, Dermot O'Connell, Ellen McCarthy, Michelina Di Franco, Lilian Shevlin, Catherine English, Irene O'Halloran and Henrietta Haywood-Farmer 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.

Ipswich Hospital Chaplaincy

Because of the shortage of priests in Ipswich, it might not be possible to supply a permanent chaplain for the Ipswich Hospital to replace Fr Gates, and whilst this is still being pursued, it may instead be necessary to appoint a *Lay Chaplaincy Co-ordinator*, preferably a Eucharistic Minister, who would be responsible for gathering patient information, administration and making first contact ward visits. If you might be interested in such a post please contact Deacon Clive Brooks for further information. Until an appointment can be made, Deacon Clive is acting in this role.

The hospital gives no patient information to the chaplains, so if you, or any member of your family, are going into hospital and would like to receive the ministrations of the Church whilst there, please let Fr Mathew know, or leave a message for Deacon Clive on 01206 396319.

Eucharistic Ministers

Will Eucharistic Ministers please note there is a new rota for the period until the end of December pinned to the notice board in the narthex. A copy of this new rota can also be downloaded from the parish web site.

150 Club

The October prize draw of the parish 150 Club was made last Sunday, 28th October. The winners were as follows:

£15	No 248	Mrs M Ford	£10	No 163	Mrs T Rose
£5	No 52	Mrs C Long	£5	No 252	Mrs M Ogden

There remain a number of spare subscriptions to this important money raising venture. If you are not already a member please do consider joining. The cost is small - £1 per number per month, there are cash prizes to be won and all proceeds go towards the running costs of the parish. Membership forms are available in the narthex or can be downloaded from the parish web site.

Parish Hall

With the closure of the You & Me playgroup, which was the main user of our church hall, and which looked after the basic cleaning as part of its hiring arrangements, we now need to make alternate arrangements in order to keep the hall clean and tidy. Rather than incurring additional costs we can ill afford for cleaners, it should surely be possible to organise this from within the parish? It shouldn't take more than about one hour per week, and ideally we would need half a dozen or so volunteers to spread the workload. If you can help out in this way, please add your name too the list in the narthex.

Mass Readings for the Thirty First Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year B) 4th November

Entrance Antiphon:

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God; be not far from me! Make haste and come to my help, O Lord, my strong salvation!

Collect:

Almighty and merciful God, by whose gift your faithful offer you right and praiseworthy service, grant, we pray, that we may hasten without stumbling to receive the things you have promised. 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: Deut. 6:2-6 *Listen, Israel: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.*

Moses said to the people: "If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow. Listen, Israel: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart."

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 17:2-4, 47, 51

I love you, Lord, my strength.

Second Reading: Heb. 7:23-28 *Because he remains for ever, Christ can never lose his priesthood.*

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, Christ, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows, then, that his power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him. To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came from the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 12:28-34 *This is the first commandment. The second is like it.*

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, "Which is the first of all the commandments?" Jesus replied, "This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." The scribe said to him, "Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice." Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And after that no one dared to question him any more.

Prayer over the Offerings:

May these sacrificial offerings, O Lord, become for you a pure oblation, and for us a holy outpouring of your mercy. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon:

You will show me the path of life, the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

Prayer after Communion:

May the working of your power, O Lord, increase in us, we pray, so that, renewed by these heavenly Sacraments, we may be prepared by your gift for receiving what they promise. Through Christ our Lord.