

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia 🌐 www.rcdea.org.uk

📧 @marymagdalens



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 contact Deacon Clive Brooks if you are going into hospital (☎ 01206 396319) or let Fr Mathew know.
Mass is celebrated in the Ipswich Hospital chapel each Monday at 4 pm – all are welcome.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe ***25th November 2018***

Sunday Readings: Year B

Weekday Readings: Thirty Fourth Week of the Year, Year II

We offer a warm welcome to all new parishioners and especially to Fr Richard White and Fr Peter Raj who are saying Masses today.

Services This Week

Sunday 25 th November	8:00 am	Thorne & Curry families
	10:00 am*	Daisy George
	6:00 pm	The people of the parish
Monday 26 th November	Feria	No Mass
Tuesday 27 th November	St Edmund – King and Martyr	No Mass
Wednesday 28 th November	Feria	No Mass
Thursday 29 th November	Feria	No Mass
Friday 30 th November	St Andrew, apostle, patron saint of Scotland	No Mass
Saturday 1 st December	Feria	No Mass
Sunday 2 nd 1 st Sunday of Advent	8:00 am	Coates family
	10:00 am*	Katherine Barrett RIP
	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

Today, the Solemnity of Christ the King, we reflect upon this title that we have given to Jesus. We read a portion of the passion from the Gospel of John, which is also part of the Gospel reading proclaimed each year on Good Friday. In today's reading, we hear one of two dialogues between Jesus and Pilate that are reported in John's Gospel. Pilate questions Jesus about the charges brought against him. Caiaphas and the high priests have charged Jesus with a political crime, one that would require a punishment of death. Pilate distances himself from the Jewish leaders who accuse Jesus; he is not a Jew, and he seems to want little to do with this Jewish affair.

In his responses to Pilate's questions, Jesus distinguishes his kingdom from the political powers of this world. King and kingdom may be appropriate terms for Jesus' mission and promise, but only by analogy. In today's reading, we see Jesus identify the final proof that his kingdom is not of this world: If his kingdom were of this world, then there would be people fighting to save him. Jesus is king, but not the kind of king we imagine or expect. He was certainly not the kind of king Pilate feared he might be.

Truth has been another important theme in John's Gospel. We see it emphasized in the conclusion of the dialogue between Jesus and Pilate. Those who know the truth will recognize Jesus as king and will know how to interpret this insight. Yet Jesus' kingship was hidden from many of his contemporaries. Only those chosen, those who have the eyes of faith, are able to see. As modern disciples of Jesus, we also struggle at times to recognize Jesus as king. Today's Gospel invites us to see with eyes of faith that we might recognize that Jesus, through his crucifixion and death, is indeed king and Saviour of all.

The Feast of Christ the King

Today we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, also called the feast of Christ the King, which concludes the Church's liturgical year. The year ends on a real high point and celebrates the Kingdom of God in all its richness before beginning the new liturgical year with the reflective and penitential season of Advent. The feast of Christ the King is also celebrated, in England and Wales, as National Youth Sunday, and in support of the diocesan activities for our young people, there will be a retiring collection taken for the Diocesan Youth Service.

Fr Mathew

Fr Mathew will not be saying Mass for the next few weeks in order to have a complete rest and concentrate on regaining his health. He will continue to live in the presbytery. The Bishop has arranged for priests to cover the Sunday Masses during this period but weekday Masses will be cancelled. Please continue to pray for Fr Mathew, that he may make a complete recovery and return to us fully restored in mind and body.

Catholic Women's League

The organisers of last week's *cake & preserve stall*, run by the Catholic Women's League to raise funds for CARITAS, would like to extend a big thank you to all who supported the event by baking and buying. £193 was raised which will go towards the support of a Christian refugee family settling in this country.

Open Day of Healing

An open day of healing organised by the Little Way Healing Ministries, and led by Fr Laurence Brassill, will be held at Clare Priory on Saturday 1st December from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm. There will be a time of praise, worship, sharing scripture, and healing prayer. If you suffer from fear, sickness, loneliness, abuse, rejection, depression or if "something" is holding you back, then this session could be for you. All are welcome. Booking is not required. Tea and coffee provided but please bring your own packed lunch.

Parish Vacancies

Unfortunately, due to ill health, our parish treasurer, John Anderson-Hurst, has been forced to retire, stepping down at the end of the financial year, and we are seeking to appoint a new parish treasurer. If you have some finance / accounting experience and are happy to give generously some of your time for the parish, please let Fr Mathew know. The treasurer will be a *de facto* appointment to the parish Finance Committee.

Parish Finance Committee

The minutes of the meeting of the parish finance committee which took place on July 12th have been issued for publication. These can be found on the finance pages of the parish web site and there is a copy pinned to the notice board in the narthex.

Offertory Collection

The collection taken at all Masses on Sunday 18th November was £406.32. Thank you.

150 Club

The prize draw for November will be made in the church hall after 10:00 Mass today. Please join us and enjoy a cup of coffee with your fellow parishioners in a social environment.

LIFE Supporter's Group

You are invited to join the annual *Coffee, Mince Pie and Carols* morning, held by the Ipswich LIFE supporters group. This will be held in St Pancras church hall from 10:00 to 12:00 on Friday 7th December. Admission is £2, and there will be a raffle and a bring and buy sale, as well as a sing-a-long to traditional Christmas carols. Everybody welcome!

Vacancy – Executive Assistant, Walsingham

The National Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham is looking to appoint an Executive Assistant based in the Shrine Office in Houghton St Giles. The Executive Assistant would work with the Rector, Master of Ceremonies and Administrator in the organisation of both day and residential pilgrimages and retreats. This is a demanding position working in a team providing support to senior staff to enable the promotion of pilgrimages to Walsingham and the support needed to organisers to arrange a pilgrimage or retreat. Please email hr@walsingham.org.uk for an application form and job description. Applications must be received by midnight on the 9th December 2018.

Emergency Contact List

To try to improve contact arrangements in the event of any future last minute changes to Sunday Mass arrangements, we have created an email list of people who normally attend 8:00, 10:00 and 6:00 pm masses respectively so that we can get a message out to these persons if arrangements have to be changed. If you would like to receive such email notifications, please send an email to contact@marymagdalens.org giving your name, your email address and requesting that you be added to the contact list for the mass you normally attend. Alternatively you can submit the same request using the parish web site contact form.

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 7 pm on Wednesday 28th November.

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.

Our Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Charles Dwyer, Sheila Garson, Bernard McDonagh, Joseph Clougherty, John Mahoney, Harry Head, Czeslaw Kacsprzak, Doris Williams, Margaret Janes, Laura Beavis, Mario Pasini, Lelis di France, Valerie Jenkins, Charles Long, Miriam Wiseman, Percy Bates, Cynthia O'Mara and Agnes Eaton 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.

Readings for Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe: 25th November

Entrance Antiphon:

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

Collect:

Almighty and ever-living God, whose will is to restore all things in your beloved Son, the King of the universe, grant, we pray, that the whole of creation, set free from slavery, may render your majesty service and ceaselessly proclaim your praise. 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: Dan.7:13-14 *His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty.*

I gazed into the visions of the night. And I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven, one like a son of man. He came to the one of great age and was led into his presence. On him was conferred sovereignty, glory and kingship, and men of all peoples, nations and languages became his servants. His sovereignty is an eternal sovereignty which shall never pass away, nor will his empire ever be destroyed.

Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 92:1-2, 5

The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed.

Second Reading: Apoc. 1:5-8 *Ruler of the kings of the earth...he made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God.*

Jesus Christ is the faithful witness, the first-born from the dead, the ruler of the kings of the earth. He loves us and has washed away our sins with his blood, and made us a line of kings, priests to serve his God and Father; to him, then, be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen. It is he who is coming on the clouds; everyone will see him, even those who pierced him, and all the races of the earth will mourn over him. This is the truth. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega", says the Lord God, who is, who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming kingdom of our father David! Alleluia!

Gospel: John 18:33-37 *It is you who say that I am a king.*

"Are you the king of the Jews?" Pilate asked. Jesus replied, "Do you ask this of your own accord or have others spoken to you about me?" Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? It is your own people and the chief priests who have handed you over to me: what have you done?" Jesus replied, "Mine is not a kingdom of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, my men would have fought to prevent my being surrendered to the Jews. But my kingdom is not of this kind." "So you are a king then?" said Pilate. "It is you who say it", answered Jesus. "Yes, I am a king. I was born for this, I came into the world for this: to bear witness to the truth; and all who are on the side of truth listen to my voice."

Prayer over the Offerings:

As we offer you, O Lord, the sacrifice by which the human race is reconciled to you, we humbly pray that your Son himself may bestow on all nations the gifts of unity and peace. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon:

The Lord sits as King for ever. The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Prayer after Communion:

Having received the food of immortality, we ask, O Lord, that, glorying in obedience to the commands of Christ, the King of the universe, we may live with him eternally in his heavenly Kingdom. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.