

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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

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Locum Priest: Fr Mathias Odigbo

✉ 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 Mathias Odigbo

Please contact Fr Mathias if you are going into hospital.

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

Feast of the Epiphany – 6th January 2019

Sunday Readings: Year C

Weekday Readings: 2nd Week of Christmas Year I

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

Services This Week

Sunday 6 th January The Epiphany	8:00 am	The people of the parish
	10:00 am*	James & Margaret Wright (foundation Mass)
	Hymns:	Entrance: 605 Offertory: 67
		Communion: 523 Recessional: 601
	6:00 pm	Martha Grace & Family
Monday 7 th January	Christmas Feria	
	9:00 am	Canon Mathew George (foundation Mass)
Tuesday 8 th January	Christmas Feria	
	9:00 am	Open intention
Wednesday 9 th January	Christmas Feria – Mass in St Pancras School	
	9:30 am	Open intention
Thursday 10 th January	Christmas Feria	
	9:00 am	Open intention
Friday 11 th January	Christmas Feria	
	7:00 pm	Open intention followed by Eucharist Adoration and Benediction
Saturday 12 th January	Christmas Feria	
	8:30 am	Sacrament of reconciliation
	9:00 am	Rosary
	9:30 am	Open intention
Sunday 13 th Baptism of the Lord	8:00 am	The people of the parish
	10:00 am*	Open intention
	6:00 pm	Martha Grace & Family – in thanksgiving

* 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

The visit of the Magi occurs directly before the story of the Holy Family's flight into Egypt. Matthew's Gospel tells a version of Jesus' birth that is different than the one in Luke. Of the actual birth of Jesus, Matthew tells us little more than, "When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod . . ." The story of the census is found only in Luke's Gospel, but we hear about the visit of the Magi only in Matthew's Gospel.

We know little about the Magi. They come from the East and journey to Bethlehem, following an astrological sign, so we believe them to be astrologers. We assume that there were three Magi based upon the naming of their three gifts but the Gospel does not say how many Magi paid homage to Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, they represent the Gentiles' search for a saviour not because the Magi represent the entire world, they also represent our search for Jesus.

We have come to consider the gifts they bring as a foreshadowing of Jesus' role in salvation. We believe the meaning of the gifts to be Christological. Gold is presented as representative of Jesus' kingship, frankincense is a symbol of his divinity because priests burned the substance in the Temple and myrrh, which was used to prepare the dead for burial, is offered in anticipation of Jesus' death.

The word Epiphany means "manifestation" or "showing forth." Historically several moments in Christ's early life and ministry have been celebrated as "epiphanies," including his birth in Bethlehem, the visit of the Magi, his baptism by John, and his first miracle at Cana. (courtesy of Loyola Press)

Epiphany Candlelight Mass

Today, 6th January, a candlelit Mass will be held at 5 pm for all young people and their families from across the diocese. Mass will be followed by hot dogs, a bonfire and fireworks. There will be a collection of presents for children who are refugees (please bring wrapped presents and indicate whether suitable for a boy or girl or either, and approximate age). The event will be held at The White House, 21 Uppgate, Poringland, Norwich and is organised by the Diocesan Youth Service.

Offertory Collections

The collection on Sunday 30th December was £388.51. Thank you.

The British Association of the Order of Malta

The British Association of the Order of Malta takes a group of sick, disabled and older pilgrims on pilgrimage to Lourdes, flying from Stansted. The next pilgrimage will take place between Friday 3rd May and Thursday 9th May 2019 and will include a full programme of religious events. In addition, lively and fun activities and opportunities for sightseeing are available. Nursing and medical care is provided as necessary. Applications are invited from interested sick, disabled and older people to join the pilgrimage, with accommodation in the Accueil Notre Dame. The cost contribution is £300, but this can be reduced in cases of need. For further information and an application form, please contact Mrs Kim O'Connor by email before 14th January 2019: k6oconnor@aol.com. Alternatively write to her at 32 Scalebor Gardens, Burley in Wharfedale, Ilkely, LS29 7BX.0

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 Albert Richardson, Eleanor Chandler, Hugh McColl, Vera Johnston, Timothy Downey, Regina Scott, Godfrey Schofield, Albert Thaine, Rita Aldis, William Taylor and Peter 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.

150 Club

The December prize draw of the parish 150 Club was made last Sunday in the church hall after 10:00 Mass. Congratulations to the following winners:

Monthly prizes:	£15	No 195	Mrs P Williamson	£10	No 192	Mr D Moore
	£5	No 146	Mr R Fox	£5	No 104	Mrs T Rose
Bonus prizes:	£50	No 36	Mrs P Gilbert	£40	No 44	Mrs D Turner
	£20	No 209	Mr P Clancy			

If you are not a member of the 150 Club, there are vacancies and it is never too late. Membership forms can be found in the narthex or can be down loaded from the parish web site.

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 contact Chris Croker, Chairman of the finance committee, or Declan Moore. Alternately, you can email finance@marymagdalens.org or use the contact form on the parish web site to send a message to Finance.

Readings for feast of The Epiphany, Year C: 6th January, 2019

Entrance Antiphon:

Behold, the Lord, the Mighty One, has come; and kingship is in his grasp, and power and dominion.

Collect:

O God, who on this day revealed your Only Begotten Son to the nations by the guidance of a star, grant in your mercy that we, who know you already by faith, may be brought to behold the beauty of your sublime glory. 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. 60:1-6

Above you the glory of the Lord appears

Arise, shine out Jerusalem, for your light has come, the glory of the Lord is rising on you, though night still cover the earth and darkness the peoples. Above you the Lord now rises and above you his glory appears. The nations come to your light and kings to your dawning brightness. Lift up your eyes and look around: all are assembling and coming towards you, your sons from far away and daughters being tenderly carried. At this sight you will glow radiant, your heart throbbing and full; since the riches of the sea will flow to you; the wealth of the nations come to you; camels in throngs will cover you, and dromedaries of Midian and Ephah; everyone in Sheba will come, bringing gold and incense and singing the praise of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 71:1-2, 7-8, 10-13

All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

Second Reading:

Eph. 3:2-3, 5-6

It has now been revealed that pagans share the same inheritance.

You have probably heard how I have been entrusted by God with the grace he meant for you, and that it was by a revelation that I was given the knowledge of the mystery. This mystery that has now been revealed through the Spirit to his holy apostles and prophets was unknown to any men in past generations; it means that pagans now share the same inheritance, that they are parts of the same body, and that the same promise has been made to them, in Christ Jesus, through the gospel.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! We saw his star as it rose and have come to do the Lord homage. Alleluia!

Gospel:

Matthew 2:1-12

We saw his star and have come to do the king homage.

After Jesus had been born at Bethlehem in Judaea during the reign of King Herod, some wise men came to Jerusalem from the east. "Where is the infant king of the Jews?" they asked. "We saw his star as it rose and have come to do him homage." When King Herod heard this he was perturbed, and so was the whole of Jerusalem. He called together all the chief priests and the scribes of the people, and enquired of them where the Christ was to be born. "At Bethlehem in Judaea," they told him "for this is what the prophet wrote: *And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, you are by no means least among the leaders of Judah, for out of you will come a leader who will shepherd my people Israel.*" Then Herod summoned the wise men to see him privately. He asked them the exact date on which the star had appeared, and sent them on to Bethlehem. "Go and find out all about the child," he said "and when you have found him, let me know so that I too may go and do him homage." Having listened to what the king had to say, they set out. And there in front of them was the star they had seen rising; it went forward and halted over the place where the child was. The sight of the star filled them with delight, and going into the house they saw the child with his mother Mary, and falling to their knees they did him homage. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts of gold and frankincense and myrrh. But they were warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, and returned to their own country by a different way.

Prayer over the Offerings:

Look with favour, Lord, we pray, on these gifts of your church, in which are offered now not gold or frankincense or myrrh, but he who by them is proclaimed, sacrificed and received, Jesus Christ. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Communion Antiphon:

We have seen his star in the East, and have come with gifts to adore the Lord.

Prayer after Communion:

Go before us with heavenly light, O Lord, always and everywhere, that we may perceive with clear sight and revere with true affection the mystery in which you have willed us to participate. Through Christ Our Lord.