

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

468 Norwich Road, Ipswich, IP1 6JS

☎ 01473 741975

☎ 07951 066607

🌐 www.marymagdalens.org

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

📱 @marymagdalens



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.

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 3rd February 2019

Sunday Readings: Year C

Weekday Readings: 4th Week of Year 1

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

Services This Week

	8:00 am	Eric List RIP – foundation mass
	10:00 am*	Giusseppe & Michael Nelli RIP
Sunday 3 rd February		Hymns for 10:00 Mass
4 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Entrance:	66 When I survey the Wondrous Cross
	Offertory:	431 O The Word of My Lord
	Communion:	404 O Lord My God
	Recessional:	514 Tell Out My Soul
	6:00 pm	The people of the parish
Monday 4 th February	Feria	
	9:30 am	Open intention
Tuesday 5 th February	St Agatha	
	9:30 am	Open intention
Wednesday 6 th February	St Paul Miki & companions – Mass in St Pancras School	
	9:30 am	Open intention
Thursday 7 th February	Feria	
	9:30 am	Open intention
	Feria	
Friday 8 th February	7:00 pm	Elizabeth (Elsie) Robinson Foundation Mass followed by Eucharist Adoration and Benediction
	Feria	
Saturday 9 th February	8:30 am	Sacrament of reconciliation
	9:00 am	Rosary
	9:30 am	Open intention
Sunday 10 th 5 th Sunday of Ordinary Time	8:00 am	Open intention
	10:00 am*	Open intention
	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

This Sunday we read from the Gospel of Luke, continuing immediately from last week's Gospel and in today's reading, we learn that the people of Nazareth are impressed by Jesus' words, and yet they seem surprised. They still think of Jesus as merely Joseph's son and do not expect such words from someone they believe that they know.

This Gospel is about who Jesus is and who people believe him to be. The story of Jesus' preaching and rejection at Nazareth is found in each of the Synoptic Gospels. In Luke's Gospel, this incident is told in a way that foretells Jesus' passion and death and helps explain the inclusion of the Gentiles in the promise of salvation. In Luke's Gospel, the people are surprised but not immediately offended by Jesus' words in the synagogue. It is the words that follow his reading from the prophet Isaiah that seem to offend them. Jesus challenges and provokes the people of Nazareth by referring to examples in which Israel rejected the prophets. He also challenges them to respond to his message, the message of a prophet, in a way that is different from their ancestors. This call for a new response leads to his rejection.

After Jesus' words of challenge, Luke reports that there was a movement to kill Jesus by throwing him over a cliff. This differs from the reports found in Mark and Matthew's Gospels, where Jesus is said to be unable to perform miracles in Nazareth because of the people's lack of faith. Luke says that Jesus walks away from the crowd that intended to kill him; it is not yet his time. The animosity of the people of Nazareth prefigures and prepares the reader of Luke's Gospel for the cross. Luke wants all to understand that it is through his death on the cross that Jesus offers God's salvation to all. (courtesy of Loyola Press)

An International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking

The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and the International Union of Superiors General has designated February 8th as an annual day of prayer and awareness against human trafficking. February 8th is the feast day of St. Josephine Bakhita, who was kidnapped as a child and sold into slavery in Sudan and Italy. Once Josephine was freed, she became a Canossian nun and dedicated her life to sharing her testament of deliverance from slavery and comforting the poor and suffering. She was declared a Saint in 2000.

On February 8th, Catholics all over the world are encouraged to host or attend prayer services to create greater awareness about this phenomenon. Through prayer, we not only reflect on the experiences of those that have suffered through this affront to human dignity, but also comfort, strengthen, and help empower survivors. *"The feast of St Josephine Bakhita is a wonderful opportunity - every year - to remember and pray for those who have suffered from the dreadful experience of having been trafficked and an opportunity to recommit ourselves as the Church to doing everything we can to eliminate the scourge of human trafficking from the world in which we live".* - Bishop Patrick Lynch.

Message from Fr Mathew

Fr Mathew writes: *"Thank you very much for your prayers and support. I am fine. My mother and other family members are fine. I am slowly thinking about planning my return. For now, I am keeping the option of a retreat in Kerala and a few free days at home open, so there are no firm dates at the moment. I am looking forward to coming back to Ipswich.*

The 'enjoying the sunshine' part is getting over as it is getting very hot here. Mornings and evenings are pleasant. The rains will start only after mid April with the monsoon in June and July. Please continue to pray for me. You are all in my thoughts and prayers."

Offertory Collections

The collection on Sunday 27th January came to £443.18. There is a correction to the amount published last week for the retiring collection taken on Sunday 20th for the work of *Pax Christi* which came to £72.09 and not £42.67 as previously stated. Thank you.

Vacancy

St Albans Catholic High School is seeking to expand its team of exam invigilators and is seeking professional, organised and flexible individuals who would be able to provide support during the busy exam periods on an ad-hoc basis. Successful applicants will be paid £8.82 per hour on a casual contract. Full details, and an application form, can be found on the school web site www.st-albans.suffolk.sch.uk/Vacancies/Vacancy-1. Applications must be received by 10:00 am Monday 25th February.

Church Lighting

For some time, it has been hoped that we could make some changes to the church lighting. These changes would have three objectives:

1. To eliminate the health and safety issues associated with regular high level access to the lights in order to replace lamps;
2. To reduce the significant running costs – when all the lights are on, we are consuming nearly 8 kW of power on lights alone!
3. To provide something which is a little more elegant and aesthetically pleasing at reasonable cost.

We have sourced what could be a suitable LED fitting to replace the existing halogen lamps and a single unit has been installed as a trial before any decision to replace the whole installation is made. If you have any views or comments on the new light, please speak to Jim Poll, Chris Croker, Andrew Ford or Michael Long, or alternatively email your comments to contact@marymagdalens.org. If it is decided to go ahead, it is hoped the work can be completed in March.

Eucharistic Ministers

Will Eucharistic Ministers please note a change in practice for the 10:00 Mass on Sundays. We will be reverting to the previous practice of using three ministers, one to assist with the distribution of the Body of Christ and two to administer the Precious Blood. The rota for Eucharistic Ministers has been rearranged accordingly, with the first named minister at 10:00 Mass each Sunday distributing the Body of Christ. Please review the revised rota in the narthex, or download a copy from the parish web site.

We have had one new volunteer come forward to be commissioned as a Eucharistic Minister, and it is intended to hold a training session in March. If there are any existing Eucharistic Ministers that feel they would benefit from attending this training, please speak to Fr Mathias or send an email to contact@marymagdalens.org.

Catholic East Anglia

The February edition of the Diocesan newspaper, Catholic East Anglia, is now available and you can help yourself to a free copy from the narthex. This edition includes a special feature on Fr Pat Cleary, originally of our own parish. You can also read the publication on-line by following the link on the parish website.

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 William Clancy, Andrew Flynn, Imelda Foulger, Jeane Walker, Ivy Long, Darren Platts, Charles Vieira, John Metcalfe, Hilda Chaisty, Caterina Fella, Elizabeth (Elsie) Robinson, George Youngman, Harold Motram, Antonio Melero, Delia Reilly, Sheila White, Michael McGlead and Michael Parmenter 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 January prize draw of the parish 150 Club was made last Sunday after 10:00 Mass. Congratulations to the following winners:

£15	No 10	Mrs T Rose	£10	No 85	Mr & Mrs R Cork
£5	No 259	Mr D Moore	£5	No 202	Mrs T Rose

The task of preparing the subscriptions for the new year, which begins 1st April 2019, is just starting so if you are not a member of the 150 Club, now would be the perfect time to take that initial step, fill out an application form, and support your parish in this important fund raising venture. Membership forms can be found in the narthex or can be down loaded from the parish web site: simply complete one and deposit it in the collection plate at Mass or pop it through the presbytery letter box and we will do the rest.

Readings for the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C: 3rd February, 2019

Entrance Antiphon: Save us, O Lord our God! And gather us from the nations, to give thanks to your holy name, and make it our glory to praise you.

Collect: Grant us, Lord our God, that we may honour you with all our mind, and love everyone in truth of heart. 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: Jer. 1:4-5, 17-19 *I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.*

In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying, "Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you came to birth I consecrated you; I have appointed you as prophet to the nations. So now brace yourself for action. Stand up and tell them all I command you. Do not be dismayed in their presence, or in their presence I will make you dismayed. I, for my part, today will make you into a fortified city, a pillar of iron, and a wall of bronze to confront all this land: the kings of Judah, its princes, its priests and the country people. They will fight against you but shall not overcome you, for I am with you to deliver you – it is the Lord who speaks."

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 70:1-6,15,17 *My lips will tell of your help.*

Second Reading: 1Cor. 12:31-13:13 *There are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.*

Be ambitious for the higher gifts. And I am going to show you a way that is better than any of them. If I have all the eloquence of men or of angels, but speak without love, I am simply a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. If I have the gift of prophesy, understanding all the mysteries there are, and knowing everything, and if I have faith in all its fullness, to move mountains, but without love, then I am nothing at all. If I give away all that I possess, piece by piece, and if I even let them take my body to burn it, but I am without love, it will do me no good whatever. Love is always patient and kind; it is never jealous; love is never boastful or conceited; it is never rude or selfish; it does not take offence, and is not resentful. Love takes no pleasure in other people's sins but delights in the truth; it is always ready to excuse, to trust, to hope and to endure whatever comes. Love does not come to an end. But if there are gifts of prophecy, the time will come when they must fail; or the gift of languages, it will not continue for ever; and knowledge – for this too, the time will come when it must fail. For our knowledge is imperfect and our prophesying is imperfect; but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will disappear. When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and think like a child and argue like a child, but now I am a man, all childish ways are put behind me. Now we are seeing a dim reflection in the mirror; but then we shall be seeing face to face. The knowledge that I have now is imperfect; but then I shall know as fully as I am known. In short, there are three things that last: faith, hope and love; and the greatest of these is love.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the Way, the Truth and the Life says the Lord; no one can come to the Father except through me. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 4:21-30 *Like Elijah and Elisha, Jesus is not sent to the Jews only.*

Jesus began to speak in the synagogue, "This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen." And he won the approval of all and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips. They said, "This is Joseph's son, surely?" But he replied, "No doubt you will quote me the saying, 'Physician heal yourself' and tell me, 'We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own countryside.'" And he went on, "I tell you solemnly, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country. There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, but in Elijah's day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a widow in Zarephath, a Sidonian town. And in the prophet Elisha's time there were many lepers in Israel but none of these were cured except the Syrian, Naaman." When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him down the cliff, but he slipped through the crown and walked away.

Prayer over the Offerings: O Lord, we bring to your altar these offerings of our service: be pleased to receive them, we pray, and transform them into the sacrament of our redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: Let your face shine on your servant. Save me in your merciful love. O Lord, let me never be put to shame, for I call on you.

Prayer after Communion: Nourished by these redeeming gifts, we pray, O Lord, that through this help to eternal salvation true faith may ever increase. Through Christ Our Lord.