

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

468 Norwich Road, Ipswich, IP1 6JS

☎ 01473 741975

☎ 07951 066607

🌐 www.marymagdalens.org

🌐 www.rcdea.org.uk

📧 @marymagdalens

Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia



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.

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time – 3rd March 2019

Sunday Readings: Year C

Weekday Readings: 8th Week of Year 1

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

Services This Week

Sunday 3 rd March 8 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00 am	Open intention
	10:00 am*	Open intention
	Hymns for 10:00 Mass	
	Entrance:	569 Though the Mountains May Fall
	Offertory:	62 Bind Us Together
	Communion:	79 Christ Be Beside Me
	Recessional:	473 Seek Ye First the Kingdom of God
	6:00 pm	The people of the parish
Monday 4 th March	Feria	
	9:30 am	Open intention
Tuesday 5 th March	Feria	
	9:30 am	Open intention
Wednesday 6 th March	Ash Wednesday – Mass in church	
	9:30 am	Open intention
	7:00 pm	Open intention
Thursday 7 th March	Lent Feria	
	9:30 am	Open intention
Friday 8 th March March	St Felix	
	7:00 pm	Open intention followed by Eucharist Adoration and Benediction
Saturday 2 nd March	Lent Feria	
	8:30 am	Sacrament of reconciliation
	9:00 am	Rosary
	9:30 am	Open intention
Sunday 10 th March	8:00 am	Open intention
	10:00 am*	Open intention
First Sunday of Lent	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

The third and final section of Luke's Sermon on the Plain begins "Jesus told a parable to his disciples". There are actually four parables, three of which we read today. They are all about how to be a good disciple.

The blind cannot lead the blind, and a disciple cannot be a good disciple unless he or she has learned from the teacher. Everyone who is fully trained is like the teacher who knows how to cure the blind. Before you can be a good disciple and teach others you must take care of yourself. Do not try to take a speck out of your brother's eye until you have taken the board out of your own. Finally, only when you have purified yourself can you produce the good works that the teacher requires. Discipleship asks us to produce good deeds but to produce them requires the integrity and purity of heart found in the teacher. When people see your good deeds they will know that this is because you have a good heart.

The final parable, which we do not read today, is about building on the solid foundation of rock and not on sand. This is the only way to face the difficulties a disciple will encounter and survive. (courtesy of Loyola Press)

Lent 2019

Wednesday of this week is Ash Wednesday which marks the beginning of the season of Lent, a season of fasting and prayer. Ash Wednesday takes place 46 days before Easter Sunday, and is chiefly observed by Catholics, although many other Christians observe it too. Ash Wednesday comes from the ancient Jewish tradition of penance and fasting. The practice includes the wearing of ashes on the head. The ashes symbolize the dust from which God made us. On Ash Wednesday, there will be two Masses – both in church – with the children from St Pancras school attending the morning Mass. At these Masses, ashes will be distributed

The priest administers ashes, made from blessed palm branches taken from the previous year's Palm Sunday Mass, during Mass and all are invited to accept the ashes as a visible symbol of penance - even non-Christians are welcome to receive the ashes. As the priest applies the ashes to a person's forehead, he speaks the words: *"Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return."*

There are two days of fasting and abstinence within Lent, one being Ash Wednesday, the other Good Friday.

Faith Formation & Pastoral Support

Fr Mathias writes: *"I want to encourage members of the parish to take advantage of the pastoral support in the parishes by calling the attention of the priest to anyone or family that might need the services of a priest. Also formal opportunities for further faith formation for the faithful in the shape of weekly courses are to be started in the parish soon."* Watch out for further announcements soon.

Holiday Absence

Due to holiday arrangements, this week's newsletter has been prepared in advance, and is therefore lighter than usual on content. Any important news items that arise during this period will be announced as notices at the end of today's Masses. Normal service will resume next week.

Offertory Collections

The offertory collection values for Sunday, 10th, Sunday 17th and Sunday 24th February, will be published in the newsletter next week.

RCIA Class

The RCIA classes (the Right of Christian Initiation of Adults) for adults wishing to be received into the church continue tomorrow, 25th February, in the Guild Room at 7:30 pm.

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.

An Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion, often referred to as a Eucharistic Minister, may be required at Mass to assist the celebrating priest with the distribution of Holy Communion. Outside of Mass, an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion may be required to assist the priest to minister Holy Communion to the sick or housebound, to expose and repose the Blessed Sacrament or to assist at a Celebration of Word and Holy Communion in the absence of a priest to celebrate Mass. We are in need of additional persons to join this ministry. If you feel you would like to become a minister, please speak in the first instance to Fr Mathias.

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@marymagalens.org.

Children's Liturgy

Children's Liturgy continues today, aimed primarily at pre First Holy communion children. Younger children are welcome, but very young children should be accompanied by a parent as our catechists are not able to manage, for example, toilet requirements.

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 Audrey Gould, James O'Mara, Mary Irvine, Edward Millar, Josephine Ratcliff, Patrick McDermott, Francis Doyle, Catherine Coyle, Francis Coyle, Daniel Keenan, Norah Andrews and Patrick Owens 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 February prize draw of the parish 150 Club will be made after 10:00 Mass next Sunday, 10th March. This is delayed slightly due to the absence on holiday of the organiser.

Parish Vacancy

Unfortunately, due to ill health, our parish treasurer has been forced to retire 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 the Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C: 3rd March, 2019

Entrance Antiphon:

The Lord became my protector. He brought me out to a place of freedom; he saved me because he delighted in me.

Collect:

Grant us, O Lord, we pray, that the course of our world may be directed by your peaceful rule and that your church may rejoice, untroubled in her devotion. 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: Ecc.27:4-7

Do not praise a man before he has spoken.

In a shaken sieve the rubbish is left behind, so too the defects of a man appear in his talk. The kiln tests the work of the potter, the test of a man is in his conversation. The orchard where the tree grows is judged on the quality of its fruit, similarly a man's words betray what he feels. Do not praise a man before he has spoken, since this is the test of man.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 91:2-3,13-16

It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

Second Reading: 1Cor. 15:4-58

He has given us the victory through Our Lord Jesus Christ..

When this perishable nature has put on imperishability, and when this mortal nature has put on immortality, then the words of scripture will come true: death is swallowed up in victory. Death, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? Now the sting of death is sin, and sin gets its power from the Law. So let us thank God for giving us the victory through Our Lord Jesus Christ. Never give in then, my dear brothers, never admit defeat; keep on working at the Lord's work always, knowing that, in the Lord, you cannot be labouring in vain.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 6:39-45

A man's words flow out of what fills his heart.

Jesus told a parable to his disciples. "Can one blind man guide another? Surely both will fall into a pit? The disciple is not superior to his teacher; the fully trained disciple will always be like his teacher. Why do you observe the splinter in your brother's eye and never notice the plank in your own? How can you say to your brother, 'Brother, let me take out that splinter that is in your eye,' when you cannot see the plank in your own? Hypocrite! Take the plank out of your own eye first, and then you will see clearly enough to take out the splinter that is in your brother's eye. There is no sound tree that produces rotten fruit, nor again a rotten tree that produces sound fruit. For every tree can be told by its own fruit; people do not pick figs from thorns, or gather grapes from brambles. A good man draws what is good from the store of goodness in his heart; a bad man draws what is bad from the store of badness. For a man's words flow out of what fills his heart."

Prayer over the Offerings:

O God, who provide gifts to be offered to your name and count our oblations as signs of our desire to serve you with devotion, we ask of your mercy that what you grant as the source of merit may also help us to attain merit's reward. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon:

I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful to me, sing psalms to the name of the Most High.

Prayer after Communion:

Nourished by your saving gifts, we beseech your mercy, Lord, that by this same Sacrament with which you feed us in the present age, you may make us partakers of life eternal. Through Christ Our Lord.