

# St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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🌐 [www.marymagdalens.org](http://www.marymagdalens.org)

Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia 🌐 [www.rcdea.org.uk](http://www.rcdea.org.uk)

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**Locum Priest:** Fr Mathias Odigbo

✉ [parishpriest@marymagdalens.org](mailto: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.

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Lent – 17<sup>th</sup> March 2019

### Sunday Readings: Year C

### Weekday Readings: 2<sup>nd</sup> Week of Lent 1

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

### Services This Week

Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> March 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Lent	8:00 am	Conlon family – foundation Mass
	10:00 am*	James & Catherine Barrett RIP
	<b>Hymns for 10:00 Mass</b>	
	Entrance:	262 I Watch The Sunrise
	Offertory:	242 Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> March	Communion:	337 Love Divine All Loves Excelling
	Recessional:	61 Be Thou My Vision
	6:00 pm	The people of the parish
	Lent Feria	
	9:30 am	
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	St Joseph, husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
9:30 am	Leslie Robinson RIP - foundation Mass	
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Lent Feria – Mass in school	
9:30 am		
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Lent Feria	
9:30 am		
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> March	Lent Feria	
7:00 pm	Stations of the Cross followed by Mass	
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	Lent Feria	
	8:30 am	Sacrament of reconciliation
	9:00 am	Rosary
9:30 am	Mass	
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	8:00 am	
	10:00 am*	
Second 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 Guild Room after 10:00 Mass – please do come and join us!

## Today's Gospel

On the second Sunday of Lent, we move from Jesus' retreat to the desert and temptation by the devil to the glory shown in Jesus' Transfiguration. The Transfiguration occurs on a mountain in the presence of just three of Jesus' disciples - Peter, James and John. These are among the first disciples that Jesus called in Luke's Gospel, about which we recently heard in the Gospel reading on the fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Luke's Gospel, which often describes Jesus at prayer, indicates that Jesus is praying as his appearance changes to bright white. Luke indicates that the three disciples were sleeping while Jesus prayed. They will be sleeping again as Jesus prays in the Garden of Gethsemane before his Passion and death.

As they awake, Peter and the disciples see Jesus Transfigured and Elijah and Moses present with Jesus. Elijah and Moses, both significant figures in the history of Israel, represent Jesus' continuity with the Law and the Prophets. In Matthew's and Mark's Gospels, there is reference to conversation among Jesus, Elijah, and Moses, but only Luke's Gospel explains that this conversation is about Jesus' later accomplishments in Jerusalem. Luke describes this as his exodus, connecting Jesus' Passion, death, and Resurrection with the Israel's Exodus from Egypt.

On witnessing Jesus' Transfiguration and seeing Jesus with Elijah and Moses, Peter offers to construct three tents for them. Having just awoken, perhaps Peter's offer was made in confusion. We also notice that Peter reverted from his earlier confession that Jesus is the Messiah, calling Jesus "master" instead. As if in reply to Peter's confusion, a voice from heaven speaks, affirming Jesus as God's Son and commanding that the disciples listen to him. This voice from heaven recalls the voice that was heard at Jesus' baptism which, in Luke's Gospel, spoke directly to Jesus as God's Son.

In his Transfiguration, we see an anticipation of the glory of Jesus' Resurrection. In each of the reports of the Transfiguration, the disciples keep secret what they have seen. Not until they also witness his Passion and death will the disciples understand Jesus' Transfiguration. We hear this story of Jesus' Transfiguration early in Lent, but we have the benefit of hindsight. In our hearing of it, we anticipate Jesus' Resurrection even as we prepare to remember Jesus' Passion and death.

(courtesy of Loyola Press)

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## CAFOD Lenten Fast Day

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March was CAFOD's Lenten Fast Day, a day when we were all asked to have a simple meal in solidarity with our poorer brothers and sisters throughout the world who have a lot less than we do. Today we are invited to donate the money we saved to CAFOD to help it fund its projects assisting the poor throughout the world.

Today there will be a second collection taken after each Mass to receive your donations. Please be generous. Special envelopes are available in the narthex. If you are a tax payer, and that is most of us, then please use the special envelopes and complete the details so that CAFOD can reclaim from the government the tax you have already paid on your donation. This costs you personally nothing, but allows CAFOD to reclaim 25 pence from HMRC for every pound you donate. Last year, the Gift Aid claimed by CAFOD amounted to £26 million so it makes a huge difference to CAFOD funding.

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## Town Pastors

Town Pastors have been working on the streets of Ipswich on Friday and Saturday nights between 10 pm and 4 am since June 2006. At the moment there are over 50 town pastors and over 50 on its prayer team. The organisation has 3 main streams of volunteer roles:

- Town Pastors who go out on the streets on Friday and Saturday nights between 10 pm and 4 am;
- Base prayers who are situated at the cym centre from where it operates between 10 pm and 4 am - these pray for the pastors while they are out and provide refreshments for when they have breaks and for any police officers who may visit us.
- Home prayers who pray from home for an hour during the night whilst the pastors are out.

Training for potential new town pastors will commence on Saturday April 27<sup>th</sup> 2019 and they are looking for new recruits from all the local churches. Town Pastors have to be Christian and an active member within their home churches. There is an expected commitment of one shift per month. Anyone interested in getting involved in this work or finding out more information about the roles, can find further information and application forms on the organisation's web site [www.townpastors.org.uk](http://www.townpastors.org.uk).

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## **Ignite Festival**

The Diocesan Youth Service is holding its annual Ignite Festival on the weekend May 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> at the Sacred Heart School, Swaffham, Norfolk. All young people in year 8 upwards are invited to attend. Come and experience your faith in a new and dynamic way at the Ignite Festival. The weekend will include inspiring talks, passionate prayer, live music, and lots of fun stuff including sumo suit wrestling! For further information, visit the festival web site [www.ignitefestival.co.uk](http://www.ignitefestival.co.uk).

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## **Catholic Women's League**

The next meeting of the Ipswich branch of the Catholic Women's League which will include a Lenten talk, will be held at 2.30 pm in St Pancras church hall on Tuesday next, 19<sup>th</sup> March. This is an open meeting and everybody will be welcome.

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## **Offertory Collection**

The offertory collection taken up on Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March was £368.25. Thank you.

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## **Let It Be**

Session 3 of the five-session CaFE (Catholic Faith Exploration) course being run during Lent continues on will be held 21<sup>st</sup> March, at 7:30 in the Guild Room.

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## **150 Club**

The delayed February prize draw of the parish 150 Club was made last Sunday after 10:00 Mass. Congratulations to the following winners:

£15	No 231	Mr & Mrs T Smith	£10	No 258	Mr R Fox
£5	No 238	Mrs A Payne	£5	No 80	Mrs P Williamson

The subscription envelopes for the new year, which begins 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019, are now available. The membership of the 150 Club has declined in the last 12 months – a number of our supporters have sadly passed away and we need new members just to maintain the *status quo*. We have a number of new parishioners, and it would be nice if everyone were to join. If you are not a member of the 150 Club, now, at the start of the new year, 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 simply deposit it in the collection plate at Mass or pop it through the presbytery letter box.

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## **Diocesan Youth Service – The Ignite Team**

If you are leaving school or university soon, in between jobs or would like to do something 'different', then the Diocesan Youth Service is looking for people age 18-30 to join the Ignite Team, sharing the Gospel Message with young people in a way they can relate to. These are full-time positions, ideal as a gap year activity, with food, accommodation and a monthly allowance provided. For more information visit the Diocesan web site [www.rcdea.org.uk/youth](http://www.rcdea.org.uk/youth).

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## **Catholic East Anglia**

The March edition of the Diocesan newspaper, Catholic East Anglia, is available in the narthex. This publication is free of charge – please do take one. It can also be down loaded or read on-line by following the link on the parish web site.

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## **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.

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## **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, Elaine Carter, Yvonne Metcalfe, Robert Mullan, Anna Nelli and Mary O'Reilly.

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## **Our Own Dear Departed**

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Jean Keenan, Margaret Stobo, Patricia Porteous, Win Grant, Lilliana Zagni, Ruby Stendera, Patrick O'Donovan, Joseph Barran, Alan Hobbs, Wilfred Murray, Patrick Kearney, Pamela Spencer, Edward (Ted) Razzell and Antonio Casparelli 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.*

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## Readings for the Second Sunday in Lent – Year C: 17<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

### Entrance Antiphon:

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

### Collect:

O God, who have commanded us to listen to your beloved Son, be pleased, we pray, to nourish us inwardly by your word, that, with spiritual sight made pure, we may rejoice to behold your 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: Gen 15:5-12, 17-18

*God enters into a covenant with Abraham, the man of faith.*

Taking Abram outside the Lord said, "Look up to heaven and count the stars if you can. Such will be your descendants" he told him. Abram put his faith in the Lord, who counted this as making him justified. "I am the Lord" he said to him "who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans to make you heir to this land." "My Lord, the Lord", Abram replied, "how am I to know that I shall inherit it?" He said to him, "Get me a three-year-old heifer, a three year-old goat, a three year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon." He brought all these, cut them in half and put half on one side and half facing it on the other; but the birds he did not cut in half. Birds of prey came down on the carcasses but Abram drove them off. Now as the sun was setting, Abram fell into a deep sleep, and terror seized him. When the sun had set and darkness had fallen, there appeared a smoking furnace and a firebrand that went between the halves. That day the Lord made a covenant with Abram in these terms: "To your descendants I give this land, from the wadi of Egypt to the Great River."

### Responsorial Psalm:

Ps 26:1,7-9,13-14 The Lord is my light and my help.

### Second Reading: Phil. 3:17-4:1

*Christ will transfigure our bodies into copies of his glorious body.*

My brothers, be united in following my rule of life. Take as your models everybody who is already doing this and study them as you used to study us. I have told you often, and I repeat it today with tears, there are many who are behaving as the enemies of the cross of Christ. They are destined to be lost. They make foods into their god and they are proudest of something they ought to think shameful; the things they think important are earthly things. For us, our homeland is in heaven, and from heaven comes the saviour we are waiting for, the Lord Jesus Christ, and he will transfigure these wretched bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body. He will do that by the same power with which he can subdue the whole universe. So then my brothers and dear friends, do not give way but remain faithful in the Lord. I miss you very much, dear friends; you are my joy and my crown.

### Gospel Acclamation:

Glory and praise to you O Christ! From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: "This is my Son, the beloved. Listen to him." Glory and praise to you O Christ!

### Gospel:

Luke 9:28-36 As *Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed.*

Jesus took with him Peter and John and James and went up the mountain to pray. As he prayed, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became brilliant as lightning. Suddenly there were two men there talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his passing which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem. Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but they kept awake and saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus, "Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." – he did not know what he was saying. As he spoke, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and a voice came from the cloud saying, "This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him." And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. The disciples kept silence and, at that time, told no one what they had seen.

### Prayer over the Offerings:

May this sacrifice, O Lord, we pray, cleanse us of our faults and sanctify your faithful in body and mind for the celebration of the paschal festivities. Through Christ our Lord.

### Communion Antiphon:

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased: listen to him.

### Prayer after Communion:

As we receive these glorious mysteries, we make thanksgiving to you, O Lord, for allowing us while still on earth to be partakers even now of the things of heaven. Through Christ Our Lord.