

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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

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Parish Priest: Fr Mathew George

✉ parishpriest@marymagdalens.org

Parish school: St Pancras Catholic Primary School, Stratford Road, Ipswich, IP1 6EF

Head of School: Miss Lucille Southgate ☎ 01473 742074

Catholic chaplain to the Ipswich hospitals: Fr Mathias Odigbo (07951 066607)

*Please contact Fr Mathias, Deacon Clive Brooks (01206 396319) or let Fr Mathew know if you, or any member of your family, are going into hospital. Please be aware that for reasons of patient confidentiality, the current practice in the NHS is **NOT** to inform the chaplains of any Catholics that are admitted to hospital. So unless you or your relatives inform the chaplains of your hospital stay, you will not be visited by a priest or any other member of the chaplaincy team.*

20th Sunday in Ordinary Time: 18th August 2019

Sunday Readings: Year C

Weekday Readings Year I: 20th Week of the Year

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

Services This Week

Sunday 18 th August 19 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00 am	Holy Mass – Fryatt family
	10:00 am*	Holy Mass – T M Joseph RIP
	Hymns for 10:00 Mass	
		Entrance: - All Ye Who Seek a Comfort Sure (32)
		Offertory: - Lead Us Heavenly Father (298)
		Communion: - The Church's One Foundation (518)
		Recession: - Guide Me O Thou Great Redeemer (190)
	6:00 pm	Holy Mass – People of the Parish
Monday 19 th August	Feria	
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – Janes Family
Tuesday 20 th August	St Bernard	
	No MASS	Holy Mass - Vieira family
Wednesday 21 st August	St Pius X	
	9:30 am	Holy Mass - Vieira family
Thursday 22 nd August	The Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
	9:30 am	Holy Mass - Agnes Gorman & Family RIP
Friday 23 rd August	Feria	
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – Michael Darwin RIP
Saturday 24 th August	St Bartholomew – Apostle - Feast	
	9:30 am	Holy Mass - Open Intention
Sunday 25 th	8:00 am	Holy Mass
August 21 st	10:00 am*	Holy Mass
Sunday in Ordinary Time	6:00 pm	Holy Mass – People of the parish

* Children's Liturgy will be celebrated during the 10:00 Mass on Sundays.

Tea and coffee will be available in the Guild Room after 10:00 Mass – please do come and join us!

Today's Gospel

Having reminded the apostles and the crowd that facing the coming judgment takes patience, Jesus now goes on to speak of how difficult it will be to wait. He tells them that he has come to set the earth on fire. Recall that in chapter 3 of Luke's Gospel, John the Baptist tells the crowd that he is baptizing with water, but someone mightier is coming who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. The fire Jesus speaks of here is the distress caused by the coming judgment. It is also the fire of the Spirit that Luke, in the Acts of the Apostles, will describe descending on the disciples at Pentecost. That fire will strengthen them to go out to the whole world to preach the good news of Jesus' resurrection.

Jesus will be the first to experience the distress of the coming judgment. His baptism will be the conflict into which he will be immersed as he approaches Jerusalem and his death on the cross. His followers will not be spared that distress. The angels at Jesus' birth proclaimed peace on earth, and Simeon, holding the baby Jesus in the Temple, said to God: "Master, now you may let your servant go in peace." Here Jesus tells the crowd not to think he has come to bring peace; he has come to bring division. Simeon said as much when he turned to Mary and said that the child was destined for the rise and fall of many and to be a sign that will be contradicted. Peace is the ultimate end of the Kingdom of God, but peace has a price. Jesus is warning the crowd that wherever the Word of God is heard and acted upon, division occurs. Fathers will be divided against sons and mothers against daughters.

The coming judgment forces us to look at the implications of our commitments. As Jesus warned in last Sunday's Gospel, a commitment of faith requires us to change our attitude toward material possessions and to take even more seriously our moral responsibilities. Here he reminds the crowd that those who commit to him will find it affects the way they relate to friends and family members. The angel who announced the birth of John the Baptist to Zechariah said John would go before Jesus to turn the hearts of fathers toward their children. But a commitment to Jesus forces us to change the way we live our lives, and this can put strains on relationships.

We don't expect to hear such difficult words from Jesus in the Gospel but it is good to be reminded once in a while that the decision to do the right thing, the good thing, is not always easy and without conflict. Jesus himself did not make easy decisions and avoid conflict. In today's reading, he reminds his followers to be prepared for difficult decisions and conflict as well.

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, Jo Kelly, Molly Mc Garry, Yvonne Metcalfe, Robert Mullan, Anna Nelli, Mary O'Reilly and Pippa Williamson.

Offertory Collections

The offertory collection on Sunday 11th August was £411.80. Thank you.

Our Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for William Greeson, Michael Whitbread, John Brant, Guilio Fella and Claude Turner, 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.

Confirmation Programme 2020

Registration has now begun for those wishing to join the confirmation programme and receive the sacrament of Confirmation next year. There's a set of registration forms on the table in the narthex – please take one and return the completed form to Fr Mathew or Martin Pakes. The course will start in October.

There are also registration forms in the narthex for the RCIA (Right of Christian Initiation of Adults) programme. This programme is for adults who wish to be received into the Catholic church, and will prepare adult converts for reception into the church at Easter 2020. This course will be run on demand, so please ensure if that if you feel God might be calling you in this way, you complete and return a registration form as soon as possible so that the necessary practical arrangements can be made. You will then have the opportunity to learn more about becoming a Catholic and potentially be received into the church next year.

First Holy Communion Programme 2020

Application forms for enrolment in the First Holy Communion programme for those who will make their First Holy Communion in May next year, are available in the narthex. To enrol your child, please take a form, and return it completed by Sunday 6th October. The form can also be downloaded from the parish web site. The programme kick-off meeting for parents will take place on Sunday 13th October at 4:00 pm in the Guild Room.

Pilgrimage to Knock – October 2019

A fully escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine in Ireland will take place on 7th October 2019. The cost is £599.00 per person on a shared room basis. Price includes flight with 10kg hand luggage, from Birmingham or Stansted, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with full board. All entertainment/guided tours included. WCHR rooms on request. Single room supp £100. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com. Knock Pilgrimages is a member of the Travel Trust Association and is fully protected by ATOL T7613. More information can be found on the poster in the narthex.

Catholic Voices Training in East Anglia

A team from the well-known Catholic Voices project are set to run a free training day in Wymondham on Saturday September 7th to help Catholics from across the Diocese of East Anglia talk about their faith in public situations. Called *How to Defend Your Faith in the Public Square*, CEO Brendan Thompson will lead a team from Catholic Voices in running the event which is aimed at young adults, parish communications champions and New Evangelisation reps in particular, but is open to all. Organised jointly by the diocesan communications department, New Evangelisation team and Ignite Youth Team, the workshop aims to get participants to see chances to share their faith in public as an opportunity and to share some tips and techniques in preparing them to do so. It will include practical skills in "defending your faith without raising your voice" and how to talk about controversial topics with charity and clarity. New Evangelisation Co-ordinator, Rebecca Bretherton, said: "We know Jesus Christ asks each one of us to tell people about God's Good News. This training will give some practical ideas about how to really do so. The training day will run from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm and will be held at the parish hall of Our Lady & St Thomas of Canterbury, 1 Norwich Road, Wymondham, NR18 0QE. The venue is a short ten-minute walk from Wymondham train station and there is plenty of free parking at the church. Places are free but are limited and participants are asked to book a free place in advance with Rebecca Bretherton via email at evangelisation@rcdea.org.uk Drinks will be available but you are asked to bring your own lunch. Further information can be found on the web site www.catholicvoices.org.uk

Readers & Offertory Procession

Please note there is an updated rota for readers at Mass and those bringing up the offertory gifts. This information is on the notice board and is available each week on the Mass Times page of the parish web site. A copy of the rota can be also downloaded from the parish web site.

Ipswich Film Society

Are you interested in the best of the world cinemas as well as joining other members of our community for a friendly regular evening out? There some brochures with application forms on the table in the Narthex. For more information please speak to Ernest Thomas or Fr. Mathew.

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Readings for 20th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C: 18th August, 2019

Entrance Antiphon:

Turn your eyes, O God, our shield; and look on the face of your anointed one; one day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

Collect:

O God, who have prepared for those who love you good things which no eye can see, fill our hearts, we pray, with the warmth of your love, so that, loving you in all things and above all things, we may attain your promise, which surpass every human desire. 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. 38:4-6,8-10 *You have borne me to be a man of dissention for all the land.*

The king's leading men spoke to the king. "Let Jeremiah be put to death; he is unquestionably disheartening the remaining soldiers in the city, and all the people too by talking like this. The fellow does not have the welfare of this people at heart so much as its ruin." "He is in your hands as you know", King Zedekiah answered, "for the king is powerless against you." So they took Jeremiah and threw him into the well of Prince Malchiah in the Court of the Guard, letting him down with ropes. There was no water in the well, only mud, and into the mud Jeremiah sank. Ebed-melech came out from the palace and spoke to the king. "My lord king", he said, "these men have done a wicked thing by treating the prophet Jeremiah like this: they have thrown him into the well where he will die." At this the king gave Ebed-melech the Cushite the following order: "Take three men with you from here and pull the prophet Jeremiah out of the well before he dies."

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 39:2-4,18

Lord, come to my aid!

Second Reading: Heb 12:1-4 *We shall keep running steadily in the race we have started.*

With so many witnesses in a great cloud on every side of us, we too, then, should throw off everything that hinders us, especially the sin that clings so easily, and keep running steadily in the race we have started. Let us not lose sight of Jesus, who leads us in our faith and brings it to perfection: for the sake of the joy which was still in the future, he endured the cross, disregarding the shameful of it, and from now on has taken his place at the right of God's throne. Think of the way he stood such opposition from sinners and then you will not give up for want of courage. In the fight against sin, you have not yet had to keep fighting to the point of death.

Gospel Acclamation:

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

Gospel: Luke 12:49-53 *I am not here to bring peace, but rather division.*

Jesus said to his disciples: "I have come to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were blazing already! There is a baptism I must still receive, and how great is my distress till it is over! Do you suppose that I am here to bring peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. For from now on a household of five will be divided: three against two and two against three; the father divided against the son, son against father, mother against daughter, daughter against mother, mother-in-law against daughter-in-law, daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

Prayer over the Offerings:

Receive our oblation, O Lord, by which is brought about a glorious exchange, that, by offering what you have given, we may merit to receive your very self. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon:

With the Lord there is mercy; in him is plentiful redemption.

Prayer after Communion:

Made partakers of Christ through these Sacraments, we humbly implore your mercy, O Lord, that, conformed to his image on earth, we may merit also to be his coheirs in heaven. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.