

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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Parish Priest: Fr Mathew George

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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.*

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time: 15th September 2019

Sunday Readings: Year C

Weekday Readings Year I: 24th Week of the Year

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

Services This Week

	8:00 am	Holy Mass
	10:00 am*	Holy Mass – Raymond George James
Sunday 15 th September		Hymns for 10:00 Mass
24 th Sunday in Ordinary Time		Entrance: - Praise My Soul The King of Heaven (449)
		Offertory: - In Bead We Bring You (243)
		Communion: - Amazing Grace (36)
		Recession: - Tell Out My Soul (514)
	6:00 pm	Holy Mass – People of the Parish
Monday 16 th September		Saints Cornelius and Cyprian
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – James and Margaret Cleary RIP
Tuesday 17 th September		Feria
		No Mass Today
Wednesday 18 th September		Feria
		No Mass Today
Thursday 19 th September		Feria
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – Janes family
Friday 20 th September		Saints Andrew Kim Tae-Gon, Paul Chong Ha-sang and companions
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – Michael Hennessy
Saturday 21 st September		St Mathew, Apostle and Evangelist
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – Vieira family
Sunday 22 nd September	8:00 am	Holy Mass
25 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	10:00 am*	Holy Mass
	6:00 pm	Holy Mass – People of the parish

* Children's Liturgy is held during the 10:00 Mass each Sunday.

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

Today's Gospel

In chapter 15 of Luke's Gospel, Jesus tells three parables about losing, finding, and rejoicing. The outcasts of society, the taxpayers, and the sinners approach Jesus eager to hear what he has to say. The Pharisees and scribes, still suspicious of Jesus, complain about him associating with sinners. So he tells them these three parables. In the first story, the parable of The Lost Sheep, the shepherd leaves behind the 99 sheep to search for the 1 lost sheep. When he finds it, the shepherd rejoices with friends and neighbours. In the same way, God rejoices more over 1 sinner who repents - like the outcasts who have come to hear Jesus - than over the 99 righteous like the Pharisees and scribes. The second story, about a poor woman who will not stop searching until she finds her lost coin, makes the same point. Why are the Pharisees complaining? They should rejoice when the lost are found.

Finally we come to what is probably the most memorable parable in the Gospels, the story we know as The Prodigal Son. Just as in The Lost Sheep and The Lost Coin, this story is really about the seeker. The loving father is at the centre of this parable. Even though his son runs off with his father's inheritance and squanders the money, the father waits for him, hoping for his return. Upon his son's return, the father, "full of compassion," runs out to embrace and forgive him before the son can utter one word of repentance. At this point the rejoicing begins.

The parable does not end there. Rather, it makes one more point about the elder son's reaction. This son who never left, just like the Pharisees and scribes who feel they are righteous, refuses to enter his father's house to join in the rejoicing. He has served his father. He has obeyed him. Perhaps it was not out of love. The father's response teaches us that God's care and compassion extend to the righteous and sinner alike. When we are lost, God doesn't wait for our return, he actively seeks us out. And when the lost are found, how could we not celebrate and rejoice?

Home Mission Sunday

Today is Home Mission Sunday. Each year the Church in England and Wales celebrates Home Mission Sunday as an opportunity to inspire us all to share the Good News we have received. Today we are encouraged to take to heart the invitation to 'Rejoice with me'. This joyful invitation comes from two of the three people mentioned in the Gospel of the day. Through this short phrase, we are invited to experience the joy of finding something, or someone, that had been lost. How wonderful it would be if Catholic parishes responded to this invitation by celebrating with the people who have encountered Christ and come home to their parish community. There will be a retiring collection taken after all Masses today to support the Bishops' work of evangelisation.

School Mass

During this school term, the Mass at St. Pancras School on Wednesdays will be changed from 9:30 am to 9.15 am. If we do not have a school mass on a particular Wednesday, we will have a mass in church at 9.30 am instead. In short, all the weekday masses in the church will continue to be at 9.30 am as before. The change will affect only those parents and parishioners who attend the school mass.

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.

Our Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for James Cleary, Maria Wojciechowski, Mike Hennessy, Sarah Quinn, James Wright and Bertie Armes 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.

Ipswich Film Society

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

Blessed John Henry Newman

Blessed John Henry Newman is to be canonised as a Saint of the Church at St Peter's, Rome, on Sunday 13th October 2019. More information about the canonisation ceremony can be found at: www.newmancanonisation.com.

Offertory Collections

The offertory collection on Sunday 8th September was £450.76. The retiring collection for the Catholic Education Service came to £152.65. Thank you.

Eucharistic Ministers

Ministers please note there is a new rota for the coming month pinned to the notice board in the narthex. A copy can also be downloaded from the parish web site. Please note that at 10:00 Mass we are reverting, with immediate effect, to the previous practice of employing only two ministers, to administer the Precious Blood. The celebrant alone will administer the Body of Christ.

Catholic Women's League

The next meeting of the Ipswich Catholic Women's League will be held in St Pancras church hall on Tuesday 17th September at 2.30 pm. This will be an open meeting during which Nicky Reynolds will give a talk on the role of the Land Army Girls of World War II, so if anyone is interested please do come along.

World Day of Migrants and Refugees-29th September 2019

The 2019 World Day of Migrants and Refugees (WDMR) will be celebrated on Sunday 29th September and the theme this year is "It is not just about migrants". With this theme, Pope Francis wants to stimulate our prayer and action by reflecting on ways in which migrants, refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and victims of human trafficking, are part a wider concern for all marginalised people.

Extraordinary Month of Mission

The Holy Father has announced an Extraordinary Month of Mission (EMM) this October, with "the aim of fostering an increased awareness of the Missio Ad Gentes and taking up again with renewed fervour the missionary transformation of the Church's life and pastoral activity, and to help their communities grow in missionary and evangelising zeal". (Pope Francis, WMS 2017).

For more information and to download a guide for the Month of Mission 2019, visit the Missio website: <https://missio.org.uk/emm/>

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.

Readings for 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C: 15th September, 2019

Entrance Antiphon: Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

Collect: Look upon us, O God, Creator and ruler of all things, and, that we may feel the working of your mercy, grant that we may serve you with all our 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: Ex. 32:7-11, 13-14 *The Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.*

The Lord spoke to Moses, "Go down now, because your people whom you brought out of Egypt have apostatised. They have been quick to leave the way I marked for them; they have made themselves a calf of molten metal and have worshipped it and offered it sacrifice. *Here is your God, Israel!* they have cried *who brought you up from the land of Egypt!*" The Lord then said to Moses, "I can see how headstrong these people are! Leave me, now, my wrath shall blaze out against them and devour them; of you, however, I will make a great nation." But Moses pleaded with the Lord his God. "Lord", he said, "why should your wrath blaze out against this people of yours whom you brought out of Egypt with arm outstretched and mighty hand? Remember Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, your servants to whom by your own self you swore and made this promise: I will make your offspring as many as the stars of heaven, and it shall be their heritage for ever." So the Lord relented and did not bring on his people the disaster he had threatened.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 50:3-4, 12-13, 17, 19 I will leave this place for ever and go to my father.

Second Reading: Tim. 1:12-17 *Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.*

I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, and who judged me faithful enough to call me into his service even though I used to be a blasphemer and did all I could to injure and discredit the faith. Mercy, however, was shown to me, because until I became a believer I had

been acting out of ignorance; and the grace of the Lord filled me with faith and with the love that is in Christ Jesus. Here is a saying that you can rely on and nobody should doubt: that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. I myself am the greatest of them; and if mercy has been shown to me, it is because Jesus Christ meant to make me the greatest evidence of his inexhaustible patience for all the other people who would later have to trust in him to come to eternal life. To the eternal King, the undying, invisible and only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 1:1-32 *There will be rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner.*

**** Shorter form read between ****

** The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. "This man" they said "welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he spoke this parable to them: "What man among you with a hundred sheep, losing one, would not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the missing one till he found it? And when he found it, would he not joyfully take it on his shoulders and then, when he got home, call together his friends and neighbours? *Rejoice with me*, he would say *I have found the sheep that was lost*. In the same way I tell you, there will be more rejoicing in heaven over one repentant sinner than over ninety nine virtuous men who have no need of repentance. Or again, what woman with ten drachmas would not, if she lost one, light a lamp and sweep out the house and search thoroughly until she found it? And then, when she had found it, call together her friends and neighbours? *Rejoice with me*, she would say *I have found the drachma I lost*. In the same way I tell you, there is rejoicing among the angels of God over one repentant sinner."** He also said, "A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, *Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me*. So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery. When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, *How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here I am dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants*. So he left the place and went back to his father. While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, *Father I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son*. But the father said to his servants, *Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found*. And they began to celebrate. Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling out one of the servants he asked what it was all about. *Your brother has come replied the servant and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound*. He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, *Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But, for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property – he and his women – you kill the calf we had been fattening*. The father said, *My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it was only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found*."

Prayer over the Offerings: Look with favour on our supplications, O Lord, and in your kindness accept these, your servants' offerings, that what each has offered to the honour of your name may serve the salvation of all. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

Prayer after Communion: May the working of this heavenly gift, O Lord, we pray, take possession of our minds and bodies, so that its effects, and not our own desires, may always prevail in us. Through Christ Our Lord.