

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:

Please contact 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.

33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time: 17th November 2019

Sunday Readings: Year C

Weekday Readings Year I: 33rd Week of the Year

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

Services This Week

Sunday 17 th November 33 rd Sunday in Ordinary Time <i>World Day of the Poor</i>	8:00 am	Holy Mass – Vieira family
	10:00 am*	Holy Mass - Deceased members of the Andrews family
		Hymns for 10:00 Mass
		Entrance: - At the Name of Jesus (50)
		Offertory: - God Whose Almighty Word (words overleaf)
		Communion:- Lord Jesus Christ (326)
		Recession: - As I Kneel Before You (45)
	6:00 pm	Holy Mass – People of the Parish
Monday 18 th November	Feria	
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – Janes family
Tuesday 19 th November	Feria	
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – Vieira family
Wednesday 20 th November	St Edmund - Mass in St Pancras school	
	9:15 am	Holy Mass – Pennamma George
Thursday 21 st November	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary	
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – Vieira family
Friday 22 nd November	St Cecilia	
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – Angela Walmsley-Cotham RIP
Saturday 23 rd November	Feria	
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – Deceased members of the Cleary family
Sunday 24 th November	8:00 am	Holy Mass - K.J Mathew & Mariakutty Mathew
Christ the King	10:00 am*	Holy Mass – Deceased members of the Long family
	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!

Offertory – God Whose Almighty Word

God, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and, where the Gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light!

Saviour who came to bring
On your redeeming wing
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the in-ly blind,
Ah! Now to all mankind,
let there be light!

Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving holy dove,
speed forth thy flight!
Move on the waters' face
bearing the lamb of grace,
and in earth's darkest place,
let there be light!

Blessèd and Holy Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, love, might;
boundless as ocean tide,
rolling in fullest pride,
through the world far and wide,
let there be light!

Today's Gospel

Today's Gospel comes at the end of Jesus' teaching in Jerusalem, just prior to the events that will lead to his crucifixion. His warnings and predictions are ominous but can be read in many ways. To those who first heard Luke's Gospel, those may have been words of encouragement. The destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem by the Romans was history (70 AD); Luke's Gospel, Catholic scholars propose, was written between 80 and 90 AD. His audience was probably Gentile Christians. Luke here tries to interpret the fall of Jerusalem for them and to locate it in God's plans for humankind but at the same time, Luke is suggesting to his audience that there will be a considerable elapse of time before Jesus' final coming. His listeners have likely seen much upheaval and are anxious to know if these are the signs of Jesus' coming. Luke is urging greater patience.

In the second part of today's Gospel, Jesus warns that his followers will face persecution for their beliefs. Luke presents persecution as an opportunity for the followers of Jesus for "It will lead to your giving testimony" (Luke 21:13). In persecution God's wisdom and power will be shown in the example of followers of Jesus. Perseverance in the face of persecution will lead to their salvation. Here Jesus is assuring his followers that God is present to all believers, even in times of trouble. Ultimately, Jesus will witness to this with his own death. As disciples of Jesus, we try to follow his example, trusting in God's mercy and protection, even when we are facing difficulties.

World Day of the Poor - *'The hope of the poor shall not perish for ever'*

Today is World Day of the Poor. In his message for the third World Day of the Poor, Pope Francis reminds us that "the poor are not numbers, but people", to be assisted, accompanied, protected, defended and saved. He recalled that this is not possible without the humility of listening, the charism of the whole, the courage of renunciation. He reminded us that to "follow the way of charity, of humility and of listening means lending an ear to the little ones", because God reveals himself through them. And he asked us not to look down on anyone from above. "You can only look down at a person from above," he insisted, "in order to help them get up". During his audience with delegates of the Caritas Internationalis General Assembly on 27th May 2019, the Pope called for serious action in this regard. He urged us to live our mission with a style of poverty, gratuitousness and humility. He insisted that we cannot live charity without having interpersonal relationships with the poor: living with and for the poor. He denounced any hypocritical and deceptive charity that merely gives alms, and acts as if to salve our worried conscience. For the Pope, charity is not to be equated with philanthropic effectiveness, planning efficiency or even an overstated and agitated organisation. He invited us to cultivate a personal encounter with Christ, in order to meet him in the poor (see Matt. 25). For further details & resources please use this link: www.csan.org.uk

November – The Month of Remembrance

The parish community as a whole will pray for the departed souls from our parish in the month of November. If you have anyone to be specially remembered, please write his or her name on a piece of paper and put it in the box on the altar. The box will remain on the altar for the whole month of November. There are also special envelopes in the Narthex to offer Masses for the dead.

The Feast of Christ the King

Next Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe, also called the feast of Christ the King, which concludes the Church's liturgical year. The year ends on a real high point and celebrates the Kingdom of God in all its richness before beginning the new liturgical year with the reflective and penitential season of Advent. The feast of Christ the King is also celebrated, in England and Wales, as National Youth Sunday, and represents an opportunity to explicitly recognise young people as a gift in the Church and affirm their contribution in the life of the local and universal Church. It also provides parishes with an opportunity to focus on the role of young people in the Sunday liturgy and in parish life. Most importantly, it is a chance to pray for and alongside young people. In support of the diocesan activities for our young people, there will be a retiring collection taken for the Diocesan Youth Service.

Offertory Collection

The offertory collection for Sunday 10th November was £389.17. Thank you.

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, Monica Ford, Fabiana Di Mascio, Ron Green, Jo Kelly, Molly Mc Garry, Yvonne Metcalfe, Robert Mullan, Anna Nelli, Mary O'Reilly, Annick Smith and Pippa Williamson.

Our Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Sibyl Reynolds, Geraldine Lofthouse, Eileen Wright and Raymond Hewitt 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.

Church Refurbishment Works

On Monday 26th November, our stone masons will be starting work to reinstate the refurbished font and lectern in the church. This work is likely to take 2-3 days, and whilst this work is in progress, weekday Mass will be held in the Guild Room. Following completion of this work, our flooring contractor will be starting work on Monday 2nd December to refurbish the church floor. To allow this work to proceed, the pews will need to be removed from church into temporary storage in the church hall and in the garage. **Here we need your help.** We need a working party on Sunday morning, 1st December, to start removing the pews at 11:00 am after the 10:00 Mass finishes. We will then need a further working party to reinstate the pews on Saturday 14th December, starting at 10:00 am. There is a list in the narthex – please sign up for one or even both of these dates so we know we will have sufficient labour available to allow this work to proceed on schedule.

From Monday 2nd to Friday 13th December, weekday Mass will be held in the Guild Room. The evening Mass on 1st December and all the Sunday Masses on 8th December will be in the parish Hall. The good news is that we will have the work completed and the church ready well before Christmas.

RCIA

There are still 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. One of the problems people who are coming into the church via the RCIA process often experience is not knowing people. They are unsure who to choose as a sponsor. It would be really great to have a group of people prepared to be something of a "Christian mentor" to one of our candidates, helping by answering questions, praying for and with them and providing an example for them. Showing that we are not perfect and sometimes things are tough is important too. Someone like this acting as a confirmation sponsor as well makes a really powerful statement. If you think you can help in this way or have questions, please talk to the RCIA catechist Martin Pakes.

Ipswich Catholic Women's League

The next meeting of the Ipswich CWL will be held on Tuesday 19th November at 2.30 pm in St Pancras church hall. At this meeting, Deacon Chris Brighten will give a presentation on the History of the Church in Kesgrave. This is an open meeting, so if you are interested do come along - you would be most welcome.

Readings for 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C: 17th November, 2019

Entrance Antiphon:

The Lord said: I think thoughts of peace and not of affliction. You will call upon me, and I will answer you, and I will lead back your captives from every place.

Collect:

Grant us, we pray, O Lord our God, the constant gladness of being devoted to you, for it is full and lasting happiness to serve with constancy the author of all that is good. 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: Mal. 3:19-20 *For you the sun of righteousness will shine out.*

The day is coming now, burning like a furnace, and all the arrogant and evil-doers will be like stubble. The day that is coming is going to burn them up, says the Lord of hosts, leaving them neither root nor stalk. But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness will shine out with healing in its rays.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 97:5-9
The Lord comes to rule the peoples with fairness.

Second Reading: 2Thes. :7-12 *Do not let anyone have food if he refuses to work.*

You know how you are supposed to imitate us: now we were not idle when we were with you, nor did we ever have our meals at anyone's table without paying for them; no, we worked night and day, slaving and straining, so as not to be a burden on any of you. This was not because we had no right to be, but in order to make ourselves an example for you to follow. We gave you a rule when we were with you: not to let anyone have any food if he refused to do any work. Now we hear that there are some of you who are living in idleness, doing no work themselves and interfering with everyone else's. In the Lord Jesus Christ, we order and call on people of this kind to go on quietly working and earning the food they eat.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! Stay awake praying at all times for the strength to stand with confidence before the Son of Man. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 21:5-19 *Your endurance will win you your lives.*

When some were talking about the Temple, remarking how it was adorned with fine stonework and votive offerings, Jesus said, "All these things you are staring at now – the time will come when not a single stone will be left on another: everything will be destroyed." And they put to him this question: "Master", they said "when will this happen, then, and what sign will there be that this is about to take place?" "Take care not to be deceived," he said "because many will come using my name and saying 'I am he' and, 'The time is near at hand.' Refuse to join them. And when you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened, for this is something that must happen but the end is not so soon." Then he said to them, "Nation will fight against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes and plagues and famines here and there; there will be fearful sights and great signs from heaven. But before all this happens, men will seize you and persecute you; they will hand you over to the synagogues and to imprisonment, and bring you before kings and governors because of my name – and that will be your opportunity to bear witness. Keep this carefully in mind: you are not to prepare your defence, because I myself will give you an eloquence and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by your parents and brothers, relations and friends; and some of you will be put to death. You will be hated by all men on account of my name, but not a hair of your head will be lost. Your endurance will win you your lives."

Prayer over the Offerings:

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that what we offer in the sight of your majesty may obtain for us the grace of being devoted to you and gain us the prize of everlasting happiness. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon:

To be near God is my happiness, to place my hope in God the Lord.

Prayer after Communion:

We have partaken of the gifts of this sacred mystery, humbly imploring, O Lord, that what your Son commanded us to do in memory of him may bring us growth in charity. Through Christ our Lord.