

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

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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.*

The Baptism of the Lord: 12th January, 2020

Sunday Readings: Year A

Weekday Readings: First Week of the Year

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

Services This Week

Sunday 12 th January The Baptism of the Lord	8:00 am	Holy Mass – Vieira family
	10:00 am*	Holy Mass – Richard Fox RIP
		Hymns for 10:00 Mass
		Entrance: - Lead us Heavenly Father Lead Us (298)
		Offertory: - On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry (418)
		Communion:- Soul of My Saviour (60)
		Recession: - Dear Lord and Father of Mankind (116)
	6:00 pm	Holy Mass – People of the Parish
Monday 13 th January	Feria	
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – Janes family
Tuesday 14 th January	Feria	
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – Vieira family
Wednesday 15 th January	Feria – at St Pancras School	
	9:15 am	Holy Mass – Holy Souls
Thursday 16 th January	St Fursey	
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – Holy Souls
Friday 17 th January	St Anthony	
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – Richard Fox RIP
Saturday 18 th January	Feria	
	9:30 am	Holy Mass – Vieira family
Sunday 19 th January	8:00 am	Holy Mass – Holy Souls
	10:00 am*	Holy Mass – Richard Fox RIP
2 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	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

The baptism of Jesus is attested to in the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. The account that appears in Matthew is the only one to include the dialogue between Jesus and John, however. Another difference in Matthew's presentation of this event is the announcement made by the voice from heaven, which says, "This is my beloved son" In Mark and Luke, this voice addresses itself to Jesus: "You are my beloved son"

The baptisms that John performs prefigure Christian Baptism. John baptises for repentance from sin. In accepting this baptism, Jesus unites himself with all sinners even though he is sinless. In Matthew's Gospel, John the Baptist distinguishes his practice of baptism from the baptism that the Messiah brings: "I am baptising you with water" He will baptise you with the holy Spirit and fire" (Matthew 3:11).

The baptism of Jesus is another manifestation of Christ, another epiphany. Christ's baptism inaugurates his mission. In an analogous way, our baptism inaugurates our mission as Christians. This Sunday marks a transition from the Christmas season to Ordinary Time. In a way, today's feast is the high point of the Christmas season. Before Jesus' birth, angels announced to Mary and to Joseph who Jesus would be. At his birth, the shepherds and the Magi recognise Jesus as the Messiah. At his baptism, Jesus accepts that he is God's son and inaugurates that mission.

The Baptism of the Lord

Closely connected with the salvific events of the Epiphany are the mysteries of the Baptism of the Lord. The season of Christmas comes to an end with this feast. Jesus' public life begins with his baptism by John in the Jordan and marks the inauguration of His mission as God's suffering Servant. He allows himself to be numbered among sinners; he is already 'the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world.' We are reminded of our rebirth as children of God in Baptism in which we rise from the waters of the sacramental font as children of God. For each of the baptised, the immersion in, or pouring of, water and the invocation of the Trinity is a real sharing in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Through Baptism the Christian is sacramentally assimilated to Jesus, who in his own baptism anticipates his death and resurrection. The Christian must enter into this mystery of humble self-abasement and repentance, go down into the water with Jesus in order to rise with him, be reborn of water and the Spirit so as to become the Father's beloved son in the Son and 'walk in newness of life'. Just as Jesus' public life begins with his baptism, we are invited to live our baptismal promises. As you dip your fingers into the font and make the sign of the cross each time you enter the church be reminded of your Baptism and the responsibility to be God's Witnesses.

Peace Sunday – 19th January

Every year *Pax Christi*, as the Catholic movement for peace in England and Wales, promotes the Holy Father's World Peace Day Message on the 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. It works across England & Wales with a small team of paid staff and volunteers to promote the gospel message of peace through outreach work, peace education in schools, presence on social media and in the press, and the production of well-respected resources. In the media, we see scenes of terrible human suffering as a result of violent conflict. Feeling overwhelmed and unable to help is understandable. Alongside heartfelt prayers, we are invited to be part of the many parishes who have a collection for the work of *Pax Christi* at this time as a way to make a practical contribution to building peace in our world and consequently there will be a retiring collection taken next Sunday to support the work of *Pax Christi*.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2020

The 2020 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity is a unique opportunity for mission and evangelisation. This year's Week is 18th - 25th January. Please visit www.ctbi.org.uk/weekofprayer for more information.

The Sick of the Parish

Please pray for those who are sick or housebound: John Anderson-Hurst, Margaret Arbon, William Barnes, Peggy Barron, Jason Beaumont, Michael Clarke, Deacon Peter Coates, Monica Ford, Josephine Kalagira, Fabiana Di Mascio, Ron Green, Jo Kelly, Molly Mc Garry, Yvonne Metcalfe, Robert Mullan, Anna Nelli, Mary O'Reilly, Annick Smith and Pippa Williamson.

Offertory Collection

The offertory collection for Sunday 22nd December was £380.79, for Sunday 29th December it was £390.77 and for Sunday 5th January it was £353.54. Thanks you.

St. Pancras Catholic Primary School

St Pancras Catholic Primary School Applications for Reception 2020/21 places should be submitted online to Suffolk County Council by midnight on 15th January 2020, that is Wednesday this week. St Pancras Catholic Primary School requires a completed Supplementary Information Form (SIF) which can be found on the school website. It is imperative that the Supplementary Information Form is received by the school before the deadline date of 15th January 2020. Thank you.

Our Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Margaret Howes, Kevin Finegan, Martha Bacon, Marie Thumiel, Marjorie Reddington, Mary Titterington, Ruth Frost, James Walsh, Henry Teuma, Eleanor Ivey and Michael Mongan whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Richard Fox RIP

Richard, a long standing member and supporter of the parish, sadly passed away on Friday 20th December after illness bravely borne. His requiem Mass will be on Tuesday 21st January at 11:00 am followed by interment at the Ipswich Millennium Cemetery. Please pray for the repose of Richard's soul and remember his widow Jo and the rest of his family in your prayers.

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.

Come and set your Faith Alight at GLOW

A retreat day run by the Diocesan Youth Team – Ignite - for those aged 13+ will be held at St. Mary's Church Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, on Saturday 18th January 2020 from 10.00am until 5.00 pm. The day will include talks, activities and workshops – a dynamic day of faith for those of secondary school age. More information can be found on the Diocesan web site where places can be booked, or follow the link on the parish web site. Note: those under 18 who wish to attend will be required to bring a completed parental consent form, also available on the Diocesan web site.

Sunday of the Word

With his *motu proprio Aperuit Illis* Pope Francis has established the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time (this year- Sunday 26th January) to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God. The Bishop has cancelled the planned diocesan celebration on that day at the Cathedral and has instructed the priests to instead have it in their own parishes. Our readers will be re-commissioned at all masses on that Sunday. For more information see: <http://catholicnews.org.uk/thegodwhospeaks>.

2020 is the 1,600 anniversary of Saint Jerome's death and the 10th of Verbum Domini - Benedict XVI's Apostolic Exhortation on 'The Word of the Lord'. The Bishops of England and Wales are marking these events by designating 2020 a year of focus on the Bible. There will be other events all through the year. We are planning a Lenten Bible study group. On Saturday 7th March Churches Together in Ipswich are organising an event Named "Enjoy the Bible: Sensing the Sacred through Art and Music at The St Nicholas Centre, 4 Cutler Street, Ipswich, IP1 1QU. It will be from 9.30 am to 1.00pm. The event is free, but registration is necessary. To register please go to www.enjoy-the-bible.eventbrite.co.uk or call 07780613754. More details on the poster in the narthex. Copies of *motu proprio Aperuit Illis* can be bought from CTS for £3.95. There are simple printed copies of the whole text in the narthex free for you to take home and read.

The Angelus and the Dowry of Mary

England has been known as the 'Dowry of Mary' for up to 1,000 years, going back to the time of St Edward the Confessor (1042-1066), in whose reign the replica of the Holy House of Nazareth was built. On the Feast of Corpus Christi, 1381, King Richard II dedicated England to Mary as 'her dowry.' He went on pilgrimage to Walsingham two years later, and so, for 1,000 years, Walsingham has been the great shrine of prayer and pilgrimage for the people of this country in honour of Our Lady. On 29th March, 2020, England will be rededicated as the 'Dowry of Mary.' This will happen in Westminster Cathedral, in Walsingham, in every Catholic Cathedral, in every parish and in as many homes as possible. Mgr John Armitage, the Rector of the National Shrine of Our Lady at Walsingham, has asked people to prepare spiritually for the rededication by praying the Angelus every day after our parish Masses. The Angelus is a most suitable prayer to prepare us spiritually for the rededication, recalling, as it does, 'some essential moments in the History of Salvation, reminding us of Mary's 'yes' to the Angel Gabriel, which undid Eve's 'no' in the Garden of Eden.' We profess our faith in 'The Word, who was made flesh, and dwelt amongst us,' and in his Death and Resurrection, the eternal destiny to which each of us is called in Christ.

The Baptism of the Lord: 12th January, 2020

Entrance Antiphon:

After the Lord was baptised, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered: This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

Collect:

Almighty ever-living God, who, when Christ had been baptised in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your beloved Son, grant that your children by adoption, reborn of water and the Holy Spirit, may always be well pleasing to you. 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: Isa. 42:1-4,6-7 *Here is my servant in whom my soul delights.*

Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one in whom my soul delights. I have endowed him with my spirit that he may bring true justice to the nations. He does not cry out or shout aloud, or make his voice heard in the streets. He does not break the crushed reed, nor quench the wavering flame. Faithfully he brings justice; he will neither waiver, nor be crushed until true justice is established on earth, for the islands are awaiting his law. I, the Lord, have called you to serve the cause of right; I have taken you by the hand and formed you; I have appointed you as covenant of the people and light to the nations, to open the eyes of the blind to free captives from prison, and those who live in darkness from the dungeon.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 28:1-4,9-10

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Second Reading: Acts 10:34-38 *God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit.*

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: "The truth I have now come to realise" he said "is that God does not have favourites, but that anybody of any nationality who fears God and does what is right is acceptable to him. It is true, God sent his word to the people of Israel, and it was to them that the good news of peace was brought by Jesus Christ – but Jesus Christ is Lord of all men. You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil."

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, Alleluia! The heavens opened and the Father's voice resounded: "This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him". Alleluia!

Gospel: Matt. 3:13-17 *As soon as Jesus was baptised he saw the Spirit of God coming down on him.*

Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to be baptised by John. John tried to dissuade him. "It is I who need baptism from you" he said "and yet you come to me!" But Jesus replied, "Leave it like this for the time being; it is fitting that we should, in this way, do all that righteousness demands." At this, John gave in to him. As soon as Jesus was baptised he came up from the water, and suddenly the heavens opened and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming down on him. And a voice spoke from heaven, "This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him."

Prayer over the Offerings:

Accept, O God, the offerings we have brought to honour the revealing of your beloved Son, so that the oblation of your faithful may be transformed into the sacrifice of him who willed in his compassion to wash away the sins of the world. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Communion Antiphon:

Behold the one of whom John said: I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.

Prayer after Communion:

Nourished with these sacred gifts, we humbly entreat your mercy, O Lord, that, faithfully listening to your Only Begotten Son, we may be your children in name and truth. Through Christ our Lord.