

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 Bineesh OCD ☎ 01473 684963
*Please contact Fr Bineesh 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 Presentation of the Lord: 2nd February, 2020

Sunday Readings: Year A

Weekday Readings: Year II, Fourth Week of the Year

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

Services This Week

Sunday 2 nd February The Presentation of the Lord	8:00 am	Holy Mass – Charles Vieira RIP
	10:00 am*	Holy Mass – Molly McGarry
		Hymns for 10:00 Mass
		Entrance: - Hail to the Lord's Anointed (198)
		Offertory: - Lord of all Hopefulness (329)
		Communion:- Sweet Sacrament Divine (507)
		Recession: - Holy Virgin by God's Decree (218)
	6:00 pm	Holy Mass – People of the Parish
Monday 3 rd February	Feria	No Mass Today
Tuesday 4 th February	Feria	No Mass Today
Wednesday 5 th February	St Agatha	No Mass Today
Thursday 6 th February	St Paul Miki	No Mass Today
Friday 7 th February	Feria	No Mass Today
Saturday 8 th February	Feria	No Mass Today
Sunday 9 th February	8:00 am	Holy Mass – The Smith family
	10:00 am*	Holy Mass – Richard Fox RIP
5 th 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

Today the Church celebrates the Feast of the Presentation of Jesus in the temple. The Presentation, which is celebrated 40 days after Christmas, is not mentioned in all the Gospels - only Luke tells the story, most likely because he writes for Gentile Christians who are not familiar with the Jewish rite of presentation and purification. In addition, the intent of Luke's Gospel is to show that God's promise to Israel, fulfilled in Jesus, extends to Gentiles.

Luke recognises Joseph and Mary as faithful Jews who bring Jesus to the Temple in Jerusalem. Here they present their first-born son to the Lord. Jesus is thus consecrated as required by the Law of Moses. Present in the temple at this time are Simeon and Anna. Both are awaiting the restoration of God's rule in Israel.

Simeon had been promised by the Holy Spirit that he would see Christ the Lord, the Messiah, before he died. The holy man immediately recognised the infant Jesus as the promised Saviour, a "light for revelation to the Gentiles, and glory for your people Israel." Anna also recognised Jesus as the fulfilment of the promise of redemption and spoke about him to all.

Weekday Masses

Please note there will be no weekday Masses this week as Fr Mathew is away on retreat. Whilst away, he will be unavailable either by mobile phone or by email. We wish him a safe journey and a fulfilling and spiritually rewarding trip.

Sunday of the Word

Congratulations to our readers who were re-commissioned last Sunday. An article about the re-commissioning of readers across the Diocese will feature in the next edition of the Diocesan newspaper, and is already available to read online – visit <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/diocese-honours-its-readers-in-special-ceremony/> or follow the link from the parish web site. We can arrange a further commissioning for those who missed last Sunday and for new readers, on another Sunday. As you now well know, 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. Today, our readers will be re-commissioned at the Mass they normally attend. 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, or you can download a copy from the parish web site.

Verona Fathers Mission Appeal

Next Sunday we welcome a visiting priest from the Verona Fathers. He will be making an appeal on behalf of the Comboni Missionary Order of Verona (the Verona Fathers) and has kindly agreed to say all three masses next Sunday in Fr Mathew's absence. Please make him welcome.

An International Day of Prayer and Awareness against Human Trafficking

The Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace and the International Union of Superiors General has designated February 8th as an annual day of prayer and awareness against human trafficking. February 8th is the feast day of St. Josephine Bakhita, who was kidnapped as a child and sold into slavery in Sudan and Italy. Once Josephine was freed, she became a Canossian nun and dedicated her life to sharing her testament of deliverance from slavery and comforting the poor and suffering. She was declared a Saint in 2000.

On February 8th, Catholics all over the world are encouraged to host or attend prayer services to create greater awareness about this phenomenon. Through prayer, we not only reflect on the experiences of those that have suffered through this affront to human dignity, but also comfort, strengthen, and help empower survivors. *"The feast of St Josephine Bakhita is a wonderful opportunity - every year - to remember and pray for those who have suffered from the dreadful experience of having been trafficked and an opportunity to recommit ourselves as the Church to*

doing everything we can to eliminate the scourge of human trafficking from the world in which we live". - Bishop Patrick Lynch.

Racial Justice Sunday

Next Sunday, 9th February, the Catholic Church in England and Wales celebrates Racial Justice Sunday. The theme of this year's Racial Justice Sunday is 'You are at the heart of the Church' and celebrates the contribution Travelling Communities make to the Church in England and Wales. Historically, Gypsies, Roma and Travellers have experienced discrimination both in the wider society and, sadly, within the Church. When he met with Gypsy, Roma and Traveller Communities, Pope Francis said: "The time has come to put an end to age-old prejudices, preconceptions and mutual mistrust that are so often at the base of discrimination, racism and xenophobia. No one must feel isolated, and no one is authorised to trample on the dignity and rights of others." The aim of this Racial Justice Sunday is to celebrate the contribution that the Travelling Communities make within our parishes and to encourage parishioners to be more welcoming towards fellow Catholics who come from a Traveller background.

CAFOD Volunteering

CAFOD is currently recruiting new school volunteers. Use your free time to inspire young people to build a fairer world: CAFOD is looking for volunteers who have a passion for, and experience of, working with young people. It needs people who have a commitment to CAFOD's aims and values and an interest in sharing its work in secondary schools through delivering assemblies or workshops. CAFOD will provide training and support, and expenses will be paid.

Volunteering assignments will be in local Catholic schools and you can either work on your own or as part of a team. None of CAFOD's work is possible without you, so join CAFOD and put your faith into action.

If you are interested please contact Jane Crone, Community Participation Officer for East Anglia Diocese by mail: jcrone@cafod.org.uk or by telephone, 01223 358552 or mobile 07779 804252.

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 26th January was £374.80. Thank you.

Our Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Annie Kerney, Cecil Everitt, Cecilia Moluneux, William Kearney, Andrew Flynn, Imelda Foulger, Jeannie Waller, Ivy Long, Darren Platts, Charles Vieira, John Metcalfe, Hilda Chaisty, Catherina Fella, George Youngman, Harold Mottram, Antonio Mellero, Delia Reilly, Sheila White, Michael McLea and Michael Parmenter 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.

Parish 150 Club

The January prize draw of the parish 150 Club was made last Sunday in the Guild Room after 10:00 Mass. Congratulations to the following winners:

Monthly prizes:	£15	No 22	Mrs V Croker	£10	No 36	Mrs T Rose
	£5	No 65	Mrs M von Fragstein	£5	No 252	Mrs M Ogden

The income from this money raising venture is down on previous years, and as we are heading towards the end of the year for the 150 Club, we are appealing to all parishioners who are not members of the 150 Club, to take that initial step to join. Application forms are available in the narthex or can be downloaded from the parish web site. Further information can be found on the parish web site or speak to Fr Mathew or Michael Long.

Catholic East Anglia

The February edition of Catholic East Anglia, the Diocesan newspaper, is now available in the narthex. Please take a copy – they are free of charge! This edition of the newspaper contains among other interesting items, an article on the induction of the new Carmelite order at St Mark's parish and also on the refurbishment of the St Joseph's college chapel. The newspaper can also be read on-line: simply visit the parish web site and click on the link in the news article.

The Presentation of the Lord: 2nd February, 2020

Entrance Antiphon: Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, O God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.

Collect: Almighty ever-living God, we humbly implore your majesty that, just as your Only Begotten Son was presented on this day in the Temple in the substance of our flesh, so, by your grace, we may be presented to you with minds made pure. 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. 3:1-4 *The Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his Temple.*

The Lord God says this: Look, I am going to send my messenger to prepare a way before me. And the Lord you are seeking will suddenly enter his Temple; and the angel of the covenant whom you are longing for, yes, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. Who will be able to resist the day of his coming? Who will remain standing when he appears? For he is like the refiner's fire and the fuller's alkali. He will take his seat as refiner and purifier; he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and then they will make the offering to the Lord as it should be made. The offering of Judah and Jerusalem will then be welcomed by the Lord as in former days, as in the years of old.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 23:7-10 Who is the king of glory? It is the Lord.

Second Reading: Heb 2:14-18 *It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers.*

Since all the children share the same blood and flesh, Jesus too shared equally in it, so that by his death he could take away all the power of the devil, who had power over death, and set free all those who had been held in slavery all their lives by the fear of death. For it was not the angels that he took to himself; he took to himself descent from Abraham. It was essential that he should in this way become completely like his brothers so that he could be a compassionate and trustworthy high priest of God's religion, able to atone for human sins. That is, because he has himself been through temptation he is able to help others who are tempted.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, Alleluia! The light to enlighten the Gentiles and give glory to Israel, your people. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40 *My eyes have seen your salvation.*

*** When the day came for them to be purified as laid down by the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus took him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord – observing what stands written in the Law of the Lord: Every first born male must be consecrated to the Lord – and also to offer in sacrifice, in accordance with what is said in the Law of the Lord, a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons. Now in Jerusalem there was a man named Simeon. He was an upright and devout man; he looked forward to Israel's comforting and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death until he had set eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Prompted by the Spirit he came to the Temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the Law required, he took him in his arms and blessed God; and he said: "Now, master, you can let your servant go in peace, just as you promised; because my eyes have seen the salvation which you have prepared for all nations to see, a light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of your people Israel. *** As the child's father and mother stood there wondering at the things that were being said about him, Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "You see this child: he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected – and a sword will pierce your own soul too so that the secret thoughts of many may be laid bare." There was a prophetess also, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was well on in years. Her days of girlhood over, she had been married for seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and never left the Temple, serving God night and day with fasting and prayer. She came by just at that moment and began to praise God; and she spoke of the child to all who looked forward to the deliverance of Jerusalem. When they had done everything the Law of the Lord required, they went back to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. Meanwhile the child grew to maturity, and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.

Short form: read between ***

Prayer over the Offerings: May the offering made with exultation by your church be pleasing to you, O Lord, we pray, for you willed that your Only Begotten Son be offered to you for the life of the world as the Lamb without blemish. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Communion Antiphon: My eyes have seen your salvation, which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.

Prayer after Communion: By these holy gifts which we have received, O Lord, bring your grace to perfection within us, and, as you fulfilled Simeon's expectation that he would not see death until he had been privileged to welcome the Christ, so may we, going forth to meet the Lord, obtain the gift of eternal life. Through Christ our Lord.