

# St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

468 Norwich Road, Ipswich, IP1 6JS

☎ 01473 741975

☎ 07939 920844

🌐 [www.marymagdalens.org](http://www.marymagdalens.org)

Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia 🌐 [www.rcdea.org.uk](http://www.rcdea.org.uk)

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**Parish Priest:** Fr Mathew George

✉ [parishpriest@marymagdalens.org](mailto: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.*

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***Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2020***

***Sunday Readings: Year A***

***Weekday Readings: Year II, 18<sup>th</sup> Week of the Year***

## ***Services This Week***

Sunday 2 <sup>nd</sup> August 18 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00 am 10:00 am 6:00 pm	Holy Mass – Fr Alfred Bull Foundation Mass Holy Mass – The People of the Parish Holy Mass
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> August	Feria 10:00 am	Holy Mass – Janes family
Tuesday 4 <sup>th</sup> August	St John Vianney 10:00 am	Holy Mass – Vieira family
Wednesday 5 <sup>th</sup> August	Feria 10:00 am	Holy Mass – Horne family foundation Mass
Thursday 6 <sup>th</sup> August	The Transfiguration of the Lord 10:00 am	Holy Mass Kavanagh family foundation Mass
Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> August	Feria 10:00 am	Holy Mass – Dr Newell Moss foundation Mass
Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> August	St Dominic 10:00 am	Holy Mass
Sunday 9 <sup>th</sup> August 19 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00 am 10:00 am 6:00 pm	Holy Mass – Cleary family foundation Mass Holy Mass – The People of the Parish Holy Mass

### **We are back – the New Normal**

Under the current restrictions there will be no Children's Liturgy group, no coffee after church and no hymns sung at 10:00 Mass. The bidding prayers will not be said, the homily will be kept short, the collection and offertory procession will be omitted and special arrangements for Holy Communion will apply.

### **We are committed to following the Government guidelines on social distancing.**

Alternate pews in the church and gallery have been taped off to prevent their use. Please ensure you maintain a 2 metre distance separation from each other whilst in church. Family groups from the same household may sit together. This inevitably means that the capacity of the church is reduced and should it be the case that the church is full, you might need to return at another time.

## Today's Gospel

Today we jump ahead in our reading of Matthew's Gospel to Chapter 14. Last week we heard Jesus conclude his discourse with the crowds about the Kingdom of Heaven. In Matthew's narrative, Jesus then leaves the crowds and returns to Nazareth, where he is rejected. Matthew then recounts the story of John the Baptist's arrest and execution at the hands of Herod. Today's Gospel reading begins at this point.

Upon hearing the news of the death of John the Baptist, Jesus seeks to withdraw, but the crowds follow him. Jesus reaches out to them in compassion and heals the sick. At the end of a long day, the disciples encourage Jesus to send the crowds away so that they might find provisions for themselves. Jesus again responds with compassion for the crowd and tells his disciples to provide food for the crowd. The disciples reply with a report of the meagreness of their own provisions - five loaves and two fish. The result is the very familiar miracle of the multiplication of the loaves and fish. Matthew's Gospel tells us that 5,000 men were fed, and this number does not even include the women and children.

Jesus' blessing brought abundance from the meagre provisions of the disciples. In this action, Jesus offers us a sign of the Kingdom of Heaven that he has been teaching about in the parables. A feast results from the smallest of portions - remember the mustard seed and the yeast. In this miracle we witness an example for Christian life and ministry. Even the smallest of offerings can produce abundant results when placed in the service of the Kingdom of Heaven.

We find the story of Jesus' multiplication of the loaves and the fish in each of the four Gospels. In the Gospels of Mark and Matthew, Jesus performs this same miracle on two separate occasions. The story of this miracle is an anticipation of the Eucharist in which we are fed by the abundant grace of God. The importance of the Eucharist has been a defining element of Christian life from the very beginning.

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## Calling All Artists

Work has been progressing in anticipation and readiness for the building works associated with the new parish rooms. The garage, which will need to be demolished as part of this work, has been tidied and emptied and in so doing, the crib figures that are placed on the canopy above the church entrance each year have been found to be looking a little sad with the ravages of time and weather. Is there a budding artist/restorer in the parish who would be prepared to carry out minor repairs and painting of these figures ready for Christmas? They are only viewed from a distance, so we are not looking for Michaelangelo! Please speak to Fr Mathew or use the contact form on the web site.

On the same topic, there are a few items that may be of interest to somebody. These include a small metal office/homework desk, a clothes hanging rail stand with cover, small wooden chest 30x12x12, fitness bike, 3 folding music stands, 5 small metpost bases and garden posts, an aluminium cooking tray and lots of useful bits of wood and Melamine shelving. These are free to a good home on a first come first served basis (any donations gratefully received!)

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## Coronavirus Restrictions

The government is easing lockdown rules and from today we are allowed to resume public services in our church. The guidelines from the Bishop's Conference allow us to celebrate public Masses but impose strict conditions and we ask you to respect these and observe social distancing. Hand sanitizer dispensers have been fitted either side of the inner entrance door of the church and the Holy Water stoups are empty. Fr Mathew will be personally setting up for all masses with no other person touching the sacred vessels or the bread and wine. Fr Mathew will use a lidded ciborium to contain the hosts for consecration to ensure these are not exposed to the air during Mass. Readers are asked to read from your own missals or from the newsletter to reduce the number of surfaces with which you come in contact. Everybody should take their newsletter home with them after Mass as these will be for single use only.

To minimise movement in church, there will be no collection taken during Mass, but more than ever the parish needs your financial support, so you are invited to place your offering in the closed box on the table at the back of church, either on entry or exit.

The Sunday obligation is currently dispensed and that will be case for the foreseeable future. This will help those parishioners who feel vulnerable coming to Mass on Sundays – they can instead come on weekdays when we have very few people for Mass and the church far less busy. The church is open each day from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon but you are also welcome to telephone to make an appointment for any other time and Fr Mathew will be happy to open the church for you.

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## 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 and Pippa Williamson.

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## Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Stephen Fox, Patricia Jennings, Bernie Johnson, May Murphy, Francis Jordan, Frederick Rutter, Ann Glaze, Jaqueline Lunzy, Noreen Lawrence and Guisepepe De Donna whose anniversaries occur at 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.*

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## Parish Development

Before Christmas we put up plans in the Guild room and on the church notice board describing a number of changes which were being considered to improve the front area of the church. The purpose of our original plan was to provide an accessible toilet and step free area for less able parishioners, and an easier route from the church to a children's liturgy area. We also wanted to provide a larger area than the current guild room for coffee and other social meetings, and a more welcoming weatherproof area for visitors waiting for baptism, funeral and other services.

The diocese and its architectural advisers did not approve development that substantially changed the frontage of the church and we were asked to consider development at the side of the church rather than at the front.

This we have done and the revised plan now shown on the church notice board has been developed, and received an encouraging early response from the Diocese.

Indicative costs have now been obtained and these have been encouraging, moving the project from 'hypothetical' to 'realistic'. Work is likely to start this autumn subject to planning permission, which has been applied for and is not felt likely to be an issue. Owing to the current restrictions on gatherings we are unable to hold a Parish meeting to discuss the proposals but your feedback and comments would welcome. Please either use the contact form on the web site and select "Finance" to send feedback to the Finance committee or contact Father Mathew, Chris Croker, Andrew Ford, Linis Dolby and Declan Moore directly.

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## Security Camera

A new security camera with audio capability has been installed in the narthex of the church. Please be aware that behaviours and conversations held in the narthex may be visible to, or overheard by, others via this camera

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## Parish 150 Club

The first three draws of the current year were delayed due to Coronavirus restrictions, but eventually the draw was made last Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July along with the July monthly draw itself. The draw was made in the Guild Room after 10:00 Mass, witnessed by parishioner Mrs R Shorten. Congratulations to all the following winners shown below:

### April Draw

First	£15	No 183	Mrs A M F Smith
Second	£10	No 188	Mrs T Rose
Third	£5	No 182	Mr N Fox
Fourth	£5	No 203	Mr & Mrs A Ford

### May Draw

First	£15	No 139	Mrs B Knox
Second	£10	No 46	Mr N Fox
Third	£5	No 136	Mrs V Davison
Fourth	£5	No 138	Mrs J Fox

### June Draw

First	£15	No 199	Mr & Mrs R Cork
Second	£10	No 238	Mrs A Payne
Third	£5	No 216	Miss S Fosker
Fourth	£5	No 180	Mr N Fox
Bonus	£20	No 143	Mrs D Casey

### July Draw

First	£15	No 194	Mr & Mrs M Mayston
Second	£10	No 250	Mrs C Long
Third	£5	No 240	Mr & Mrs M Mayston
Fourth	£5	No 129	Mr & Mrs A Ford

**18<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time: 2<sup>nd</sup> August, 2020**

**Entrance Antiphon:**

O God, come to my assistance; O Lord, make haste to help me! You are my rescuer, my help; O Lord, do not delay.

**Collect:**

Draw near to your servants, O Lord, and answer their prayers with unceasing kindness, that, for those who glory in you as their Creator and guide, you may restore what you have created and keep safe what you have restored. 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. 55:1-3** *Come and eat.*

Thus says the Lord: Oh, come to the water all you who are thirsty; though you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat, and, at no cost, wine and milk. Why spend money on what is not bread, your wages on what fails to satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and you will have good things to eat and rich food to enjoy. Pay attention, come to me; listen, and your soul will live. With you I will make an everlasting covenant out of the favours promised to David.

**Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 144:8-9,37-39**

*Response to the psalm is: You open wide your hand, O Lord, you grant our desires.*

The Lord is kind and full of compassion  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures.

You open wide your hand,  
Grant the desires of all who live.

The Lord is just in all his ways  
and loving in all his deeds.  
He is close to all who call him,  
call on him from their hearts.

The eyes of all creatures look to you  
and you give them their food in due time.

**Second Reading: Romans 8:35,37-39** *No created thing can come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ.*

Nothing can come between us and the love of Christ, even if we are troubled or worried, or being persecuted, or lacking food or clothes, or being threatened or even attacked. These are the trials through which we triumph, by the power of him who loved us. For I am certain of this: neither death nor life, no angel, no prince, nothing that exists, nothing still to come, not any power, or height or depth, nor any created thing, can ever come between us and the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia! Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens! Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matt. 14:13-21 *They all ate as much as they wanted.*

When Jesus received the news of John the Baptist's death he withdrew by boat to a lonely place where they could be by themselves. But the people heard of this and, leaving the towns, went after him on foot. So as he stepped ashore he saw a large crowd; and he took pity on them and healed their sick. When evening came, the disciples went to him and said, 'This is a lonely place, and the time has slipped by; so send the people away, and they can go to the villages to buy themselves some food.' Jesus replied, 'There is no need for them to go: give them something to eat yourselves.' But they answered 'All we have with us is five loaves and two fish.' 'Bring them here to me' he said. He gave orders that the people were to sit down on the grass; then he took the five loaves and the two fish, raised his eyes to heaven and said the blessing. And breaking the loaves handed them to his disciples who gave them to the crowds. They all ate as much as they wanted, and they collected the scraps remaining; twelve baskets full. Those who ate numbered about five thousand men, to say nothing of women and children.

**Prayer over the Offerings:**

Graciously sanctify these gifts, O Lord, we pray, and, accepting the oblation of this spiritual sacrifice, make of us an eternal offering to you. Through Christ Our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon:**

You have given us, O Lord, bread from heaven, endowed will all delights and sweetness in every taste.

**Prayer after Communion:** Accompany with constant protection, O Lord, those you renew with these heavenly gifts and, in your never-failing care for them, make them worthy of eternal redemption. Through Christ our Lord.