

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

468 Norwich Road, Ipswich, IP1 6JS

☎ 01473 741975

☎ 07939 920844

🌐 www.marymagdalens.org

Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia 🌐 www.rcddea.org.uk

📧 @marymagdalens



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.*

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time: 23rd August, 2020

Sunday Readings: Year A

Weekday Readings: Year II, 21st Week of the Year

Services This Week

Sunday 23 rd - 21 st	8:00 am	Holy Mass - June Burgess
Sunday in Ordinary Time	10:00 am	Holy Mass - Roger Mayhew RIP
	6:00 pm	Holy Mass - The People of the Parish
Monday 24 th		St Bartholomew No Mass today
Tuesday 25 th	Feria 10:00 am	Holy Mass – Vieira family
Wednesday 26 th	Feria 10:00 am	Holy Mass - Janes family
Thursday 27 th	St Monica 10:00 am	Holy Mass – Fr Mathew's intention
Friday 28 th	St Augustine 10:00 am	Holy Mass – Martin Curry RIP foundation Mass
Saturday 29 th	The Passion of St John the Baptist	No Mass today
Sunday 30 th – 22 nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00 am	Holy Mass – Kavanagh family foundation Mass
	10:00 am	Holy Mass – The People of the Parish
	6:00 pm	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, the sign of peace will not be exchanged 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 and remember that government regulations require that you wear a face covering 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

It is important to read today's Gospel and next week's Gospel as two parts of a single story. These readings are a turning point in Matthew's Gospel. This week we hear Jesus name Simon Peter as the rock upon which he will build his Church and next week we will hear Jesus call this same Simon Peter "Satan" when he reacts negatively to Jesus' prediction about his passion and death.

In today's Gospel, Jesus asks his disciples what people are saying about his identity. The disciples indicate that most people believe that Jesus is a prophet of Israel. Then Jesus asks his disciples who they believe that he is. Simon Peter answers, identifying Jesus as the Messiah, the Son of God.

Jesus commends Simon Peter for this profession of faith, indicating that this insight has come from God. Because of Simon Peter's response, Jesus calls him the "rock" upon which Jesus will build the Church. This is a word play on the name Peter, which is the Greek word for "rock." Peter is then given special authority by Jesus, a symbolic key to the Kingdom of Heaven. Peter will play an important role in the early Christian community as a spokesperson and a leader.

In today's Gospel, Peter's recognition of Jesus' identity is credited to a revelation by God. This will contrast sharply with Jesus' rebuke of Peter in next week's Gospel. When Peter rejects Jesus' prediction of his passion and death, Peter is said to no longer be thinking as God does but as humans do.

The use of the term *church* in today's Gospel is one of only three such occurrences in Matthew's Gospel. Peter in this Gospel is being credited as the foundation for the Church, a privilege granted to him because of his recognition of Jesus' identity. The Church continues to be grounded in the faith that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Masses on 24th & 29th August

Please note that there will be no mass on Monday 24th August as Fr Mathew has an early appointment elsewhere. There will be no mass on Saturday 29th as there will be a Nuptial Mass on that day 11.00 am. It is regrettable that the 10:00 mass has to be cancelled but the new regulations on deep cleaning and social distancing would make it very difficult to have a parish Mass at 10.00 am and another one at 11.00 am.

Parish 150 Club

The August prize draw of the 150 Club will be made in the Guild Room after 10:00 Mass next Sunday, 30th August.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

The annual Diocese of East Anglia pilgrimage to Lourdes with the Catholic Association is set to take place again this coming week. However due to the restrictions on travel and gatherings imposed by governments as part of the fight against the Coronavirus epidemic, this year it will be a virtual one with which anyone can join. This may be a blessing in disguise, allowing all of us to participate in a full programme of talks, events and services from the comfort of our own homes. More information about the virtual pilgrimage can be found on the diocesan web site and you can join the pilgrimage from the Catholic Association web site by using the link: <http://www.bepartofthemiracle.co.uk/> or follow the links from the parish web site.

Side by Side

The summer edition of Side By Side, the CAFOD magazine, is out now and you can read it on the parish web site. The Coronavirus lock down restrictions and staff furlough arrangements have resulted in a much smaller edition than normal this time, but you can read how CAFOD is focusing on its ambitious Coronavirus response plan, to help people survive, rebuild and heal.

LIFE

LIFE, the charity which supports the sanctity of life and opposes abortion, celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. As with many charities, LIFE has suffered an income reduction during the lockdown with its charity shops closed, but is weathering the storm and planning a new service - Life Matters® Online to mark its 50th year. There is an open letter from Stephen Sharpe, CEO of LIFE, on the parish web site where you can also read further about LIFE's 50th anniversary project and how you can help support the organisation.

Thank You

To all those who helped last Saturday with the cutting of the beech hedge bounding the church property, and those who helped clean and tidy the parish hall on Tuesday in readiness for its

reopening, a very big thank you. A special thank you to Andrew Ford who has worked tirelessly to sort and clear the years of accumulated “useful stuff” in the two garages. His efforts ensure that we are prepared for the anticipated commencement of works on the new parish room in the autumn.

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!)

Coronavirus Restrictions

The government is easing lockdown rules means 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 and wear a face mask during Mass and other services in church. 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. Also there are still a large number of Masses being streamed live for the benefit of those who cannot or do not feel safe in attending church in person. There are about 20 churches streaming Mass within our own diocese and many more on a global basis. You can find a directory of live Catholic Masses on line by visiting www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/health-social-care/coronavirus-guidelines/online-mass-directory/

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.

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, 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.

Own Dear Departed

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Monica Wright, Paul Treiber, John Grant and John Eaton 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.

Entrance Antiphon:

Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

Collect:

O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world, our hearts may be fixed on that place where true gladness is found. 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. 22:19-23 *I place the key of the House of David upon his shoulder.*

Thus says the Lord of Hosts to Shebna, the master of the palace: I dismiss you from your office, I remove you from your post, and the same day I call on my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. I invest him with your robe, gird him with your sash, entrust him with your authority; and he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder; should he open, no one shall close, should he close, no one shall open. I drive him like a peg into a firm place; he will become a throne of glory for his father's house.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 137:1-3,6,8

Response to the psalm is: Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.

I thank you, Lord, with all my heart,
you have heard the words of my mouth.
Before the angels I will bless you.
I will adore before your holy temple.

On the day I called, you answered;
you increased the strength of my soul.

The Lord is high yet he looks on the lowly
and the haughty he knows from afar.

I thank you for your faithfulness and love
which excel all we ever knew of you.

Your love, O Lord, is eternal,
discard not the work of your hands.

Second Reading: Rom. 11:33-36 *All that exists comes from him; all is by him and from him.*

How rich are the depths of God – how deep his wisdom and knowledge – and how impossible to penetrate his motives or understand his methods! Who could ever know the mind of the Lord? Who could ever be his counsellor? Who could ever give him anything or lend him anything? All that exists comes from him; all is by him and for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matt, 16:13-20 *You are Peter, and I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven.*

When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say he is John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he said 'who do you say I am?' Then Simon Peter spoke up, 'You are the Christ,' he said, 'the Son of the living God.' Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a happy man! Because it was not flesh and blood that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my Church. And the gates of the underworld can never hold out against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven: whatever you bind on earth shall be considered bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth shall be considered loosed in heaven.' Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

Prayer over the Offerings:

O Lord, who gained for yourself a people by adoption through the one sacrifice offered for all, bestow graciously on us, we pray, the gifts of unity and peace in your church. Through Christ Our Lord.

Communion Antiphon:

The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

Prayer after Communion:

Complete within us, O Lord, we pray, the healing work of your mercy and graciously perfect and sustain us, so that in all things we may please you. Through Christ our Lord.