

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.rcea.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.*

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time: 30th August, 2020

Sunday Readings: Year A

Weekday Readings: Year II, 22nd Week of the Year

Services This Week

Sunday 30 th –	8:00 am	Holy Mass – Kavanagh family foundation Mass
22 nd Sunday in	10:00 am	Holy Mass – Monica & Andrew Ford
Ordinary Time	6:00 pm	Holy Mass - The People of the Parish

Monday 31st Feria
10:00 am Holy Mass - Janes family

Tuesday 1st Feria
September 10:00 am Holy Mass – Vieira family

Wednesday 2nd Feria
10:00 am Holy Mass – Holy Souls

Thursday 3rd St Gregory the Great
10:00 am Holy Mass – Margaret Janes Foundation Mass

Friday 4th Feria
10:00 am Holy Mass – Sheridan & Morris families
Foundation Mass

Saturday 5th Feria
10:00 am Holy Mass – Claude Ralph Percy Foundation
Mass

Sunday 6th – 23rd 8:00 am Holy Mass – Jim & Molly RIP
Sunday in 10:00 am Holy Mass – Richard Fox RIP
Ordinary Time 6:00 pm Holy Mass - The People of the Parish

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

Today's Gospel continues the story that began in last week's Gospel. Simon Peter was called the "rock" upon which Jesus would build his Church, and yet Peter continues to show the limitations of his understanding of Jesus' identity. Now that the disciples have acknowledged that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus confides in them the outcome of his ministry: he must suffer and die in Jerusalem to be raised on the third day. Peter rejects this prediction, and Jesus rebukes him severely, calling him "Satan." In opposing this aspect of Jesus' mission, Peter shows that he is no longer speaking based on the revelation from God but as a human being. Jesus then teaches all of the disciples about the difficult path of discipleship: to be Christ's disciple is to follow in his way of the cross.

Peter could not yet understand what it meant to call Jesus the Messiah. It is unlikely that the other disciples understood any better. Messianic expectations were a common aspect of first-century Judaism. Under Roman occupation, many in Israel hoped and prayed that God would send a Messiah to free the Jews from Roman oppression. The common view was that the Messiah would be a political figure, a king that would free Israel from Roman rule. This is perhaps what Peter envisioned when he was led to recognise Jesus as the Messiah. In this passage, however, Jesus is beginning to teach his disciples that he would be the Messiah in a different way.

Jesus would be more like the suffering servant described by the prophet Isaiah than the political liberator. Those who would be Jesus' disciples would be called to a similar life of service - perhaps this is what Peter feared most in Jesus' prediction of his Passion. He whom Jesus had called "rock" would also be called upon to offer himself in sacrifice and service to others. Christian leaders today are still called to sacrifice and serve others as Jesus did.

Sunday Obligation

The Bishops of England and Wales have dispensed with the obligation to attend Sunday Mass during the Coronavirus pandemic, even though churches are now re-open and services are being held. Those who are nervous about attending church on a Sunday might like to consider attending a weekday Mass instead when the church is less crowded. Alternatively, there are a number of churches - local, national and international - which are streaming Masses live on the internet. A directory of Live Catholic Masses on line can be found on the web site of the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW) web site at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/our-work/health-social-care/coronavirus-guidelines/online-mass-directory/> or you can follow the link on the Mass Times page of the parish web site.

Parish 150 Club

The August prize draw of the 150 Club will be made in the Guild Room after 10:00 Mass today. Anybody is welcome to attend to witness the draw, subject of course to social distancing.

The Club is still looking for new members and anybody not already signed up would be very welcome! There are membership application forms in the narthex

Pilgrimage Walk to the Shrine of Our Lady of Grace

The Shrine of Our Lady of Grace in Ipswich was second only in this country to Walsingham. The Guild of Our Lady of Ipswich organises an annual pilgrimage walk to the shrine and this year the walk will take place on Sunday 13th September. The walk starts at 3:00 pm at the church of St Peter on the Quay and ends at the new shrine in St Mary Elms church, via the Lady Lane site of the original shrine. The route was originally planned as a processions route by Cardinal Wolsey, and was re-instated by the Guild of Our Lady of Ipswich, more recently known as Merymana, in 1978. The route is about 1 mile in length over easy terrain and outside so should not contravene any Covid regulations. All are welcome to this ecumenical walk.

Suffolk Historic Churches Trust

The annual Ride & Stride sponsored event organised by the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust takes place on Saturday 12th September. St Mary Magdalens will be open to receive walkers and riders but needs volunteers to staff the church to sign the attendance sheets of visitors. If you can help please speak to Fr Mathew today. If you have a love of walking or are a keen cyclist and would like to get involved in this event, full details can be found on the SHCT web site at <https://shct.org.uk/ride-and-stride/>

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.

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 Vincent O'Brien, Roise Carter, Richard Twomey, Patrick Byrne, Minnie Morris, Albert Richardson and Teresa Austin 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.

Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time: 30th August, 2020

Entrance Antiphon:

Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all day long. O Lord, you are good and forgiving, full of mercy to all who call you.

Collect:

God of might, giver of every good gift, put into our hearts the love of your name, so that, by deepening our sense of reverence, you may nurture in us what is good and, by your watchful care, keep safe what you have nurtured. 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: Jer. 20:7-9

The word of the Lord has meant insult to me.

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, 'I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more.' Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 162:2-6,8-9

Response to the psalm is: For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God, for you I long;
for you my soul is thirsting.
My body pines for you
like a dry, weary land without water.

So I will bless you all my life,
In your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,
my mouth shall praise you with joy.

So I gaze on you in the sanctuary
to see your strength and your glory.
For your love is better than life,
my lips will speak your praise.

For you have been my help;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.
My soul clings to you;
your right hand holds me fast.

Second Reading: Rom. 12:1-2

Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice.

Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope his call holds for us. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matt. 16:21-27

If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself.

Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord;' he said 'this must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life? For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

Prayer over the Offerings:

May this sacred offering, O Lord, confer on us always the blessing of salvation, that what it celebrates in mystery it may accomplish in power. Through Christ Our Lord.

Communion Antiphon:

How great is the goodness, Lord, that you keep for those who fear you.

Prayer after Communion:

Renewed by this bread from the heavenly table, we beseech you, Lord, that, being the food of charity, it may confirm our hearts and stir us to serve you in our neighbour. Through Christ our Lord.