

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.rcdea.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: Mrs Lucille Martin

☎ 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.*

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time: 18th October, 2020

Sunday Readings: Year A

Weekday Readings: Year II, 29th Week of the Year

Services This Week

Sunday 18 th –	8:00 am	Holy Mass - The People of the Parish
29 th Sunday in	10:00 am	Holy Mass – Theo and Ezme
Ordinary Time	6:00 pm	Holy Mass – Ernest Thomas RIP

Monday 19 th	Feria	
	10:00 am	Holy Mass – Janes family

Tuesday 20 th	Feria	
	10:00 am	Holy Mass – Vieira family

Wednesday 21st Feria

No Mass Today

Thursday 22 nd	Feria	
	10:00 am	Holy Mass

Friday 23 rd	Feria	
	10:00 am	Holy Mass

Saturday 24 th	Feria	
	10:00 am	Holy Mass

Sunday 25 th –	8:00 am	Holy Mass - The People of the Parish
30 th Sunday in	10:00 am	Holy Mass
Ordinary Time	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 entering, leaving and inside 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. By not using some pews, the capacity of the church is inevitably reduced and whilst there is no fixed maximum number of persons allowed inside the building as long as social distancing is maintained, should it be the case that the church is full, you will need to return at another time.

Today's Gospel

In today's Gospel Jesus and the religious leaders in Jerusalem continue their tense exchange of questions and challenges. At this point the disciples of the Pharisees, together with the Herodians, try to entrap Jesus by their question about the payment of taxes.

Matthew sets up an unusual partnership between the Pharisees and the Herodians. The Herodians were supporters of Herod Antipas, a Jewish political leader who collaborated with the Romans. Such collaboration would have required a compromised observance of the Mosaic Law. The Pharisees, on the other hand, taught scrupulous observance of the Mosaic Law and opposed Roman occupation. Herodians favoured the payment of taxes; the Pharisees opposed it. The Herodians and the Pharisees approach Jesus, asking that he take sides in their dispute. If Jesus answers with the Pharisees, he shows himself to be an enemy of Rome. If he answers with the Herodians, he offends popular Jewish religious sensibilities.

Jesus' response to this attempt to trap him exposes the guile of his questioners. From his first words to them, Jesus shows that he is very much aware of what they are trying to do. He asks to see a Roman coin, which is readily provided to him. It may have come from the hand of a Herodian, but the Pharisees show themselves to be quite willing to accept this compromise. Jesus has already exposed the Pharisees as hypocrites.

Jesus takes his response one step further. He asks that his questioners examine the coin. Agreeing that it is Caesar's image on the coin, Jesus tells them that it must belong to Caesar. Avoiding the question of lawfulness altogether, Jesus answers their question with simple logic. Then, going further still, Jesus tells them that their obligation is to pay to God that which belongs to God.

Jesus' response to the Herodians and Pharisees suggests the ethic that Christians ought to adopt. It reminds us of the importance of keeping things in their proper perspective. Do we attach ourselves to worldly things at the expense of the love and honour that we owe to God?

World Mission Sunday

Today is World Mission Sunday, which is held annually on the penultimate Sunday in October. It's the one Sunday in the year when the entire global Church comes together to support mission and every single donation from these worldwide Masses goes to support churches, hospitals, schools and vocations in countries where the Church is new, young or poor. This is our chance to show love and solidarity to our global Church family. Through our prayers, we support missionaries everywhere in spreading the Good News and by donating we respond to Christ's call to feed the hungry and clothe the naked. On this day the whole Church unites in prayer for its missionary activity, and in collecting funds to support Catholic communities across the world living in situations of poverty and privation. The need is even greater this year due to the Covid-19 pandemic, especially in countries with inadequate financial and medical resources. The theme chosen by Pope Francis for this year is *'Here I am, send me!'* There will be retiring collection for Missio next week, Sunday 25th October. For more information about World Mission Sunday, please visit www.missio.org.uk or follow the link from our parish web site.

First Holy Communion

Today Ezme Anderson and Theo Brennan will be making their First Holy Communion during the Mass at 10.00am. They will be seated as two separate family units of six each on either side of the sanctuary, socially distanced both from the congregation and the priest. Please pray for them and their and their families.

In the coming weeks we will have few more First Holy Communions some at the evening Mass as our attendance at that Mass is the lowest. Parents are also welcomed to choose our Saturday Mass.

Weekday Masses

On Wednesday this week, 21st October, there will be no Mass as Fr Mathew will be attending a service in the cathedral of St John the Baptist, Norwich when Fr Patrick Cleary will be installed as a Canon of the Chapter.

50th Anniversary of the Canonisation of the 40 English Martyrs

This Anniversary occurs next Sunday, 25th October and to celebrate this, the 10:00 Mass will be a Votive Mass of the Forty Martyrs. Many of the martyrs are from our own Diocese – a full list of their names and dates of martyrdom is available on the parish website.

Parish 150 Club

Those subscribers who have elected to pay their subscriptions 6 monthly are reminded that the second payment is due this month if their numbers are to be included in the October draw which will be made on Sunday 25th October after the 10:00 Mass.

Financial Position of the Parish

Fr Mathew writes: Following a review of our financial position at a Finance Committee meeting last week, the parish made an operating loss of £3,000 for the 9 months ending 30th September and is projected to make a loss of £5,000 for the full year. Since the end of March when Coronavirus restrictions were first imposed our offertory has dropped by an average of £100 per week but I would like to express my thanks to all those parishioners who have continued to contribute during this period. An increased number of you are now paying by standing order or direct credit to the parish bank account which is assisting greatly and if anyone is not yet signed up to give by Gift aid I would encourage this as it increases the income we receive by 25%. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Chris Croker if you would like further information on our financial position and/or would like to sign up to the Giftaid scheme.

Bishop Alan's Message about Mass Attendance

The Holy Father has been encouraging everyone to try to return to our normal pattern of worship and prayer and especially to come together for the celebration of Mass which is the source and summit of the Church's life and mission. I hope it may be possible for our people to do so providing that they are not self-isolating. I am very pleased that our Diocesan Schools have all been able to open safely – I am grateful to our head-teachers and staff for making this possible in spite of all the challenges they are facing. May the Lord give us strength and hope to persevere in these days!

Congratulations

We offer our congratulations to Fr John Barnes, parish priest St Felix church, Felixstowe, who celebrated his silver jubilee of ordination on October 7th, the feast of Our Lady of the Rosary. A special Mass of thanksgiving, attended by Bishop Alan Hopes, was concelebrated in a church filled to its socially distanced capacity, but the social celebrations planned had to be postponed due to the current restrictions.

We also offer our congratulations to one of our former parish priests, Fr Dick Healey, who, after suffering from poor health for the last few years, has retired from parish ministry after 40 years service and takes up the role of resident chaplain to the community of Benedictine Sisters of Our Lady of Grace and Compassion in Bury St Edmunds.

Fr Russell Frost, another former parish priest at St Mary Magdalens and currently parish priest at St Pancras, has also announced his retirement which will be at the end of October. In a letter from Bishop Alan, parishioners were advised that as the Bishop had recently made his September announcements about clergy movements, there would be no immediate new appointment to St Pancras church which would be looked after jointly by Fr Peter Raj of St Mary's and Fr Paul Vincent of St Marks in the interim.

St Mary's Primary School

Applications for a reception class place at St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Woodbridge Road, in 2021 should be completed online and submitted to Suffolk County Council to arrive before 15th January 2021. It is essential that you also submit a completed Supplementary Information Form (SIF) direct to St Mary's school before the deadline date of 15th January 2021. The SIF can be found on the school website or follow the link on the parish web site. Any questions in regard to this matter should be directed to the school using the email address admin@st-marys-ipswich.suffolk.sch.uk.

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 James Wright, Evelyn Sweeney, Kathleen Galloway and Lillian Park 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:

To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God; turn your ear to me; hear my words. Guard me as the apple of your eye; in the shadow of your wings protect me.

Collect:

Almighty ever-living God, grant that we may always conform our will to yours and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart. 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. 45:1,4-6

I have taken Cyrus by his right hand to subdue nations before him.

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus, whom he has taken by his right hand to subdue nations before him and strip the loins of kings, to force gateways before him that their gates be closed no more: 'It is for the sake of my servant Jacob, of Israel my chosen one, that I have called you by your name, conferring a title though you do not know me. I am the Lord, unrivalled; there is no other God besides me. Though you do not know me, I arm you that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun that, apart from me, all is nothing.'

Responsorial Psalm: Response to the psalm is: Give the Lord glory and power.

O sing a new song to the Lord,
sing to the Lord all the earth.
Tell among the nations his glory
and his wonders among all the peoples.

Give the Lord, you families of peoples,
give the Lord glory and power,
give the Lord glory of his name.
Bring an offering and enter his courts.

The Lord is great and worthy of praise,
to be feared above all gods;
the gods of the heathens are naught.
It was the Lord who made heavens.

Worship the Lord in is temple.
O earth, tremble before him.
Proclaim to the nations: "God is king."
He will judge the peoples in fairness.

Second Reading: 1Thes. 1:1-5

We constantly remember your faith, your love and your hope..

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ. We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy Spirit and as utter conviction.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord: consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!

Gospel: Matt, 22:15-21

Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God.

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him, together with the Herodians, to say, 'Master, we know that you are an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay taxes to Caesar or not?' But Jesus was aware of their malice and replied, 'You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me see the money you pay the tax with.' They handed him a denarius, and he said, 'Whose head is this? Whose name?' 'Caesar's' they replied. He then said to them, 'Very well, give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar - and to God what belongs to God.'

Prayer over the Offerings:

Grant us, Lord, we pray, a sincere respect for your gifts, that, through the purifying action of your grace, we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve. Through Christ Our Lord.

Communion Antiphon:

Behold, the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, who hope in his merciful love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine.

Prayer after Communion:

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that, benefitting from participation in heavenly things, we may be helped by what you give in this present age and prepared for the gifts that are eternal. Through Christ our Lord.