

# St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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

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

📧 @marymagdalens



**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:** 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.*

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**30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time: 25<sup>th</sup> October, 2020**

**Sunday Readings: Year A**

**Weekday Readings: Year II, 30<sup>th</sup> Week of the Year**

## Services This Week

Sunday 25 <sup>th</sup> –	8:00 am	Holy Mass - The People of the Parish
30 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in	10:00 am	Holy Mass – Larrisa's intention
Ordinary Time	6:00 pm	Holy Mass – Aisling, Oliver and Rudairo

Monday 26<sup>th</sup> Feria  
10:00 am Holy Mass – Janes family

Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Feria  
10:00 am Holy Mass – Vieira family

Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> Saints Simon & Jude  
10:00 am Holy Mass – Terry Murphy

Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> Feria  
10:00 am Holy Mass

Friday 30<sup>th</sup> Feria  
10:00 am Holy Mass

Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> Feria  
10:00 am Holy Mass

Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> 8:00 am Holy Mass - The People of the Parish  
November Feast 10:00 am Holy Mass  
of All Saints 6:00 pm Holy Mass

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### 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

This week's Gospel follows close behind the Gospel read last Sunday. It is the last of three questions put to Jesus by Jewish religious leaders who are trying to trick him into saying something that might get him arrested. This reminds us that the context for today's reading is the mounting tension between Jesus and the religious leaders in Jerusalem.

The Herodians and the Pharisees asked the first question, which was about taxes. The Sadducees asked the second question, which was about the Resurrection. The third question, considered in today's Gospel, is asked by a Pharisee who asks Jesus about the greatest of the commandments.

The question requires Jesus to interpret the Law of Moses. The Mosaic Law consists of the Ten Commandments and many additional rules, numbering over six hundred. Adherence to the Mosaic Law, for a devout Jew, is an expression of faithfulness to God's covenant with Israel. The ranking of the Commandments was regularly debated among the teachers of the Law.

Jesus answers the Pharisees' question with a two-fold summary. Jesus says that all of the commandments can be summarized in two commandments: love God and love your neighbour. Both of these were central elements of the religious tradition Jesus learned from his Jewish community. Indeed these continue to be central aspects of contemporary Jewish religious understanding. Jesus' response to his questioners proposed an integral connection between these two aspects of the Jewish Law. Love of God finds its expression in our love for our neighbour.

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## World Mission Sunday

Last Sunday was 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 today for Missio. For more information about World Mission Sunday, please visit [www.missio.org.uk](http://www.missio.org.uk) or follow the link from our parish web site.

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## 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Canonisation of the 40 English Martyrs

Today is the Anniversary of the Canonisation of the 40 English Martyrs 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.

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## 1<sup>st</sup> Holy Communion

Today Aisling Mutefa is receiving her First Holy Communion during the Mass at 6.00pm and during the same Mass Oliver & Rudairo will be Baptised. Please pray for them, and their family. They will be seated as one family unit socially distanced both from the congregation and the priest. The godparents will sit in the congregation. Larissa who was to be baptised at the Mass at 10.00am is self-isolating with her parents due to proximity to a relative who later tested positive for Covid 19. It is not related to our parish or our services. We look forward to welcoming her back in due course and to celebrate her Baptism. Please pray for them.

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## Ernest Thomas RIP

Ernest Thomas, our First Holy Communion Catechist and safeguarding representative died peacefully on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October. A requiem Mass will be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November at 10:00 am, in place of the normal parish Mass that day. May he rest in peace. Please pray for the repose of his soul and for the bereaved relatives.

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## Parish 150 Club

The October prize draw of the 150 Club will be made today after the 10:00 Mass in the Guild Room. Those subscribers who have elected to pay their subscriptions 6 monthly are reminded that the second payment is due this month.

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## Christmas 2020

It seems early to be thinking about Christmas, but clearly under the current restricted operations, services this year are going to be rather different from normal, and there is a strong possibility that

any arrangements made may have to be changed should government guidance change between now and December. At this time, it is intended to say Mass at 5:00 pm on Christmas Eve, Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December. This Mass will be aimed primarily at families with children. On Christmas morning, there will be Mass at 8:00 am and 10:00 am.

It is possible that, being Christmas, these Masses will be very well attended, but in order to comply with social distancing regulations, numbers will have to be limited. To ensure safety and legal compliance, we are going to have to implement a booking system for places at these Masses. It is not possible to state a maximum number of people who can attend any one service, as the total will depend on the size of the parties – clearly the total accommodated will be bigger with a fewer number of larger family groups which do not have to be distanced, where as individuals attending will need to be distanced from others leading to a lower total. To help this to be managed, you are asked to register your intention to attend the Christmas Masses and book places for your families as required. Places will be allocated on a strictly first come, first served basis. Please email bookings@marymagdalens.org or use the contact form on the parish web site – select Christmas 2020. Please provide your name, contact telephone number and email address, the Mass you wish to attend and the number in your party. You will receive a confirmation of your booking if you can be accommodated. Fr Mathew has said that should these Masses be heavily oversubscribed, he will say additional Masses to meet the demand, either later on Christmas Eve or on Christmas Day.

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### **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 30<sup>th</sup> 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.

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### **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!

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### **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 15<sup>th</sup> 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 15<sup>th</sup> 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.

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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, 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 Helen Westbrook, Christine Firmin, Malcolm Long, Kathleen Galloway, Frank McManus, Lillian Park, George Roberts, Doris Butterworth, Alec Rumford, Aleksandro Sarystun, William Swann, Patrick Dunnelly, Douglas Robinson, George Laurencia and Terence Ferris 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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**Entrance Antiphon:**

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.

**Collect:**

Almighty ever-living God, increase our faith, hope and charity, and make us love what you command, so that we may merit what you promise. 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:** Exo. 22:20-26 *If you are harsh with the widow, the orphan, my anger will flare against you.*

The Lord said to Moses, 'Tell the sons of Israel this: "You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans. If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him. If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity."

**Responsorial Psalm: Response to the psalm is: I love you, Lord, my strength..**

I love you, Lord, my strength,  
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.  
My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
The Lord is worthy of all praise:  
when I call I am saved from my foes.

Long life to the Lord, my rock!  
Praised be the God who saves me.  
He has given great victories to his king  
and shown his love for his anointed.

**Second Reading:** 1Thes. 1:5-10 *You broke with idolatry and became servants of God; you are now waiting for his Son.*

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the Lord started to spread - and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia! Open our heart, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Matt. 22:34-40 *You must love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.*

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, 'Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?' Jesus said, 'You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also.'

**Prayer over the Offerings:**

Look, we pray, O Lord, on the offerings we make to your majesty, that whatever is done by us in your service may be directed above all to your glory. Through Christ Our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon:**

We will ring out our joy at your saving help and exult in the name of our God.

**Prayer after Communion:**

May your Sacraments, O Lord, we pray, perfect in us what lies within them, that what we now celebrate in signs we may one day possess in truth. Through Christ our Lord.