

# 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.rcddea.org.uk](http://www.rcddea.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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**Second Sunday in Ordinary Time: 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2021**

**Sunday Readings: Year B. Weekday Readings: Year 1, Week 2**

## Services This Week

Sunday 17 <sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00 am 10:00 am (Streamed) 6:00 pm	Holy Mass – The people of the parish Holy Mass - Conlon family foundation Mass Holy Mass
Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Feria	<b>No Mass Today</b>
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	Feria 10:00 am	Holy Mass – Vieira family
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>	Feria 10:00 am	Holy Mass - Stoneman family foundation Mass
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	St Agnes 10:00 am	Holy Mass – James and Margaret Wright
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	Feria 10:00 am	Holy Mass
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Feria 10:00 am	Holy Mass
Sunday 24 <sup>th</sup> – Third Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00 am 10:00 am (Streamed) 6:00 pm	Holy Mass – Stephen John Smith Holy Mass – The people of the parish Holy Mass – The people of the parish

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*The 10:00 Mass on Sundays is streamed live. You can find the link to watch this on the Mass Times page of the parish web site. .*

### We are back again – 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.

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.

## Today's Gospel

Although the liturgical season of Ordinary Time begins this week, today's reading continues with the celebration of the Baptism of the Lord, which concludes the Christmas season. Today's reading from the Gospel according to John immediately follows John the Baptist's testimony about Jesus and his identification of Jesus as the Lamb of God. Having been baptised by John, Jesus begins to gather followers. The first followers sought out Jesus because of the testimony and witness of John the Baptist.

We are familiar with the title that John the Baptist uses for Jesus - the Lamb of God. We hear it weekly at the fraction rite during Mass. For those who heard John the Baptist, however, this title recalled key themes from the Old Testament. It alludes to the paschal lamb offered as a sacrifice when God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, the event that is commemorated by the Jewish Passover celebration. The designation also recalls the prophet Isaiah's description of the suffering servant of Israel. In using this name for Jesus, John the Baptist predicts Jesus' passion and death and the new interpretation of Passover that will begin with Jesus' Last Supper.

We learn in today's reading how Jesus' first followers were gathered. The first two, Andrew and another man, were followers of John the Baptist. After hearing John's testimony, they became followers of Jesus. During their time with Jesus, the details of which are not specified, Andrew and the other follower came to believe that Jesus was the Messiah. Andrew then brings his brother, Simon, to Jesus. Immediately, Jesus gave Simon a new name, calling him *Peter*, which means "rock" in Greek. The renaming of Simon to Peter is reported in all four of the Gospels.

In the exchange between Andrew, the other disciple, and Jesus, we see an example of the usual pattern for first-century Jewish rabbinical schools. Jews sought out rabbis and established themselves as disciples of a particular rabbi. Jesus appears to have been unique in that he sought out individuals, inviting them to be his followers. In the passage that follows, John's Gospel tells us how Jesus took the initiative in calling Philip and Nathanael.

Jesus asks Andrew and the other disciple, "What are you looking for?" This is a telling question, and one that we might often ask of ourselves. John the Baptist testified to Jesus' identity, the Lamb of God, using the framework of the Old Testament. Andrew, Simon, and the other first disciples were looking for the Messiah, whom they also came to know as the Son of God. What do we look for and what do we find in Jesus?

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## Pax Christi

Today is Peace Sunday - an opportunity to focus especially on the gospel message of peace and the World Peace Day message from his Holiness Pope Francis. The full text of the Pope's message can be found on the parish web site. A retiring collection would normally be taken to aid in the work of *Pax Christi*.

The work of *Pax Christi*, meaning the Peace of Christ, is based on the gospel and inspired by faith. Its vision is of a world where people can live in peace, without fear of violence in any form. *Pax Christi* is rooted in Catholic Christianity but is open to all who share its values and work. *Pax Christi* works for:

- Peace: A world where human rights are respected, basic needs are met and people feel safe and valued in their communities.
- Reconciliation: A process which begins when people try to mend relationships – between individuals or whole countries after times of violence or dispute.
- Nonviolence: A way of living and making choices that respects others, challenges what is not fair or just, and offers alternatives to violence and war.

It supports teachers, chaplains and youth workers in promoting a culture of peace in schools and amongst young people and works in schools and colleges to explore how young people can be encouraged to make choices based on Christian values. It works to develop solidarity between people who are working non-violently for justice and peace and does this through joint actions for peace in Israel-Palestine, through events to encourage international efforts to abolish nuclear weapons and by celebrating the life and witness of peacemakers. It aims to promote an understanding of sustainable security where human needs are met and the environment is protected, rather than seeking security through weapons and warfare. In the current circumstances, no second collection will be made, but donations to *Pax Christi* would be very welcome and can be made direct to them via their web site [paxchristi.org.uk](http://paxchristi.org.uk).

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## Streamed Mass

The suspension of the Sunday Obligation to attend Mass which was introduced by the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales last year, remains enforce, and with the new variant of the Coronavirus that has now been discovered, many people are understandably very nervous about leaving their homes to attend Mass, but equally many feel a conflict in not fulfilling a commitment that has always been part of their normal lives. In an effort to make our church available to as many as possible who cannot attend in person, the 10:00 Mass each Sunday is being streamed live and can be "attended" virtually from home by anybody with a smart phone, a tablet, a computer or even as TV as long as the device has an internet connection. The easiest way to watch the streamed services is to go to the parish web site [www.marymagdalesn.org](http://www.marymagdalesn.org) and look at the Mass Times page where you will find a link. Simply click that link and you will be taken to the live stream, or if the live broadcast has already finished, you will be taken to the recording of it. Hopefully this will allow as many as possible to continue to join in the parish celebration of the Holy Mass even in these difficult times. If you have not already done so, we would ask that you subscribe to our YouTube channel. If we can get 100 or more subscribers, we can obtain a fixed channel identifier which will make watching much easier.

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## St Pancras

Fr Joseph Welch has now taken up residence as the priest in charge of St Pancras church. Please remember him in your prayers as he starts his new ministry.

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## Christmas Post

There are still a number of cards in the narthex letter rack. Please check the rack before you leave church and take any cards addressed to you as, in previous years, we have sadly had to dispose of several cards that were never collected by the intended recipients.

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## Christmas Offering

As you will all be aware, Easter and Christmas present us with two scheduled opportunities to collect the traditional personal gift from the parish community to our parish priest, Fr Mathew. The pandemic completely ruled out the Easter gift in 2020. For many people these will be the most difficult of economic times, and Mass attendance has been significantly reduced as people respond in various ways to the current crisis. These two factors may make the total of our Christmas offering less than might otherwise have been the case. Therefore our generosity, particularly for those who can still more readily afford to contribute, is perhaps under greater scrutiny than ever. All contributions, big or small, will be much appreciated. Either put your offering in the special Christmas collection envelope, or in any envelope clearly marked as 'Christmas Gift' and return it at any time between now and the end of January. We will ensure that it gets to Father Mathew. The total realised will be published in the newsletter.

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## Parish Development Project



The vast majority of the funding for this project has been provided by a generous, Gift Aided donation from one of our parish families, but following the appeals made, the amount donated to supplement this gift and allow the project to be completed, is now £7863, over half way to the target! If you have not already seen it, there is a letter from Fr Mathew to all parishioners which provides more information about this, which can be seen on the parish web site. Copies are available in the narthex. If you are able to make a donation, it would be gratefully received and if you are a tax payer, please Gift Aid any donation as this will increase its value by 25%.

## 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 Marjorie Reddington, Mary Titterington, Ruth Frost, James Walsh, Luigi Buglione, Henry Teuma, Michael Mongan, Helen Frost, Thomas Gordon, Guiseppe Miceli, Ivy Scaife, Josephine Horne and William Irvine whose anniversaries occur this week.

*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.*

**Mass Readings: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time: 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2021.**

**Entrance Antiphon:** All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High!

**Collect:** Almighty, ever-living God, who govern all things, both in heaven and on earth, mercifully hear the pleading of your people and bestow your peace on our times. 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:** Sam. 3:3-10,19 *Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.*

Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord, where the ark of God was, when the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' He answered, 'Here I am.' Then he ran to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call. Go back and lie down.' So he went and lay down. Once again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' He replied, 'I did not call you, my son; go back and lie down.' Samuel had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. Once again the Lord called, the third time. He got up and went to Eli and said, 'Here I am, since you called me.' Eli then understood that it was the Lord who was calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, 'Go and lie down, and if someone calls say, "Speak, Lord, your servant is listening."' So Samuel went and lay down in his place. The Lord then came and stood by, calling as he had done before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel answered, 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.' Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him and let no word of his fall to the ground.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps.39:2,4,7-106

**Response to the psalm is:** *Here I am Lord! I come to do your will.*

I waited, I waited for the Lord  
and he stooped down to me.  
He heard my cry  
He put a new song into my mouth,  
praise of our God  
You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,  
but an open ear.  
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.  
Instead, here am I.

In the scroll of the book it stands written  
that I should do your will.  
My God, I delight in your law  
in the depth of my heart.  
Your justice I have proclaimed  
in the great assembly.  
My lips I have not sealed;  
you know it, O Lord.

**Second Reading:** 1Cor. 6:13-15,17-20 *Your bodies are members making up the body of Christ.*

The body is not meant for fornication: it is for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who raised the Lord from the dead, will by his power raise us up too. You know, surely, that your bodies are members making up the body of Christ; do you think I can take parts of Christ's body and join them to the body of a prostitute? Never! But anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit with him. Keep away from fornication. All the other sins are committed outside the body; but to fornicate is to sin against your own body. Your body, you know, is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you since you received him from God. You are not your own property; you have been bought and paid for. That is why you should use your body for the glory of God.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening: you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** John 1:35-42 *They saw where he lived, and stayed with him.*

As John stood with two of his disciples, Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him and said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' Hearing this, the two disciples followed Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them following and said, 'What do you want?' They answered, 'Rabbi,' – which means Teacher – 'where do you live?' 'Come and see' he replied; so they went and saw where he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that day. It was about the tenth hour. One of these two who became followers of Jesus after hearing what John had said was Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – which means the Christ – and he took Simon to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John; you are to be called Cephas' – meaning Rock.

**Prayer Over the Offerings** Grant us, O Lord, we pray, that we may participate worthily in these mysteries, for whenever the memorial of this sacrifice is celebrated the work of its redemption is accomplished. Through Christ Our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon:** You have prepared a table for me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.

**Prayer after Communion:** Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love, and in your kindness make those you have nourished by this one heavenly Bread one in mind and heart. Through Christ our Lord.