

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia

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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

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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.*



Please consider setting up a standing order in favour of the parish instead of a weekly cash offering.

Bank: Barclays **Account Name:** St Mary Magdalen Roman Catholic Parish **Account number:** 70777323 **Sort code:** 20-44-51

Credit card offerings can be made via the parish web site home page.

Third Sunday in Lent: 7th March, 2021

Readings: Sunday: Year B. Weekdays: Year I, 3rd Week of Lent

Services This Week

Sunday 7 th – Third Sunday of Lent	8:00 am	Holy Mass – Robert & Mary Cranston
	10:00 am (Streamed)	Holy Mass – James & Heather Barrett
	6:00 pm	Holy Mass – The people of the parish
Monday 8 th	St Felix	
	10:00 am	Holy Mass – Janes Family
	6:00 pm	Exposition and Benediction via Zoom
Tuesday 9 th	Lent Feria	
	10:00 am	Holy Mass – Vieira Family
Wednesday 10 th	Lent Feria	
	10:00 am	Holy Mass
Thursday 11 th	Lent Feria	
	10:00 am	Holy Mass
Friday 12 th	Lent Feria	
	10:00 am	Holy Mass Followed by Stations of the Cross.
Saturday 13 th	Lent Feria	
	10:00 am	Holy Mass
Sunday 14 th – Fourth Sunday of Lent	8:00 am	Holy Mass – Molly & George Cranston
	10:00 am (Streamed)	Holy Mass
	6:00 pm	Holy Mass – The people of the parish

The 10:00 Mass on Sunday is streamed live. The link to watch this on the Mass Times page of the parish web site.

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.

In today's Gospel we hear how Jesus overturned the tables of the merchants and the moneychangers in the Temple at Jerusalem. In order to understand the relevance of Jesus' action, we must learn more about the activities that were going on in the temple area. Worship at the Temple in Jerusalem included animal sacrifice, and merchants sold animals to worshipers. Moneychangers exchanged Roman coins, which bore the image of the Roman emperor, for the temple coins that were needed to pay the temple tax.

Jesus' action at the Temple in Jerusalem is recorded in all four Gospels and is often understood to be among the events that led to Jesus' arrest and Crucifixion. The Gospel of John, however, places this event much earlier in Jesus' public ministry than do the Synoptic Gospels. In John's Gospel this event occurs at the very beginning of Jesus' ministry, after his first miracle at the wedding feast at Cana.

We must read the Gospel of John carefully, especially in its presentation of Jesus' relationship to Judaism. The Gospel of John tends to reflect greater tension and animosity between Jesus and the Jewish authorities than the Synoptic Gospels. The Gospel of John was the last of the four Gospels to be written, and its narrative reflects the growing divide between the Jewish community and the early Christian community. Thus, greater emphasis on the distinction between Christianity and Judaism is found in John's Gospel.

Reflecting upon the destruction of the Temple of Jerusalem (A.D. 70), John recalls Jesus' cleansing of the Temple and uses that story to interpret this later event. John explains to his audience, an early Christian community, that temple worship would no longer be necessary because it was surpassed in the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus. With greater frequency than the other evangelists, John intersperses post-Resurrection reflections of this Christian community in his narrative.

After clearing the Temple of the merchants and the moneychangers, John's Gospel tells us that the people asked for a sign of Jesus' authority to do such an audacious act. In response, Jesus predicted his death and Resurrection. Throughout John's Gospel, the language of signs is distinctive. Jesus' miracles are called signs, and the people look to these signs for proof of his authority. Here we learn that the sign *par excellence* will be Jesus' passion, death, and Resurrection.

During Lent we reflect upon the meaning of this sign for us and for our world. We might take this opportunity to consider the quality of our prayer and worship. In our prayers we seek to deepen our relationship with the person of Christ. In our worship with the community, we gather to experience anew the passion, death, and Resurrection of Jesus and its significance in our lives. Christ promises to be present with us when we gather for prayer.

CAFOD Big Walk for Water Campaign

Thank you so much. Your generous gifts will help people like Hagos in Ethiopia, struggling to cope in an increasingly hotter and drier climate. Hagos and his family nearly starved due to drought, but thanks to our church family and support like yours, CAFOD provided him with solar-powered water pumps. Hagos and his neighbours now have flowing water to cultivate their land.

Remember, it's not too late to give to CAFOD's Lent appeal. Visit CAFOD.org.uk/lent.

Welcome

Last Sunday we welcomed Bency Benny into full communion with the Roman Catholic Church when she was confirmed and received Holy Communion for the first time at the 10:00 Mass. Please remember her, and her sponsor Suja Babu, in your prayers.

Today we welcome Lilac Mirawdaly to our parish family when she will be baptised during the Mass at 10.00am. Her parents were hoping to have her baptised earlier, a reminder of where God has taken us through this pandemic. Nevertheless, with a live streamed Mass the celebration can be joined virtually by everyone who would like to be part of her life.

150 Club

The February prize draw of the 150 Club was made last Sunday. Congratulations to the following prize winners:

£15	No 212	Mr & Mrs A Iannelli	£10	No 155	Miss T M Cleary
£5	No 142	Master C Anderson-Hurst	£5	No 37	Mrs V Davison

St Teresa of Calcutta

During his time as a seminarian in India, Fr Mathew met then Mother Teresa and later after his ordination, celebrated Mass at her tomb in Calcutta, at the Mother House of her order. This story and experience was shared with the late Monica Ford, and Fr Mathew was asked by Monica to give a talk to the Ipswich CWL. Unfortunately, because of Covid restrictions, this never happened, but

with Monica recently passing away, Fr Mathew contacted the Mother House in India, and told them about Monica and the way she imitated St Teresa in helping the poor in this town. He has obtained a relic of St Teresa of Calcutta which is now in church temporarily housed on the Walsingham altar. A prayer card containing a small fragment of cloth from St Teresa's religious habit has been presented to the Ford family, and there are some small relic prayer cards for general distribution available in the narthex if you would like one.

During the course of this activity, Fr Mathew was advised that Mother Teresa had been to Ipswich in 1970, and visited St Mark's Catholic school. A photograph of the visit, taken by the EADT, shows a number of children with Mother Teresa and we would like to explore this story further. If anyone was one of the children pictured at that visit, or knows of somebody who was, perhaps they could contact Fr Mathew so we can try to document the occasion.

Lent Taizé Service

On Thursday, March 18th at 7:30 pm, a Lenten Taizé service is to be held at St Mary's church, Woodbridge Road. The church will be in semi-darkness, lit up with candles and a few lights. Beautiful music of monastic chants, from the depth of the Scriptures, is wrapped around with deep silences and prayerful intercessions. The service will be on-line only due to Coronavirus restrictions, but all are invited from the parish, deanery, diocese and the wider world to view on YouTube. The link for this service can be found on the parish web site.

Mr Michael Head

Michael has served this parish in different ways and we are grateful for his help and kindness. He has been an altar server for 47 years in this church and has also regularly served at St. Mark's when the Franciscans were in the parish. He has also been very helpful to St. Pancras and St. Mary's parishes. In recognition of his services we present him a diocesan medal during the Mass at 10.00 am

The Sick of the Parish

Please pray for those who are sick or housebound: John Anderson-Hurst, William Barnes, Peggy Barron, Jason Beaumont, Michael Clarke, Josephine Kalagira, Fabiana Di Mascio, Ron Green, Jo Kelly, Molly Mc Garry, Yvonne Metcalfe, Robert Mullan, Anna Nelli, Mary O'Reilly, Pippa Williamson and Carol Sims.

Parish Anniversaries

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Daniel Keenan, Norah Andrews, Margaret Dowsing, Patrick Owens, Robert McInnes, George Keenan, Leslie Robinson, Edward Clarke, Gerrard Healey, Harry Frost, Arthur Wilkinson and Daniel Mendonca, whose anniversaries occur this week. A complete list of the dear departed of the parish can be found on the web site.

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: Third Sunday in Lent: 7th March, 2021.

Entrance Antiphon: My eyes are always on the Lord, for he rescues my feet from the snare. Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I am alone and poor.

Collect: O God, author of every mercy and of all goodness, who in fasting, prayer and almsgiving have shown us a remedy for sin, look graciously on this confession of our lowliness, that we, who are bowed down by our conscience, may always be lifted up by your mercy. 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. 20:1-17 *The law was given through Moses.*

God spoke all these words. He said, 'I am the Lord your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery. 'You shall have no gods except me. You shall not make yourself a carved image or any likeness of anything in heaven or on earth beneath or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or serve them. For I, the Lord your God, am a jealous God and I punish the father's fault in the sons, the grandsons, and the great-grandsons of those who hate me; but I show kindness to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments. You shall not utter the name of the Lord your God to misuse it, for the Lord will not leave unpunished the man who utters his name to misuse it. Remember the sabbath day and keep it holy. For six days you shall labour and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath

for the Lord your God. You shall do no work that day, neither you nor your son nor your daughter nor your servants, men or women, nor your animals nor the stranger who lives with you. For in six days the Lord made the heavens and the earth and the sea and all that these hold, but on the seventh day he rested; that is why the Lord has blessed the sabbath day and made it sacred. Honour your father and your mother so that you may have a long life in the land that the Lord your God has given to you. You shall not kill. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour. You shall not covet your neighbour's house. You shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or his servant, man or woman, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is his.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 18:8-11

Response to the psalm is: *You Lord, have the message of eternal life.*

The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple.

The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.

The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes.

The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding forever.

The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just.

They are more to be desired than gold,
than the purest gold
and sweeter are they than honey,
than honey from the comb.

Second Reading: 1Cor. 1:22-25

Here we are preaching a crucified Christ, an obstacle to us, but to those who are called, the wisdom of God.

While the Jews demand miracles and the Greeks look for wisdom, here are we preaching a crucified Christ; to the Jews an obstacle that they cannot get over, to the pagans madness, but to those who have been called, whether they are Jews or Greeks, a Christ who is the power and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Gospel Acclamation:

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

Gospel: John 2:13-25

Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money-changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money-changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers, 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said, 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the scripture and the words he had said. During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

Prayer Over the Offerings

Be pleased, O Lord, with these sacrificial offerings, and grant that we who beseech pardon for our own sins, may take care to forgive our neighbour. Through Christ Our Lord.

Communion Antiphon:

The sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for her young: by your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they who dwell in your house, forever singing your praise.

Prayer after Communion:

As we receive the pledge of things yet hidden in heaven and are nourished while still on earth with the Bread that comes from on-high, we humbly entreat you, O Lord, that what is being brought about in us in mystery may come to true completion. Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer Over The People

Direct, O Lord, we pray, the hearts of your faithful, and in your kindness grant your servants this grace: that, abiding in the love of you and their neighbour, they may fulfil the whole of your commands. Through Christ our Lord.