

# St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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

📧 @marymagdalens

Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia

🌐 [www.rcdea.org.uk](http://www.rcdea.org.uk)

📺 youtube.com/c/StMaryMagdalens

**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.*



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.

## ***Palm Sunday: 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2021***

***Readings: Sunday: Year B. Weekdays: Year I, Holy Week***

### ***Services This Week***

Sunday 28 <sup>th</sup> – Palm Sunday	8:00 am	Holy Mass
	10:00 am (Streamed)	Holy Mass
	6:00 pm	Holy Mass – The people of the parish
Monday 29 <sup>th</sup>	Monday of Holy Week	
	10:00 am	Holy Mass – Janes family
	10:30 am	Confession until 11:00 am
Tuesday 30 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday of Holy Week	
	<b>No Mass Today</b>	
Wednesday 31 <sup>st</sup>	Wednesday of Holy Week	
	10:00 am	Holy Mass
	10:30 am	Confession until 11:00 am
Thursday 1 <sup>st</sup> April	Thursday of Holy Week – Maundy Thursday	
	7:30 pm	The Mass of the Lord's Supper
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Good Friday	
	3:00 pm	Solemn Liturgy of the Passion
Saturday 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Holy Saturday	
	7:30 pm	Easter Vigil - For Covid patients and NHS Staff
Sunday 4 <sup>th</sup> – Easter Sunday	8:00 am	Holy Mass
	10:00 am (Streamed)	Holy Mass
	<b>No evening Mass today</b>	

*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.

*Next weekend, the offertory collection taken at the Vigil service and the two Masses on Easter Sunday morning, will form the customary personal gift to the parish priest. If you pay direct to the parish account, please use the reference "Easter Gift" on your payment.*

This Sunday, called Palm or Passion Sunday, is the first day of Holy Week. There are two Gospels proclaimed at today's Mass. The first Gospel, proclaimed before the procession with palms, tells of Jesus' triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Riding on a borrowed colt, Jesus was hailed by the crowds as they blessed God and shouted "Hosanna!" This event is reported in each of the four Gospels.

At the Liturgy of the Word on Palm Sunday, the events of Jesus' passion are proclaimed in their entirety. In Lectionary Cycle B, we read the passion of Jesus as found in the Gospel of Mark. We will hear these events proclaimed again when, on Good Friday, we will read the passion of Jesus from the Gospel of John.

In Mark's Gospel, Jesus' passion and death are presented as the consequence of the tension between the Jewish authorities and Jesus that had been building throughout his public ministry. This tension reached its breaking point when Jesus drove the merchants and moneychangers from the Temple. After this event, the chief priests and scribes began seeking a way to put Jesus to death, and yet, this is only the surface explanation for his death.

When Jesus was arrested and brought before the Sanhedrin - the council of Jewish priests, scribes, and elders - he was charged with blasphemy, citing his threat to the Temple. When he was brought before Pilate, however, the religious authorities presented his crime as a political one, charging that Jesus claimed to be king of the Jews. In continuity with a theme of Mark's Gospel, the messianic claim of Jesus is widely misunderstood.

Throughout this Gospel, Mark challenges the reader to consider the claim with which the Gospel begins: Jesus is the Son of God. When we read Mark's account of the passion, we begin to comprehend the deeper theological statement being made about Jesus' death. In Mark's telling of the passion narrative, Jesus understood his death to have been preordained, and he accepted this death in obedience to God's will. The Roman centurion, however, affirmed what Mark has presented throughout this Gospel: Jesus is the Son of God. Nowhere was this revealed more fully than in his death on the cross.

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## **Holy Week**

Holy Week is the most solemn and glorious week in Christianity, the pinnacle of the liturgical year. It is more sacred than Christmas! This is because Holy Week commemorates the final week of Our Lord's life, the very purpose for which Christmas happened. Holy Week begins today with Palm Sunday, when Jesus made his final triumphant entrance into Jerusalem. Sundown on Holy Thursday to sundown on Easter Sunday is considered the most solemn part of the liturgical year. This three-day period is referred to as the *Sacred Triduum* when we celebrate the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Thursday, the solemn liturgy of the Passion of the Lord on Good Friday and the Easter Vigil, the most glorious, beautiful, and dramatic liturgy of the Church, after nightfall on Holy Saturday.

## **Maundy Thursday**

On Thursday evening we celebrate *the Mass of the Lord's Supper*, where the Church relives the institution of the Eucharist and the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass at the Last Supper, as well as the institution of the priesthood, which took place the evening before Jesus was crucified. This year, the washing of feet will be omitted. The Mass concludes with the relocation of the Blessed Sacrament to the altar of repose, where watching with the Lord will continue until 10:00 pm.

## **Good Friday**

Friday of this week is Good Friday. We will celebrate the Passion of the Lord at 3:00 pm. The Veneration of the Cross will be done by the priest only, who will then hold the unveiled cross up for the congregation to silently venerate from their places. After the service, there will be a retiring collection taken for the Shrines of The Holy Land.

## **Holy Saturday**

A vigil Mass is held after nightfall on Holy Saturday, or before dawn on Easter Sunday, in celebration of the resurrection of Jesus. This year, the vigil service will be simplified. There will be no fire outside to start and there will be no candles for the congregation. The blessing and preparation of the Paschal Candle will be carried out before the service and the candle will be mounted in its stand in the sanctuary. After the blessing of the water, the people will not be sprinkled nor will the Holy Water stoups be filled.

During this, the most important week in the church's liturgy, you are all encouraged to take as full and active part in the Holy Week services as possible, leading to the culmination of the Paschal Mystery: The Resurrection.

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## **Reminder**

As it states on the front of the newsletter each week, it is part of the Government's Covid regulations that face masks are to be worn in church and that two metre social distancing is observed at all times. There are signs on the door as you come in reminding you that face mask wearing is compulsory. If you forget to bring a mask, there is a box provided on the table in the narthex - please take one and wear it. The Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales has waived the Sunday Obligation during the pandemic, so there is no requirement to attend Mass in person, and now that we have regular live streaming, you can take part in the Mass from home. If for medical reasons you are unable to wear a mask, or you simply do not want to, then please respect the rights of your fellow church goers and do not attend in person.

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### **Church Rewiring**

As mentioned last week, the church needs to be partially rewired due to the age and condition of some of the original rubber cabling installed in 1955 and still in use. Quotes have been obtained for the work and an electrical contractor has been appointed. The work will begin on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April and take approximately one week to complete. While the work is carried out, the church will be available for Sunday Mass as normal, but as this is during the period of Fr Mathew's absence, there will be no weekday Masses anyway so the work will not be disruptive to normal weekday arrangements.

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### **Fr Mathew**

Fr Mathew will be away in India from 10<sup>th</sup> April to 10<sup>th</sup> May. He will have to spend 10 days in quarantine upon his return, unless the rules are changed before then. During his absence, 8:00 and 10:00 (streamed) Masses will be said by Fr Chris Dobson but there will be no weekday Masses. Fr Mathew will be contactable via email whilst he is away, the email address is at the top of page 1, and will also be monitoring the parish WhatsApp group. We wish him a safe and uneventful journey.

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### **Gift Aid**

Would all those parishioners who normally make their weekly offertory using Gift Aid envelopes please note that their new 2021/22 envelopes are now available for collection from the Narthex; they will remain there for the next few months.

Those who, during the pandemic, have converted to paying by standing order/direct credit to our bank account are encouraged to continue this practise as it greatly assists the church finances; envelopes are however available for you to collect if you would prefer them.

If any Gift Aid donors have changed their address during the last year or did not pay sufficient income/capital gains tax to cover the tax reclaimable on their donations, then please notify either Fr Mathew or Chris Croker, our Gift Aid co-ordinator, so that our records can be amended.

Finally, the tax reclaimable from HMRC on offerings made under Gift Aid is an important source of income for our parish and all those who have not made a Gift Aid declaration are strongly encouraged to do so. There is no ongoing commitment and it will boost the value of your offering to the parish by 25% at no cost to yourself.

Forms are available in the Narthex and can also be found on the parish web site Finance page. Completed forms should be handed to either Fr Mathew or Chris Croker.

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### **Easter Greenery**

Greenery is required for church flowers for Easter in particular, eucalyptus leaves. If anyone has any, please leave in the church porch on good Friday or telephone 01473 412742 to arrange collection.

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### **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.

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### **Parish Anniversaries**

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Wendy Hall, Anita Thompson, Ruby Shuttleworth, Rose Adams, Maria Soronhenho, Timothy Keohane, Winifred Razzell and Brian Brian Shevlin 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.*

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## **Mass Readings: Palm Sunday: 28<sup>th</sup> March, 2021.**

### **Entrance Antiphon:**

Six days before the Passover, when the Lord came into the city of Jerusalem, the children ran to meet him; in their hands they carried palm branches and with a loud voice they cried out: *Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you who have come in your abundant mercy! O gates, lift high your heads; grow higher ancient doors. Let him enter, the king of glory! Who is this king of glory? He, the Lord of hosts, he is the king of glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed are you, who have come in your abundant mercy.*

### **Collect:**

Almighty ever-living God, who as an example of humility for the human race to follow caused our Saviour to take flesh and submit to the cross, graciously grant that we may heed his lesson of patient suffering and so merit a share in his Resurrection. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

### **First Reading:** Isa. 50:4-7

*I did not cover my face against insult – I know I shall not be shamed.*

The Lord has given me a disciple's tongue. So that I may know how to reply to the wearied he provides me with speech. Each morning he wakes me to hear, to listen like a disciple. The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed.

### **Responsorial Psalm:** Ps. 21:8-9,17-20,23-24

**Response to the psalm is:** *My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?*

All who see me deride me.

They cast lots for my robe.

They curl their lips, they toss their heads.

O Lord, do not leave me alone,

"He trusted in the Lord, let him save him;

My strength, make haste to help me!

Let him release him if this is his friend."

I will tell of your name to my brethren

Many dogs have surrounded me,

and praise you where they are assembled.

A band of the wicked beset me.

"You who fear the Lord give him praise;

They tear holes in my hands and my feet.

All sons of Jacob, give him glory.

I can count every one of my bones.

Revere him, Israel's sons."

They divide my clothing among them.

### **Second Reading:** Phil. 2:6-11

*He humbled himself, but God raised him high.*

His state was divine, yet Christ Jesus did not cling to his equality with God but emptied himself to assume the condition of a slave and became as men are; and being as all men are, he was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name which is above all other names so that all beings in the heavens, on earth and in the underworld, should bend the knee at the name of Jesus and that every tongue should acclaim Jesus Christ as Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

### **Gospel Acclamation:**

Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory! Christ was humbler yet, even to accepting death, death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him a name which is above all names. Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!

### **Gospel:** Mark 14:1 – 15:47

*The passion of Our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to Mark.*

*After the words "But Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last." All kneel and pause for a moment.*

### **Prayer Over the Offerings**

Through the Passion of your Only Begotten Son, O Lord, may our reconciliation with you be near at hand, so that, though we do not merit it by our own deeds, yet by this sacrifice made once for all, we may feel already the effects of your mercy. Through Christ Our Lord.

### **Communion Antiphon:**

Father, if this chalice cannot pass without drinking it, your will be done.

### **Prayer after Communion:**

Nourished with these sacred gifts, we beseech you, O Lord, that, just as through the death of your Son you have brought us to hope for what we believe, so by his Resurrection you may lead us to where you call. Through Christ Our Lord.

### **Prayer Over the People:**

Look, we pray, O Lord, on this your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ did not hesitate to be delivered into the hands of the wicked and submit to the agony of the Cross. Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.