

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

468 Norwich Road, Ipswich, IP1 6JS

☎ 01473 741975

☎ 07939 920844

🌐 www.marymagdalens.org

📧 @marymagdalens

Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia

🌐 www.rcdea.org.uk

📺 youtube.com/c/StMaryMagdalens

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.



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.

Easter Sunday: 4th April, 2021

Readings: Sunday: Year B. Weekdays: The Octave of Easter

Services This Week

Sunday 4 th – Easter Sunday	8:00 am	Holy Mass – Molly & George Cranston
	10:00 am (Streamed)	Holy Mass – In Thanksgiving (Wilma Lobo)
	6:00 pm	Holy Mass – The people of the parish
Monday 5 th	Easter Octave 10:00 am	Holy Mass – Janes family
Tuesday 6 th	Easter Octave 10:00 am	Holy Mass – Albertina Vieira
Wednesday 7 th	Easter Octave 2:30 pm	Holy Mass - John and Anna Time changed for sacramental reasons
Thursday 8 th April	Easter Octave 10:00 am	Holy Mass – Vieira family
Friday 9 th	Easter Octave 10:00 am	Holy Mass – Vieira family
Saturday 10 th	Easter Octave	No Mass Today
Sunday 11 th – Second Sunday of Easter	8:00 am	Holy Mass
	10:00 am (Streamed)	Holy Mass
No evening Mass today		

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.

This 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.

Today we begin the Easter Season, our 50-day meditation on the mystery of Christ's Resurrection. Our Gospel today tells us about the disciples' discovery of the empty tomb. It concludes by telling us that they did not yet understand that Jesus had risen from the dead. Thus, the details provided are not necessarily meant to offer proof of the Resurrection. The details invite us to reflect upon a most amazing gift, that is faith in Jesus and his Resurrection.

Each of the four Gospels tells us that Jesus' empty tomb was first discovered by women. This is notable because in first-century Jewish society women could not serve as legal witnesses. In the case of John's Gospel, the only woman attending the tomb is Mary of Magdala. Unlike the Synoptic accounts, John's Gospel does not describe an appearance of angels at the tomb. Instead, Mary is simply said to have observed that the stone that had sealed the tomb had been moved, and she runs to alert Simon Peter and the beloved disciple. Her statement to them is telling. She assumes that Jesus' body has been removed, perhaps stolen. She does not consider that Jesus has been raised from the dead.

Simon Peter and the beloved disciple race to the tomb, presumably to verify Mary's report. The beloved disciple arrives first but does not enter the tomb until after Simon Peter. This detail paints a vivid picture, as does the detail provided about the burial cloths. Some scholars believe that the presence of the burial cloths in the tomb offers evidence to the listener that Jesus' body had not been stolen - it is understood that grave robbers would have taken the burial cloths together with the body.

The Gospel passage concludes, however, that even having seen the empty tomb and the burial cloths, the disciples do not yet understand about the Resurrection. In the passage that follows, Mary of Magdala meets Jesus but mistakes him for the gardener. In the weeks ahead, the Gospel readings from our liturgy will show us how the disciples came to believe in Jesus' Resurrection through his appearances to them. Our Easter faith is based on their witness to both the empty tomb and their continuing relationship with Jesus - in his appearances and in his gift of the Holy Spirit.

Fr Mathew Writes: Happy Easter

The church celebrates the Easter week with the same solemnity of the Easter day. Thus every day in this week is liturgically a celebration of the Easter day. Let the new life of Easter abound in us! The message of Easter is hope in the face of despair and love triumphing over hatred and death. In celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, we will be renewing our commitment to the values that keep us life truly human. During the pandemic we often found ourselves living between Good Friday and Easter Day in pain and in hope. In the Latin rite Holy Saturday is the day for sombre waiting – no Sacraments, no holy water, (we did not have Holy Water for a year), the bare altar – it can become a bit of a sad day. The Orthodox Churches call it 'The Great Saturday' as tradition has it that Jesus visited 'The Harrowing of Hell' on 'The Great Saturday.' Farmers know that when fields are 'harrowed' they are being turned over in order that new life is possible. The Great Saturday tells us that there is no place or person outside of God's love. Easter Day reminds us that not only does God reach into the 'hell' of human experience, but also into the places where we want to find hope, peace, and new life. Good Friday tells us of a God, who understands suffering; who wants humanity to experience forgiveness, healing and reconciliation. God wants people to live hopefully in a world in which life is difficult. I would like to thank everyone who worked hard to make the Holy week a meaningful one. We call next Sunday, the Low Sunday; Easter Sunday being the high Sunday. In the ancient church the newly baptised came to church in the white garment for the whole week and they were confirmed on the Low Sunday.

Catholic East Anglia

The Easter edition of Catholic East Anglia, the diocesan newspaper, is now available in the narthex – please take a copy home with you. For those not attending church, it is also available to read on-line on the parish web site.

Parish 150 Club

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

£15	No 135	Mrs J Scrivener	£10	No 32	Mr J Cleary
£5	No 104	Mrs T Rose	£5	No 242	Mr J Poll
Bonus Prizes					
£100	No 40	Mrs C Long	£50	No 126	Mr & Mrs M Pakes
£50	No 147	Mr J Tallent	£50	No 8	Mrs C Sims
£50	No 252	Mrs M Ogden	£40	No 237	Mrs D Turner

£25 No15 Mr & Mrs A Iannelli
£25 No 76 Mrs B Knox
£25 No 93 Mr A Ford

£25 No 105 Ms Channelle Gordon
£25 No 59 Mrs S Matuszczyk
£20 No 21 Mrs J Meldrum

Subscribers with registered email addresses will have received renewal instructions this week. For those without email access, payment envelopes for the new year will be available at 10:00 Mass today or else will be delivered to your home address in the next few days. Any newcomers to the parish will be very welcome if they would like to join this fundraising venture. Details of the scheme and membership application forms can be found on the parish web site.

Icon of St Joseph

Fr. Luke Goymour has created an Icon of St Joseph that also contains Jesus and Mary. The Icon was blessed at the Mass on March 19th in the cathedral to mark this Year of St Joseph and of the Family and it has now begun its journey around the parishes of the Diocese, in a programme in time for their Sunday Masses, and then held throughout the following week before onward movement. We are lucky to have it on the Feast of the Holy Family this year – the Sunday after Christmas. Prayer cards with an image of the icon and a text prepared for use by children and adults are available in the Narthex. Please do take one.

Fr Mathew

Fr Mathew will be away in India from 10th April to 10th 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. Next Sunday, the two Masses will be celebrated by Fr Chris Dobson.

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 Lorris Savage, Margarita Baron, Michelle Adamez, William Osborne, Elaine Carter, Yvonne Lynch, Peter Copple, Geraldine Littleboy, Leonard Mattingly, Alice Woolley, Michel Staunton and Dora Kuzmiene 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.

*Glory, glory in the highest.
Let the alleluias ring,
Honour, glory might and blessing
To the risen Saviour sing.
He is risen! Alleluia! Alleluia!*



*May the risen Lord bless you and keep you safe.
Wishing you all a very happy and Holy Easter.*

Mass Readings: Easter Sunday: 4th April, 2021.

Entrance Antiphon: I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia. You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia. Too wonderful for me this knowledge, alleluia.

Collect:

O God, who on this day, through your Only Begotten Son, have conquered death and unlocked for us the path to eternity, grant, we pray, that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit, rise up in the light of life. 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: Acts. 10:34,37-43

We have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection.

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 117:1-2,16-17,22-23

Response to the psalm is: *This day was made by the Lord; we rejoice and are glad.*

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:
his love has no end".

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me.

I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds.

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the key stone.

This is the work of the Lord,
A marvel in our eyes.

Second Reading: Col. 3:1-4

We must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is.

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed; let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 20:1-9

He must rise from the dead.

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.' So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Prayer Over the Offerings

Exultant with paschal gladness, O Lord, we offer the sacrifice by which your church is wondrously reborn and nourished. Through Christ Our Lord.

Communion Antiphon:

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia; therefore let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion:

Look upon your church, O God, with unfailing love and favour, so that, renewed by the paschal mysteries, she may come to the glory of the resurrection. Through Christ Our Lord.