

# St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

468 Norwich Road, Ipswich, IP1 6JS

☎ 01473 741975

☎ 07939 920844

🌐 [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.

## Second Sunday of Easter: 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2021

**Readings: Sunday: Year B. Weekdays: Year I Second Week of Easter**

### Services This Week

Sunday 11 <sup>th</sup> – Second Sunday of Easter	8:00 am 10:00 am (Streamed)	Holy Mass – Paulina Wladytan Holy Mass – Daniello De Dona
<b>No Evening Mass Today</b>		
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Feria 1:00 pm (Streamed)	Requiem Mass – Jamie Campbell RIP
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Feria	<b>No Mass Today</b>
Wednesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Feria	<b>No Mass Today</b>
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Feria	<b>No Mass Today</b>
Friday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Feria	<b>No Mass Today</b>
Saturday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Easter Feria	<b>No Mass Today</b>
Sunday 18 <sup>th</sup> – Third Sunday of Easter	8:00 am 10:00 am (Streamed)	Holy Mass – Martin Curry RIP (Foundation Mass) Holy Mass – for the People of the Parish
<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.

## Today's Gospel

Today's reading from the Gospel of John is proclaimed on the Second Sunday of Easter in each of the lectionary cycles. This fact alone should alert us to the significance of the encounters with the resurrected Jesus that are described in this reading. This Gospel combines two scenes: Jesus' appearance to his disciples after his Resurrection and Jesus' dialogue with Thomas, the disciple who doubted.

Part of the mystery of Jesus' Resurrection is that he appeared to his disciples not as a spirit, but in bodily form. We do not know, however, exactly what this form looked like. Earlier in John's Gospel, when Mary of Magdala first encountered the risen Jesus, she did not recognise him until he spoke to her. In Luke's Gospel, the disciples walking along the road to Emmaus did not recognise Jesus until he broke bread with them. We know from readings such as today's that in his resurrected form, Jesus was not bound by matter; he appeared to the disciples inside a home even though the door was locked. Yet the disciples could still touch the marks of his Crucifixion.

In today's Gospel, Jesus greets his disciples with the gift of peace. Jesus then commissions his disciples to continue the work that he has begun; as Jesus was sent by God, so Jesus sends his disciples. He gives his disciples the gift of the Holy Spirit so that they will be able to accomplish this task. Jesus' words to his disciples also highlight the integral connection between the forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit. With the grace of the Holy Spirit, we can share forgiveness and reconciliation with others.

Thomas, the doubting disciple in today's reading, represents the reality of the Church that comes after this first community of witnesses to Jesus. All but the first disciples of Jesus must believe without seeing. Like Thomas, we may doubt the news that Jesus, who was crucified and buried, appeared to his disciples. Our human nature seeks hard evidence that the Jesus who appeared to his disciples after his death is indeed the same Jesus who was crucified. Thomas is given the opportunity to be our representative in obtaining this evidence. He gives witness to us that the Jesus who was raised is the same Jesus who died. Through the gift of the Holy Spirit, we are among those who are blessed, for we have not seen and yet believe.

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## Low Sunday

The first Sunday after Easter has traditionally been called "Low Sunday". The origin of this name is not certain but it is believed to have come about simply to distinguish it from the great Easter festival of the preceding Sunday, which has been called "High Sunday". There is no truth in the explanation facetiously put about by some clerics that Mass attendance is typically low on this Sunday in comparison to Easter Sunday!

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## Fr Christopher Dobson

Fr Mathew is now away in India, due to return on 10<sup>th</sup> May. Today we welcome Fr Chris Dobson to St Mary Magdalens. Fr Chris is a retired priest of the Diocese of Arundel and Brighton who now lives locally, and he has very kindly agreed to provide cover for our Sunday Masses whilst Fr Mathew is away, for which we are very grateful. Fr Chris will celebrate mass at 8:00 and 10:00 each Sunday whilst Fr Mathew is away. The 10:00 mass will continue to be streamed live as usual. Unfortunately there will be no Sunday evening or any weekday masses.

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## Jamie Campbell RIP

Tomorrow, Monday 12<sup>th</sup> April, the requiem Mass for Jamie Campbell will be held starting at 1:00 pm. The Campbell family are new to the parish, having moved from Cambridge in March last year just as lockdown started, and consequently have not had a chance to get to know us yet. Jamie was a young man of only 25 years, who passed away unexpectedly in March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The Requiem Mass will be celebrated by Fr Christopher Dobson in Fr Mathew's absence, and will be streamed live for the benefit of friends, family members and parishioners who are unable to attend in person due to Coronavirus restrictions. Please remember Jamie and his family in your prayers.

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## Congratulations

Many congratulations to Anna Jacob and John Thomas who were married on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> with a Nuptial Mass. The service was streamed live to allow friends and family unable to travel to church, many of whom were back at home in India, their native country, to view the ceremony, and has been viewed over 134 times. We wish them both every happiness and blessing in their married life together, and thank their family for their generous donation to the parish development project.

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## 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.

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## Parish Development Project

Goal  
£ 15 000



£ 9 915  
Raised

Further good progress has been made this week with the completion of the plastering, the laying of the floor and the first coats of paint. There are some photographs on the web site taken this week to show progress. The money received in response to the appeal for funds to complete the new parish room project continues to rise and has now reached £9,915, but we are still over £5,000 short of our target, and, as mentioned above, with the additional cost now of the necessary electrical works we need financial support more than ever! Thank you to all those who have already donated – we are extremely grateful. If you have not already donated, then it is not too late. You can make a cash donation by leaving money in an envelope, suitably marked “Parish Room” and leave it in the collection box at the back of the church, or pop it though the presbytery letter box. You can make a direct payment to the parish bank account using the details at the top of the front page of this newsletter – please use the payment reference “Parish Room”. Or you can make a donation via your credit card using the Donate button on the home page of the parish web site. If you do donate, and you are a tax payer, then please do Gift Aid any donation as this will increase its value by 25% as we will be able to reclaim the tax you have already paid on the money donated.

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## More Congratulations

We offer our congratulations to the pupils, teachers and staff of St Mark’s Catholic Primary school which has been awarded the Gold Accreditation for its teaching of languages by Linguamarque, a programme run by Ipswich based educational company School’s Choice, which provides a structured approach to language teaching.

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## Grateful Thanks

A number of people have commented on the impressive display of beautiful flowers arranged so well for Easter, and supplemented for the wedding on Wednesday. Our grateful thanks go to Linis Dolby, Dorothy Casey and Val Croker – our flower team – for their work. There are only three ladies involved at present and we really would like to get more people, male or female, to get involved in this activity. If you have a love of flowers and a knack for arranging them, and can spare a few hours, then Linis would love to hear from you. Please speak to her direct, or use the contact form on the parish web site to get in touch.

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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, Carol Sims and Annick Smith.

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## Parish Anniversaries

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Emmie Stoneman, Kevin Barrett, Timothy Curran, Margaret Flynn, Doreen Andrews, Daniello De Dona, Terence Sparkes, Ernie Lacey, Audrey Smith, Herbert Littleboy, Albertina Vieira, Winifred “Joan” Long, and David Cuddon 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: Second Sunday of Easter: 11<sup>th</sup> April, 2021.

**Entrance Antiphon:** Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

**Collect:** God of everlasting mercy, who, in the very recurrence of the paschal feast kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose Blood they have been redeemed. 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. 4:32-35 *United, heart and soul.*

The whole group of believers was united, heart and soul; no one claimed for his own use anything that he had, as everything they owned was held in common. The apostles continued to testify to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus with great power, and they were all given great respect. None of their members was ever in want, as all those who owned land or houses would sell them, and bring the money from them, to present it to the apostles; it was then distributed to any members who might be in need.

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps. 117:2-4, 15-18,22-24

**Response to the psalm is:** 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."

Let the sons of Aaron say:

"His love has no end."

Let those who fear the Lord say:

"His love has no end."

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;

his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live

|| And recount his deeds.

I was punished, I was punished by the Lord,  
but not doomed to die.

The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord  
a marvel in our eyes.

This day was made by the Lord;  
we rejoice and are glad.

**Second Reading:** 1John 5:1-6

*Anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world.*

Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God; and whoever loves the Father that begot him loves the child whom he begets. We can be sure that we love God's children if we love God himself and do what he has commanded us; this is what loving God is – keeping his commandments; and his commandments are not difficult, because anyone who has been begotten by God has already overcome the world; this is the victory over the world – our faith. Who can overcome the world? Only the man who believes that Jesus is the Son of God: Jesus Christ who came by water and blood, not with water only, but with water and blood; with the Spirit as another witness – since the Spirit is the truth.

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: "You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen yet believe." Alleluia!

**Gospel:** John 20:19-31

*Eight days later, Jesus came.*

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you. 'As the Father sent me, so am I sending you.' After saying this he breathed on them and said: 'Receive the Holy Spirit. For those whose sins you forgive, they are forgiven; for those whose sins you retain, they are retained.' Thomas, called the Twin, who was one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. When the disciples said, 'We have seen the Lord', he answered, 'Unless I see the holes that the nails made in his hands and can put my finger into the holes they made, and unless I can put my hand into his side, I refuse to believe.' Eight days later the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. 'Peace be with you' he said. Then he spoke to Thomas, 'Put your finger here; look, here are my hands. Give me your hand; put it into my side. Doubt no longer but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him: 'You believe because you can see me. Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.' There were many other signs that Jesus worked and the disciples saw, but they are not recorded in this book. These are recorded so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.

**Prayer Over the Offerings:** Accept, O Lord, we pray, the oblations of your people, that, renewed by confession of your name and by Baptism, they may attain unending happiness. Through Christ Our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon:** Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believe, alleluia.

**Prayer after Communion:** Grant, we pray, almighty God, that our reception of the paschal Sacrament may have a continuing effect in our minds and hearts. Through Christ Our Lord.