

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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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.

Fifth Sunday of Easter: 2nd May, 2021

Readings: Sunday: Year B. Weekdays: Fifth Week of Easter

Services This Week

Sunday 2 nd May – Fifth Sunday of Easter	8:00 am	Holy Mass – Elsie Lacey RIP (Foundation Mass)
	10:00 am (Streamed)	Holy Mass – Raymond George James RIP
No Evening Mass Today		
Monday 3 rd	Saints Philip and James No Mass Today	
Tuesday 4 th	The English Martyrs No Mass Today	
Wednesday 5 th	Easter Feria No Mass Today	
Thursday 6 th	Easter Feria No Mass Today	
Friday 7 th	Easter Feria No Mass Today	
Saturday 8 th	Easter Feria No Mass Today	
Sunday 9 th – Sixth Sunday of Easter	8:00 am	Holy Mass
	10:00 am (Streamed)	Holy Mass – Deceased members of the Andrews family (Foundation 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.

Today's Gospel

Today's reading from the Gospel of John is part of Jesus' discourse at the Last Supper. Jesus speaks about his relationship to his disciples. In his metaphor of the vine and the branches, Jesus is referencing the Hebrew Scriptures. In the Hebrew Scriptures, Israel is the vineyard, and Yahweh himself tends the vineyard. One of the primary themes of John's Gospel is to show Jesus to be the fulfilment of God's promises to Israel.

In this passage, Jesus teaches his disciples that his relationship with them will not end after his death; he will remain with them always. This unity between Jesus and his disciples is the basis for their ability to continue to do the work that he began. Similarly, Jesus' presence with us through the Gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to continue the work of love and reconciliation that he began.

Jesus also teaches his disciples about the importance of the words he has taught to them. Just as Jesus will remain in the disciples, so too will his words. We come to know Jesus through the Scriptures, the living Word of God. Our commitment to be Christ's disciples is sustained through God's Word. This commitment is also strengthened by our life of prayer and nourished by the Eucharist. Through the Eucharist, Jesus dwells in us, remains with us, and transforms us so that we might bear fruit in his name.

We observe many people who act in ways that show their commitment to serve their neighbour. Christians and non-Christians feed the hungry, care for the sick, shelter the homeless, and give alms to the poor. These actions become acts of Christian discipleship when they are motivated by our relationship with Jesus. Whatever the immediate results, Jesus promises us that these actions will bear fruit when we undertake them in his name.

The Day of the Lord

The Catholic Bishops of England Wales have issued a reflection on The Day of the Lord. It is an important message for all of us to think about as we begin to move forward from the present lockdown and face the challenges of bringing our communities and the practice of faith to a greater expression and strength in the coming months. Copies of this document are available in the narthex, or you can read this document on-line on the parish web site

Baptism

Today, during the 10:00 Mass, Wilson Lebaga will be baptised and welcomed into our Christian community and parish family. We welcome him joyfully and ask your prayers for him, his parents and god-parents.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham

This year's Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham, celebrating the year of St Joseph and the family, will take place tomorrow, Monday May 3rd. There will be no public procession but Bishop Alan will be celebrating Mass at 12 noon, with an intention for the diocese, and at around 2.30pm there will be Rosary and Benediction. It is too late now to book a place to attend in person, but the event will be live streamed and you can watch here: www.youtube.com/WalsinghamCatholicTV

Day of Prayer for the Survivors of Abuse

The Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors (PCPM) has highlighted the importance of prayer and suggested to Pope Francis that the worldwide Catholic Church should join together in a day of prayer for the survivors of abuse and the Holy Father has welcomed this initiative. From 2021, in response to a request from the Let's Be Honest working group, the Bishops have chosen Tuesday of the 5th Week of Easter as the Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse – this year it will be next Tuesday, 4th May 2021. This is not a penitential day for the failure of the Church and others to respond to the scourge of abuse but rather a day of prayer for those who have been abused in a season of hope and new life. As there will be no Mass here on Tuesday, we remember especially these victims at our Mass today.

Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians

Next Sunday, 9th May is the Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians, an annual event which enables Eastern and Western Christians to come together in communion through prayer, uniting the Roman Catholic Church in Europe with dioceses of the Eastern Catholic churches in union with the Bishop of Rome – these churches include the Syro-Malabar and Syro-Malankara communities in India, of particular relevance to us as these represent the Christian roots of Fr Mathew and our other Indian priests in Ipswich. FACE, Fellowship and Aid to the Christians of the East, is a registered charity which devotes itself exclusively to supporting Eastern Christians, in the Middle East, North Africa and the Horn of Africa, through projects in education, healthcare, pastoral support and interreligious

dialogue, so that they may remain in their homelands where Christianity was born and first spread. There is no special collection today, but details of how you can donate to support the work of FACE can be found on the parish web site.

Marriage and Family Life Mass

This year's Marriage and Family Life Mass will be both live and live streamed at the Cathedral on Saturday June 12th at 11am. Certificates will be available for those celebrating significant wedding anniversaries in 2020 and 2021 (anniversaries of one year, five years and every multiple of five years thereafter). You will need to register to attend the event and can do so on-line at <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/marriage-mass-registration/>

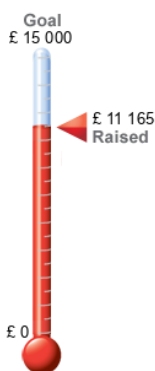
There will be a collection at the Mass for those who wish to help the Marriage and Family Life Commission in their work.

Parish 150 Club

Thank you to all those who have paid their subscriptions to date – there are still over 30 subscriptions from last season still unpaid - if you have not yet paid yours then your prompt attention to this would be appreciated. The April prize draw will be postponed for a week or two in the hope that these outstanding payments will be received.

Even if these missing subscriptions are received, there is still room for more! If you are a parishioner but not a member of this Club, then please would you consider joining? It is a parish venture, and it would be nice to think that every parishioner would support it. Membership costs £12 per year for a single number, which will then be entered in each of the 12 monthly prize draws. Membership forms are available in the narthex, or, if you don't want to deal with handling paper or are not currently attending church, you can email your membership request to 150club@marymagdalens.org

Parish Development Project



Work on the parish room continues to make progress, with most of the electrical installation now completed. There are some updated pictures taken this week available on the parish web site. Additionally, this week, the partial re-wiring of the church itself has been carried out following the problems reported in an electrical installation inspection carried out earlier in the year, and remedial works completed in the church hall. The money received in response to the appeal for funds to complete the new parish room project continues to rise and has now reached £11,165, but we are still over £3,500 short of our target. 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.

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.

Parish Anniversaries

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of the faithful departed and especially for Mary Dodson, Charles “Freddy” Ashard, Marion Hyland, George Rymell, Salvatore Falucci, Margaret McInerney, Catherine M Head, Sybil Turnbull, Patrick McManus, Manual Giner, Ronald Blake and Canon Augustine Peacock, the founder of this parish, whose anniversaries occur this week. A complete list of anniversaries of all 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: Fifth Sunday of Easter: 2nd May, 2021.

Entrance Antiphon:

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

Collect:

Almighty, ever-living God, constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us, that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may, under your protective care, bear much fruit and come to the joys of life eternal. 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. 9:26-31

Barnabas explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul on his journey.

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus. The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 21:26-28,30-32

Response to the psalm is: *You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.*

My vows I will pay before those who fear him.

They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

The poor shall eat and have their fill.

They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him.

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him.

May their hearts live for ever and ever!

They shall tell of the Lord for generations yet to come,
declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn;

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord,
all families and nations worship before him.

"These things the Lord has done."

Second Reading: 1John 3:18-24

His commandments are these: that we believe in his Son and that we love one another.

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he knows everything. My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia! Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. Whoever remains in me bears fruit in plenty. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 15:1-8

Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

Prayer Over the Offerings: O God, who by the wonderful exchange effected in this sacrifice have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead, grant, we pray, that, as we have come to know your truth, we may make it ours by a worthy way of life. Through Christ Our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord. Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion:

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life. Through Christ Our Lord.