

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 ☎ 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.

Seventh Sunday of Easter: 16th May, 2021

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

Services This Week

Sunday 16 th	8:00 am	Holy Mass
May – Seventh	10:00 am	Holy Mass
Sunday of	(Streamed)	
Easter		No Evening Mass Today
Monday 17 th	Easter Feria	No Mass Today
Tuesday 18 th	Easter Feria	No Mass Today
	2:00 pm	Funeral Service – Roy Watkins RIP
Wednesday 19 th	Easter Feria	No Mass Today
Thursday 20 th	Easter Feria	No Mass Today
Friday 21 st	Easter Feria	No Mass Today
Saturday 22 nd	Easter Feria	No Mass Today
Sunday 23 rd –	8:00 am	Holy Mass
Pentecost	10:00 am	Holy Mass
Sunday	(Streamed)	
	6:00 pm	Holy Mass

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

On the seventh Sunday of Easter, we always read from the seventeenth chapter of John's Gospel. This chapter of John's Gospel comes at the conclusion of Jesus' farewell discourse delivered to the disciples at the Last Supper. This entire chapter is a prayer by Jesus, commending himself to the Father and expressing his care and concern for his disciples. At the end of this prayer, Jesus and his disciples depart for the garden, and Jesus is arrested. Several important themes appear in this prayer. First, Jesus' prayer reaffirms the complete union between himself and the Father. Throughout John's Gospel, Jesus has been presented as the one who pre-existed with the Father and as the one sent by the Father to do his work on earth. In today's reading, we hear Jesus include all his disciples in this union with the Father. We are reminded that Christ is the source of Christian unity. Through Christ, we are united with one another and with God Our Father. In this prayer, Jesus describes part of his mission in the language of protection. He has protected those who were given to him by the Father. In this we hear echoes of the dualism that is reflected throughout John's Gospel. Beginning with the opening chapter, the Evangelist John has presented Jesus' mission on earth in the context of a cosmic struggle between good and evil, represented by light and darkness. In Jesus' presence, his disciples have been protected from Satan. Now that Jesus is returning to the Father, he prays that his disciples will continue to be protected from the evil one. We can't help but note here the echoes of the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples, the Lord's prayer.

We also see in this chapter the distinction found in John's Gospel between the world and the disciples. The disciples are in the world, but they do not belong to the world. Yet like Jesus, they are sent into the world for the world's salvation. As Jesus' teaching and ministry was a source of consternation for some, Jesus knows that the world may not accept his disciples with open arms. Again, we hear echoes of John's theme that salvation is worked out through the cosmic battle between light and darkness. The world, according to John, prefers the darkness. Yet the light will not be overcome by the darkness. Reading this prayer of Jesus during the Easter Season, through the lens of his Resurrection, we know that the light of Christ has overcome the darkness of sin and death in our world. In the opening line of this prayer, we hear Jesus pray that his disciples will be kept in the name that he was given by God. We know that the salvation is given to us in the name of Jesus, and that his name - "God saves" - announces his mission on our behalf.

Fr Mathew News

Fr Mathew has returned safely to the UK, landing at Heathrow on Tuesday and being taken by coach to his quarantine hotel in Reading for a ten-day quarantine period. He will be back in Ipswich next weekend and will be celebrating the normal three Sunday Masses with us next Sunday, 23rd May, with the 6:00 pm Mass being restarted.

It is with very grateful thanks that we say farewell to Fr Chris Dobson who has been looking after us so well whilst Fr Mathew has been away. As Fr Chris lives not too far away, it is more than likely that we will see him again at some point in the future, but in the mean time we wish him well as he continues with his well-earned retirement.

Today Is World Communications Day

Every year on the Sunday before Pentecost the Church celebrates the achievements of the communications media and focuses on how it can best use them to promote gospel values. World Communications Day was established by Pope Paul VI in 1967 as an annual celebration that encourages us to reflect on the opportunities and challenges that the modern means of social communication (the press, motion pictures, radio, television, social media and the internet) afford the Church to communicate the gospel message. The celebration came in the wake of the Second Vatican Council, which realised it must engage fully with the modern world. In setting it up on Sunday 7th May 1967, less than two years after the Second Vatican Council, Pope Paul VI, knowing that the Church is truly and intimately linked with mankind and its history, wanted to draw attention to the communications media and the enormous power they have for cultural transformation.

He and his successors have consistently recognised the positive opportunities the communications media afford for enriching human lives with the values of truth, beauty and goodness, but also the possibly negative effects of spreading less noble values and pressurising minds and consciences with a multiplicity of contradictory appeals. The theme for the 2021 World Day of Social Communications, chosen by Pope Francis, is "Come and See" (Jn 1:46) – communicating by encountering people as they are, echoing the words of the Apostle Philip, and recognising that authentic communication leads to "encountering people as and where they are". The message from Pope Francis can be read on the parish web site. On World Communications Day, we take up

the command of Jesus to preach the Good News of the Gospel to the whole world. There is also a link on the web site to use if you would like to make a donation to support the work of the Catholic Communications Network.

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.

Retrouvaille Course

The Catholic charity Retrouvaille is offering an online course from July 1st to July 4th to help couples who are struggling in their marriage. Marriage difficulty and breakdown is not something that's often discussed openly – yet it is, sadly, a common experience. This pandemic year in particular has strained many marriages to breaking point. Retrouvaille is for couples with marriages that are struggling, or who are not communicating well, and for those who are considering marriage separation or divorce. It is also for those who have separated or divorced, who want to try again to reconcile. For more information visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk, or text or call 0788 729 6983.

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

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

£15	No 54	Mrs C Long	£10	No 267	Mr & Mrs M Pakes
£5	No 73	Mrs R Anderson-Hurst	£5	No 43	Mrs P B Young

Thank you to all those who have paid their subscriptions to date – there are still some subscriptions from last season outstanding - if you have not yet paid yours then your prompt attention to this would be appreciated. We still have room for more subscribers to join us! 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

Side By Side

The new spring edition of the CAFOD magazine, Side By Side, is now out and can be read on line on the parish web site.

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 Florence Dooley, Philip Ford, Patrick Kiely, John Faure, John Morley, Frederick Bolt, Elizabeth Sefton, Mary Chaisty and Maria Hewitt 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.

Entrance Antiphon:

O Lord, hear my voice, for I have called to you; of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face; hide not your face from me, alleluia.

Collect:

Graciously hear our supplications, O Lord, so that we, who believe that the Saviour of the human race is with you in your glory, may experience, as he promised, until the end of the world, his abiding presence among us. Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

First Reading: Acts. 1:15-17,20-26 *We must chose one of these to be a witness to his resurrection with us.*

One day Peter stood up to speak to the brothers – there were about a hundred and twenty persons in the congregation: ‘Brothers, the passage of scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit, speaking through David, foretells the fate of Judas, who offered himself as a guide to the men who arrested Jesus – after having been one of our number and actually sharing this ministry of ours. Now in the Book of Psalms it says: Let someone else take his office. ‘We must therefore choose someone who has been with us the whole time that the Lord Jesus was travelling round with us, someone who was with us right from the time when John was baptising until the day when he was taken up from us – and he can act with us as a witness to his resurrection.’ Having nominated two candidates, Joseph known as Barsabbas, whose surname was Justus, and Matthias, they prayed, ‘Lord, you can read everyone’s heart; show us therefore which of these two you have chosen to take over this ministry and apostolate, which Judas abandoned to go to his proper place.’ They then drew lots for them, and as the lot fell to Matthias, he was listed as one of the twelve apostles.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 102:1-2,11-12,19-20

Response to the psalm is: *The Lord has set his sway in heaven.*

My soul, give thanks to the Lord;
all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

For as the heavens are high above the earth
so strong is his love for those who fear him.

As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins

The Lord has set his sway in heaven
and his kingdom is ruling over all.

Give thanks to the Lord, all his angels;
mighty in power, fulfilling his word.

Second Reading: 1John 4:11-16 *Anyone who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him.*

My dear people, since God has loved us so much, we too should love one another. No one has ever seen God; but as long as we love one another God will live in us and his love will be complete in us. We can know that we are living in him and he is living in us because he lets us share his Spirit. We ourselves saw and we testify that the Father sent his Son as saviour of the world. If anyone acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in him, and he in God. We ourselves have known and put our faith in God’s love towards ourselves. God is love and anyone who lives in love lives in God, and God lives in him.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy. Alleluia!

Gospel: John 17:11-19 *That they may be one like us.*

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: ‘*Holy Father, keep those you have given me true to your name, so that they may be one like us. While I was with them, I kept those you had given me true to your name. I have watched over them and not one is lost except the one who chose to be lost, and this was to fulfil the scriptures. But now I am coming to you and while still in the world I say these things to share my joy with them to the full. I passed your word on to them, and the world hated them, because they belong to the world no more than I belong to the world. I am not asking you to remove them from the world, but to protect them from the evil one. They do not belong to the world any more than I belong to the world. Consecrate them in the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world, and for their sake I consecrate myself so that they too may be consecrated in truth.*’

Prayer Over the Offerings: Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful with the sacrificial offerings, that through these acts of devotedness we may pass over to the glory of heaven. Through Christ Our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: Father, I pray that they may be one as we also are one, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion:

Hear us, O God our Saviour, and grant us confidence, that through these sacred mysteries there will be accomplished in the body of the whole Church what has already come to pass in Christ her Head. Through Christ Our Lord.