

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

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*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.

The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ: 6th June, 2021

Readings: Sunday: Year B.

Weekdays: Tenth Week of the Year

Services This Week

Sunday 6 th – The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ	8:00 am 10:00 am (Streamed) 6:00 pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass – Mary & Stanley Poll RIP Holy Mass – The People of the Parish
Monday 7 th	Feria 10:00	Holy Mass – The Janes family
Tuesday 8 th	Feria No Mass Today	
Wednesday 9 th	Feria 10:00	Holy Mass – The Vieira family
Thursday 10 th	Feria 10:00	Holy Mass- Holy Souls
Friday 11 th	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus 10:00	Holy Mass
Saturday 12 th	The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary 10:00	Holy Mass
Sunday 13 th – 11 th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00 am 10:00 am (Streamed) 6:00 pm	Holy Mass Holy Mass – Mary & Stanley Poll RIP Holy Mass – The People of the Parish

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, the second Sunday after Pentecost, we celebrate a second solemnity, which marks our return to Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar. Today is the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, at one time called *Corpus Christi*, the Latin words for "the Body of Christ." In the most recent revision of our liturgical rites, the name for this day is expanded to be a more complete reflection of our Eucharistic theology.

In our reading for today, we read the account of the Last Supper found in the Gospel of Mark. It begins with the instructions that Jesus gave to his disciples to prepare their Passover celebration. It then goes on to give an account of the Last Supper. On this Sunday, however, our Lectionary reading omits the verses between these two passages; in those omitted verses we hear Jesus predict his betrayal by one of his disciples.

The Gospel of Mark describes Jesus' Last Supper with his disciples as a celebration of the Jewish feast of Passover. The Jewish celebration of Passover is a memorial to and a ritual participation in the defining moment of Israel's history. It celebrates God's deliverance of his people from slavery in Egypt. The Passover meal includes many ritually important elements, such as unleavened bread, lamb, and bitter herbs, each food item recalling an aspect of the Exodus event. The instructions for the preparation of this meal are carefully prescribed in the Law of Moses. It is a central obligation of the Jewish faith tradition to celebrate this meal and to give thanks to God for his deliverance and protection.

In the description of the Passover meal found in today's Gospel, however, Mark omits many elements of the Jewish Passover meal. Instead he describes only those elements he believes to be most essential to the Christian Eucharist: Jesus took bread, blessed the bread, broke the bread, and shared it with his disciples. Similar words and actions follow as Jesus shares the chalice with his disciples. This bread now shared is Jesus' own body. Those who drink from the chalice are invited to share in a new covenant which will be sealed by Jesus' own blood. Mark's Eucharistic theology looks forward to the Kingdom of God that Jesus inaugurates.

The Gospel for today reminds us that the Eucharist is a memorial of Christ's sacrifice on the cross. We believe that Jesus is truly present to us in the elements of bread and wine. Each time we celebrate this sacrament, we prepare for the Kingdom of God. This celebration, as the Second Vatican Council taught us, is the source and summit of the Christian life.

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ, historically known by its Latin name, *Corpus Christi*, celebrates the Real Presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist - Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity. It is traditionally celebrated on the Thursday following the Solemnity of the Holy Trinity, or transferred to the following Sunday. This jubilant festival is celebrated by Roman Catholics and other Christians to proclaim the truth of the transubstantiation of bread and wine into the actual body of Christ during Mass. In some countries in the world, Catholic churches still celebrate the festival, not only with a Mass, but also with a procession that carries the consecrated host through the streets as a public statement that the sacrifice of Christ was for the salvation of the whole world.

First Holy Communion

Today, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (*Corpus Christi*), we fittingly celebrate the First Holy Communion of Gracjan and Gabriel during the Mass at 10.00 am. The celebration will not affect the regular Mass attendance as the families will be seated where the servers usually sit.

The Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

Friday of this week, 11th June, is the Solemnity of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, and whilst even in normal times not a Holyday of Obligation, it is none the less a very important feast day in the church's calendar. Mass will be at 10:00 am as normal for weekdays, and the good news is that Friday Abstinence is dispensed that day because of the feast day.

Catholic East Anglia

The June edition of Catholic East Anglia, the Diocesan newspaper, is out now. This edition includes reports on the diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham and the annual Christ Mass at St John's Cathedral as well as a report on a Norwich Catholic honoured by the Queen. There is also a tribute to the Duke of Edinburgh, a report on the Ignite Youth Festival and a story about a Catholic family YouTube channel.

Copies are available free in the narthex – please take one and also take one for any friends or family that are not yet attending Mass in person. This edition can also be found on line on the parish web site.

Parish 150 Club

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

£15	No 136	Mrs V Davison	£10	No 227	Mr E Sikora
£5	No 89	Prize donated to the parish	£5	No 15	Mr & Mrs A Iannelli.

There is room in the Club for more members and it is never too late to join. If you are not a member please do sign up and help support your parish. Application forms are available in the narthex and on the parish web site.

First Holy Communion 2022

Parents who would like their children to celebrate their First Holy communion in 2022 are welcomed to book their places. Enrolment forms are available in the narthex, or can be found on the parish web site. An enrolment form must be completed for each child, signed, dated and returned to Fr Mathew no later than Sunday 10th October 2021. There will be a kick-off meeting for the parents of all the children enrolled and this will take place at 4:00 pm in the Parish Room on Sunday 17th October. We hope to begin the classes in November 2021.

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 next 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.

Photo Gallery

A new section has been added to the parish web site – a photo gallery showing a series of pictures of our church over time. If you have any pictures of the church, the hall or parish life over the years, and would like them added to the collection, please contact webmaster@marymagdalens.org.

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 Sarah Malone (2009), David Murphy (1982), Patrick Keilly (1983), Peter Kavanagh (2002), Samuel Chaisty (2005), Arthur Abbott (2004), Alice McCormack, Nancy Hunt and Agnes Stacey (2012) 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: The Most Holy Body & Blood of Christ: 6th June, 2021.

Entrance Antiphon:

He fed them with the finest wheat and satisfied them with honey from the rock.

Collect: O God, who in this wonderful Sacrament have left us a memorial of your Passion, grant us, we pray, so to revere the sacred mysteries of your Body and Blood that we may always experience in ourselves the fruits of your redemption. Who live and reign with God the Father in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

First Reading: Exo. 24:3-8

This is the blood of the Covenant the Lord has made with you.

Moses went and told the people all the commands of the Lord and all the ordinances. In answer, all the people said with one voice, 'We will observe all the commands that the Lord has decreed.' Moses put all the commands of the Lord into writing, and early next morning he built an altar at the foot of the mountain, with twelve standing-stones for the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he directed certain young Israelites to offer holocausts and to immolate bullocks to the Lord as communion sacrifices. Half of the blood Moses took up and put into basins, the other half he cast on the altar. And taking the Book of the Covenant he read it to the listening people, and they said, 'We will observe all that the Lord has decreed; we will obey.' Then Moses took the blood and cast it towards the people. 'This' he said 'is the blood of the Covenant that the Lord has made with you, containing all these rules.'

Responsorial Psalm: Ps. 113:12-13,15-18

Response to the psalm is: *The cup of salvation I will raise; I will call on the Lord's name.*

How can I repay the Lord
for his goodness to me?

Your servant Lord, your servant am I;
You have loosened my bonds.

The cup of salvation I will raise;
I will call on the Lord's name.

A thanksgiving sacrifice I make:
I will call on the Lord's name.

O precious in the eyes of the Lord
is the death of his faithful.

My vows to the Lord I will fulfil
before all his people.

Second Reading: Heb 9:11-15

The blood of Christ can purify our inner self from dead actions.

Now Christ has come, as the high priest of all the blessings which were to come. He has passed through the greater, the more perfect tent, which is better than the one made by men's hands because it is not of this created order; and he has entered the sanctuary once and for all, taking with him not the blood of goats and bull calves, but his own blood, having won an eternal redemption for us. The blood of goats and bulls and the ashes of a heifer are sprinkled on those who have incurred defilement and they restore the holiness of their outward lives; how much more effectively the blood of Christ, who offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, can purify our inner self from dead actions so that we do our service to the living God. He brings a new covenant, as the mediator, only so that the people who were called to an eternal inheritance may actually receive what was promised: his death took place to cancel the sins that infringed the earlier covenant.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the living bread which has come down from heaven, says the Lord; anyone who eats this bread will live forever. Alleluia!

Gospel: Mark 14:12-16,22-26

This is my body. This is my blood.

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb was sacrificed, his disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?' So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a pitcher of water. Follow him, and say to the owner of the house which he enters, "The Master says: Where is my dining room in which I can eat the Passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room furnished with couches, all prepared. Make the preparations for us there.' The disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and prepared the Passover. And as they were eating he took some bread, and when he had said the blessing he broke it and gave it to them. 'Take it,' he said 'this is my body.' Then he took a cup, and when he had returned thanks he gave it to them, and all drank from it, and he said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant, which is to be poured out for many. I tell you solemnly, I shall not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.' After psalms had been sung they left for the Mount of Olives.

Prayer over the Offerings:

Grant your church, O Lord, we pray, the gifts of unity and peace, whose signs are to be seen in mystery in the offerings here present. Through Christ Our Lord.

Communion Antiphon:

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him says the Lord.

Prayer after Communion:

Grant, O Lord, we pray, that we may delight for all eternity in that share in your divine life, which is foreshadowed in the present age by our reception of your precious Body and Blood. Who live and reign forever and ever.