

# St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

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🌐 [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.

## The 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time: 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 Education Sunday

**Readings: Sunday: Year B.**

**Weekdays: Twenty Fourth Week of the Year, Year I**

### Services This Week

Sunday 12 <sup>th</sup> – 24 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00 am 10:00 am (Streamed) 6:00 pm	Holy Mass - The Vieira Family Holy Mass - The People of the Parish Holy Mass
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup>	St John Chrysostom 10:00 am	Holy Mass – Frank Wilfred Janes
Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup>	Exaltation of the Holy Cross <b>No Mass Today</b>	
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup>	Our Lady of Sorrows 10:00 am	Holy Mass – Bolt Family
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup>	Saints Cornelius and Cyprian 10:00 am	Holy Mass – William Anthony Cowan
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup>	Feria 10:00 am	Holy Mass – Holy Souls
Saturday 18 <sup>th</sup>	Feria 10:00 am	Holy Mass
Sunday 19 <sup>th</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time	8:00 am 10:00 am (Streamed) 6:00 pm	Holy Mass The Vieira Family Holy Mass - The People of the Parish 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 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. Although no longer mandatory, we are committed to following Government guidance 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 guidance is still that you wear a face covering whilst in church.

## Today's Gospel

Today's reading is a turning point in Mark's Gospel. In the presentation of the life and ministry of Jesus found in the Gospel of Mark, the deeds of Jesus have shown Jesus to be the Son of God. Yet many, including Jesus' disciples, have not yet realized his identity. In today's Gospel, Jesus asks the disciples for a field report by asking what others say about him. He then turns the question directly to the disciples and asks what they believe. Peter speaks for all of them when he announces that they believe Jesus to be the Christ.

The word *Christ* is the Greek translation of the Hebrew word for Messiah, which means "the anointed one." At the time of Jesus, the image of the Messiah was laden with popular expectations, most of which looked for a political leader who would free the Jewish people from Roman occupation. Jesus does not appear to have used this term for himself, instead refers to himself instead as the Son of Man, a term derived from the Jewish Scriptures, found in the Book of Daniel and in other apocryphal writings. Many scholars suggest that the phrase Son of Man is best understood to mean "human being."

Now that the disciples have acknowledged Jesus as the Christ, Jesus confides in them the outcome of his ministry: he will be rejected, must suffer and die, and will rise after three days. Peter rejects this prediction, and Jesus rebukes him severely. The image of Christ that Jesus is giving is not the image of the Messiah that Peter was expecting. Jesus then teaches the crowd and the disciples about the path of discipleship: to be Christ's disciple is to follow in the way of the cross.

We can easily miss the fear that Jesus' words must have evoked in his disciples. Death by crucifixion was all too familiar as a method of execution in Roman-occupied territories. It was also an omnipresent danger to the Christian community for whom Mark wrote. The path that Jesus was inviting his disciples to share meant tremendous suffering and death. This is the kind of radical commitment and sacrifice that Jesus calls us to adopt for the sake of the Gospel.

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## Education Sunday

Today is Education Sunday, a special day of prayer and celebration for everyone in the world of education which is held in the United Kingdom each year to coincide with the beginning of the school year. The theme is devised by an ecumenical steering group representing different Christian denominations and organisations and the focus this year is thanking all those who work in Catholic schools for their hard work and dedication during the pandemic. Did you know that Education Sunday is one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in England and Wales? This year the focus of Education Sunday is to thank all those who work in Catholic schools for their hard work and dedication over what has been a very challenging 18 months. On the parish web site, you can find a special Education Sunday prayer card to download.

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## August Offertory

The offertory for the month of August came to a total of £2,295 of which £1,130 was cash collected at church and £1,165 was standing order payments received direct to the parish bank account. Thank you.

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## Stella Maris

Bishop Alan Hopes will be making a pastoral visit to the Seafarer's Centre at the port of Felixstowe tomorrow, Monday 13<sup>th</sup> September, and celebrating Mass. The Bishop will be arriving at 3:00 pm and the Mass will start at 5:00 pm. The Mass is open to all, but the size of the chapel will limit attendance and anybody interested in attending is asked to contact the port chaplain, Julian Wong on 07758 356372, to confirm a place.

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## Parish Safeguarding Rep

Dr. Anna Jacob who got married in our church earlier this year is appointed as our new safeguarding representative. As a GP she has extensive knowledge about safeguarding. We would like to thank Anna for taking up this role and helping the parish.

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## First Holy Communion Programme 2022 – A Reminder

The programme for children making their First Holy Communion in 2022 will be starting shortly. Children to join the programme must first register - to do this please download the registration form from the parish web site or take a hard copy from the narthex, complete, sign and date it and return it to Fr Mathew no later than October 10<sup>th</sup>. Valentina Borjes Hermes is appointed as our new First Holy Communion Catechist. The diocesan Safeguarding Administrator is arranging her DBS. The first parents-only meeting will be on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2021 at which we intend to make decisions about the classes and the celebrations. This year we will use the new parish room for the classes. It will be slightly different from last year's as we are all now familiar with modern technology and online materials. The new room will have high speed internet facility. After the initial classes, Valentina

will take her maternity leave, during that time Collett Long and Rity Sunny will continue the classes. After the return of Valentina we hope to celebrate the First Holy Communion in May 2022.

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### **Ernest Thomas RIP**

Both the above roles were previously filled by Mr. Ernest Thomas who suddenly passed away last year. We pray for the repose of his soul and remember with gratitude all that he did for the parish.

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### **Can you Help?**

Next Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> September, we are arranging a working party to tidy up the church hall and surrounding area, starting at 10:30. Refreshments in the form of tea, coffee and a bacon baguette, will be provided at 12:00 noon. We need as many volunteers as possible - if you can help, please add your name to the list in the narthex for catering purposes.

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### **Marriage Preparation**

With the return to relative normality after the Coronavirus restrictions were lifted, the diocesan *Marriage and Family Life Commission* is preparing to return to in-person marriage preparation in 2022. On the parish web site, you can find the new registration form with details of the preparation provided and links for online enrolment and payment details.

As well as parish-based sessions using the *So Great A Mystery* Diocesan programme, couples will also need to sign up for a Saturday session on the *Smart Loving* program with Dr Bonnie Lander-Johnson, the marriage and family life coordinator for the Diocese. Sessions will be offered throughout 2022 in various locations in the diocese, details of which can again be found on the parish web site. If you have any questions in relation to Catholic marriage preparation please speak to Fr Mathew or contact the Marriage and Family Life Commission by email at [mflc.eastanglia@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mflc.eastanglia@yahoo.co.uk).

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### **Secular Franciscans**

The Secular Franciscans is an Order in the Church for lay people (married or single) seeking to live a committed Christian life taking inspiration from the unique life of St Francis of Assisi. Members live as other people in their local communities, in their own homes, they marry and raise families, they work. At the heart of the Secular Franciscan Order is St Francis' call to lead the Gospel life. His message was, and remains, one of total love for, and commitment to, Jesus Christ and His values, so clearly revealed to us in the Gospels. It is a message of total love of God, and our neighbours - whoever and wherever they are - and indeed all of creation: a simple message that is modern and for today. Secular Franciscans have a good sense of humour, life is serious, but not so serious that we lose our sense of joy. Members of the Ipswich Fraternity will be holding their September meeting at St Mary's Church, 322 Woodbridge Road, Ipswich, IP4 4BD, on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September commencing at 2.45 pm - visitors to the meetings are always welcome. For further information, please contact: Ann and David Gleave (01473 720668).

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### **St John's Cathedral**

The Diocesan Cathedral of St John the Baptist in Norwich has announced four heritage open days, the last two of which are next weekend Friday and Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> September. Events include both on-line/virtual experiences and in-person events and offer opportunities to explore behind the scenes, climb the tower, learn about the stained glass windows, explore the ground floor, visit the gardens and more. Details of the events can be found on the Diocesan web site [www.rcdea.org.uk](http://www.rcdea.org.uk) or follow the link from the parish web site.

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### **The Sick of the Parish**

We ask your prayers for all our brothers and sisters who are unwell, afflicted or distressed. Comfort and relieve them according to their needs, and grant them the love and consolation of your Spirit: John Anderson-Hurst, William Barnes, Peggy Barron, Jason Beaumont, Michael Clarke, Sheila Curry, Fabiana Di Mascio, Patrick Doran, Ron Green, Josephine Kalagira, 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 Thomas Finegan (1969), Hilda Moss (1961), Jennifer Bishop (1972), Mary Bulbeck (1994), James "Dan" Cleary (1988), Maria Wojciechowska (1999) and Michael Hennessy (2004) 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: 24<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time: 12<sup>th</sup> September, 2021.**

**Entrance Antiphon:**

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you, that your prophets be found true. Hear the prayers of your servant, and of your people Israel.

**Collect:**

Look upon us, O God, Creator and ruler of all things, and, that we may feel the working of your mercy, grant that we may serve you with all our heart. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

**First Reading:** Isa, 50:5-9 *I offered my back to those who struck me.*

The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help, so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed. My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help, who will dare to condemn me?

**Responsorial Psalm:** Ps. 114:1-6,8-9

**Response to the psalm is:** *I will walk in the presence of the Lord, in the land of the living.*

I love the Lord for he has heard  
the cry of my appeal;  
for he turned his ear to me  
in the day when I called him. ☩

They surrounded me, the snares of death,  
with the anguish of the tomb;  
they caught me, sorrow and distress.  
I called on the Lord's name.  
O Lord my God, deliver me! ☩

How gracious is the Lord, and just;  
our God has compassion.  
The Lord protects the simple hearts;  
I was helpless so he saved me. ☩

He has kept my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears  
and my feet from stumbling.  
I will walk in the presence of the Lord  
In the land of the living. ☩

**Second Reading:** James 2:14-18 *If good works do not go with faith, it is quite dead.*

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them, 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty', without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead. This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

**Gospel Acclamation:**

Alleluia, alleluia! I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord; No one can come to the Father except through me. Alleluia!

**Gospel:** Mark 8:27-35 *You are the Christ. The Son of Man is destined to suffer grievously.*

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him, 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him. And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' He called the people and his disciples to him and said, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

**Prayer over the Offerings:**

Look with favour on our supplications, O Lord, and in your kindness accept these, your servants' offerings, that what each has offered to the honour of your name may serve the salvation of all. Through Christ Our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon:**

How precious is your mercy, O God! The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

**Prayer after Communion:**

May the working of this heavenly gift, O Lord, we pray, take possession of our minds and our bodies, so that its effects, and not our own desires, may always prevail in us. Through Christ our Lord.