



# PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : Fr. John Barnes MA VF  
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## February 2nd, 2017 : FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

### Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm (St.F) Int. For the People  
Sunday 9:30am (St.F) Int. +Bernard Peacock  
11:00am (Con) Int. & Family

### Weekday Masses

Monday ST.BLAISE  
9:30am (St.F) Int.  
ST.CLAUDINE  
10:30am (Con) Int. The Sisters RJM  
Tuesday FERIA  
No Mass today  
Wednesday ST.AGATHA  
No Mass today  
Thursday FERIA  
No Mass today  
Friday FERIA  
Noon (St.F) Int. +John McNeillis  
5:00pm (Con) Int.  
Saturday FERIA  
9:00am (St.F) Int.  
6:00pm (St.F) Int. For the People

### The Daily Office

Lauds (Morning Prayer) will be said a quarter of an hour before the first Mass at St.Felix on Monday and Friday

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 5.15pm to 5.45pm  
Sunday 9.0am to 9.20am  
or by appointment.

The Rosary Friday at 11.15am

The Mass today The readings can be found

on p.300 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p.1119 of The Sunday Missal.

**At the 6.0pm Mass Eucharistic Prayer 1**  
*Sanctus & Benedictus* Parish Mass Book p.16  
(*Angelus*) Hymn 175

**At the 9.30am Mass Eucharistic Prayer 2**  
**(The traditional Candlemas Ceremonies will take place at the beginning of this Mass)**

*Gloria* New Celtic  
*Sanctus & Benedictus* New Celtic  
Hymns : 160, 883, 771, 887

**At the 11.0am Mass Eucharistic Prayer 1**  
Hymns 175, 770, 771

### THIS WEEK

**As Fr.John only took a two day break after Christmas, he plans to have a further three days off this week, before the rigours of Lent!**

**Monday** The Blessing of St.Blaise - the traditional Blessing of Throats - will take place after both the 9.30am Mass at St.Felix and the 10.30am Mass at the Convent.

The Prayer Group will not meet this week : the usual Monday afternoon meetings will resume on Monday next week.

**Wednesday** 12.30pm The February Parish Lunch in the Hall.

**Thursday** 2.0pm The Together Club meets at the Convent to play Beetle.

**Saturday** 9.0am Saturday Club, for young people of Primary School age, meets at St.Felix.

**A week on Friday** 2.0pm The film on Global Healing will be shown at the Convent.

## PARISH NOTICEBOARD

**Anniversaries this week** Sydney Pope (2003), Iris Douglas (2006), Nora Twomey (2008), Muriel Hargreaves (2003), Patrick Kilbride (2005), Patricia Manthorpe (2000), Mary Sanford (2002), and William Pipe (2006). May they Rest in Peace.

**Money Matters** Last Sunday £440.98 was given at the Offertory, and £82.79 to CAFOD.

**Lunch Club** Jenny writes 'Wednesday Lunch Club - just a reminder to those who have booked - our next lunch is on Wednesday this week at 12.30pm. Any queries please contact Jenny.

### CANDLEMAS

Only occasionally does February 2nd, Candlemas, fall on a Sunday. When it does, as it does this year, it replaces the Sunday in Ordinary Time because it is a feast of Our Lord. Its full title is, of course, The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, and we remember how Jesus was taken to the Temple as a child to be presented to God the Father. Jewish law dictated that all first-born sons should be 'presented' in this way. And it was there that the elderly prophet Simeon declared that this child would be a Light to give light to the Peoples. Hence it is that on this feast we think of Jesus as our Light - the light of the world. We rejoice in the enlightened that he gives us, and we hold lighted candles in his honour.

### THE BLESSING OF ST.BLAISE

Monday this week is the Feast of St.Blaise, and once more the traditional Blessing of Throats will take place, both at St.Felix and at the Convent.

Who was St.Blaise? He was Bishop of Sebaste in Armenia (modern Turkey), and was martyred for the Faith in the year AD 316. He is said to have been a physician before he was consecrated a bishop, and that at an early age. Very little else is known about him, but he was already being venerated as a saint by the sixth century, and the ceremony of the Blessing of Throats on his feast day was already being practiced by the eighth century.

Why is he associated with the cure of diseases of the throat? It is said that he cured a boy who was in danger of death after a fishbone had lodged in his throat.

The Blessing is given by two candles being held in saltire under the throat of the person receiving the Blessing. (In Germany and other places the candles are lighted - which could be a little hazardous - but in Britain they are unlit). The association of St.Blaise with candles is that an old woman is said to have brought him candles and food in prison, prior to his martyrdom. Some claim that the woman was the Mother of the boy he had healed.

The Blessing of St.Blaise is one of the SACRAMENTALS of the Church - those things which do not bestow grace in the way that the Sacraments do, but which dispose to receive God's grace. The form of words which is used as the candles are held beneath the throat are *Through the intercession of St.Blaise, may God free you from diseases of the throat and from every other evil, in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.*

### LENT IS COMING

Just three weeks on Wednesday we will be embarking upon the keeping of Lent. And so when the Parish Council met last Tuesday it thought about what we might do together to make this season special, and the time of spiritual growth which it is meant to be.

It was decided that we would have a CaFE course - something which has proved popular in the past, this time a course on Prayer. I think all of us feel that we need some help and encouragement with our life of prayer, and so hopefully this will prove useful. But this time we will experiment with running the course on a Tuesday afternoon, rather than on an evening, which some people find difficult.

There will also be the usual Friday Lent Lunch, which many of us enjoy. It seems that some kind ladies are prepared to make this possible once more. And there will also be the usual Stations of the Cross on Sunday afternoons, which have been well-attended in the past.