



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : Fr. John Barnes MA VF
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June 14th, 2020 : SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

Sunday Mass

9.30am Int. For the People

Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA
9:30am Int. +Norah Sandford (FM)

Tuesday ST.RICHARD OF CHICHESTER
9:30am Int. +Jim & Dorothy Kearny

Wednesday ST.BOTOLPH
9:30am Int. Michael Smith

Thursday FERIA

Friday SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST
SACRED HEART OF JESUS
Noon Int.

Saturday IMMACULATE HEART OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
9.30am Int. +Robert Aylward (FM)

The above are all private Masses, since the Government will not allow public services to take place in churches at present.

**From tomorrow, Monday,
ST.FELIX WILL BE OPEN FOR
PRIVATE PRAYER**

**For this first week in which we are allowed to
be open, the church will be open each day
(except Thursday)
11.0am - Noon and 2.0pm- 3.0pm**

Fr.John writes :
Dear Parishioners,

Joy and sorrow very often come together, and that is so today. Joy - because from tomorrow our church is permitted to be open. Only, however, for private prayer - there is no hint yet as to when Mass can be celebrated publicly. And only open, we're told, for a limited time each day. For this week, the church will be open for just two hours each day - the times are printed opposite. We have to have someone on duty during opening, and a handful of kind people have volunteered for this. The volunteers will be asked to do just a one-hour stint at a time. Only if more people volunteer will we be able to think of extending the daily times. Please let me know if you can help. What you have to do is quite simple, and of course I will explain the procedures to those who volunteer. I do hope that people will avail themselves of the opportunity to come into church. No Holy Water is permitted, but we can light votive candles. We must use the sanitiser provided on our hands when entering and leaving, and we must observe social distancing, as in any public space. Distancing means that only a limited area will be available for sitting/kneeling. But nevertheless, despite these limitations and restrictions, it will be a great joy to have the church accessible once more.

Joy, but sorrow too - and the sorrow today is not being able to be physically at Mass and to receive Holy Communion on this wonderful Solemnity of Corpus Christi. On this day each year the Church makes a great act of thanksgiving for this, Our Lord's most precious gift to us - the gift of his very self, his Body and Blood, hidden under the outward forms of bread and wine. Clearly the most obvious and appropriate way to make this act of thanksgiving is to be at Mass, and

to receive the Holy Sacrament - but this you are prevented from doing. A great sadness. But I know that you will do the next best thing - watch a Mass relayed from somewhere, and make an Act of Spiritual Communion. And hopefully you will be able at some point in the week ahead, be able to come into Church and worship Jesus, sacramentally present in the tabernacle. With every good wish, Your friend and Parish Priest,

Fr.John

THIS WEEK

Thursday 2.15pm Funeral of Joan Runnacles RIP, at the Crematorium of the Seven Hills.

Friday Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus : today being a Solemnity, we are dispensed today from the Friday abstinence from meat rule.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Mary Spillane (2004), Sr.Campion Green RJM (2003), Chris Nelson (2019), Robert Boreham (2014), Florence Kitchingman (2001), Janet Doggett (2013), and Valerie Howes (2007). May they Rest in Peace.

Michael Smith I'm sure you remember the seminarian Michael, who spent last August with us in the parish - and whose stay here we much enjoyed. Well he is to be ordained Deacon next Wednesday. He has remained in Rome at the Beda College throughout the lock-down, continuing his studies and preparation, and he will be ordained in the Chapel there. We send him our good wishes, and the assurance of our prayers. Mass will be offered for him here on Wednesday morning.

The Memorial Garden Sadly the church can only be open for a limited period each day at present , but the Memorial Garden is open all the time, and is a very pleasant place to sit, think, and pray on a sunny day. Barbara and I have both been doing some work there recently, and the roses are now coming into full bloom. It's there for you, an amenity for us all to share.

THE SAINTS OF EAST ANGLIA **V ST.BOTOLPH**

In this series, we've thought about the Primary Patron of our diocese, Our Lady of Walsingham,

and about the three Secondary Patrons -St..Felix, St.Edmund, and St.Etheldreda. So now we must remember those other Saints who lived within the diocese, and enriched it by their holy lives and faithful witness.

This week, it is appropriate that we think about St.Botolph, as his feast occurs this Wednesday. Our knowledge of his life - he died in about 680 - is a little sketchy, but we know that he was born in East Anglia, and that he established his monastery in 654 at Icanho, which is almost certainly the modern Iken, on the estuary beyond Orford, south of Aldeburgh. The land had been given him by the King of East Anglia - he had previously been Chaplain to a convent at which two of the king's sisters were nuns. His monastery was later destroyed in the Viking invasions. Little more is known about him, other than the fact that he was a devoted missionary. He was much venerated in the Middle Ages, no less than sixty-four ancient churches being dedicated to him, of which sixteen are in Norfolk, and three within the City of London.

I wonder whether you have been to Iken? It is a magical place - a small peninsular jutting out into the wide estuary of the River Alde , with just a couple of houses and the tiny ancient church, built on the site of St.Botolph's monastery. It has a wonderfully remote and peaceful feel about it, and one feels that it can't be much different now from how it was in Botolph's time, so many centuries ago. Maybe a venue for a Saturday or Sunday afternoon parish pilgrimage in the future?

Collect for the Feast of St.Botolph

*Give us grace, Lord,
amid the changing scenes of this life,
to set our hearts firmly on the things of heaven,
even as you have given us an example
of the perfect life of the gospel
through your servant Botolph ;
may his advocacy win for us
that which we do not of ourselves deserve.
We ask this though our Lord Jesus Christ, your
Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit, God for ever and ever. Amen.*