



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : Fr. John Barnes MA VF
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Parish Website: stfelixfelixstowe.uk Helping Hands - 07342722521

July 12th, 2020 : 15th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm (St.F) Int. Fr.Tony Hogarth
(Golden Jubilee)
Sunday 9:30am (St.F) Int. For the People
11:00am (St.F) Int.+John Edwards

Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA
2.30pm (St.F) *FUNERAL MASS FOR ANNE
PORTER RIP*
Tuesday FERIA
9:30am (St.F) Int. +Anna Easton
Wednesday ST.BONAVENTURE
9:30am (St.F) Int. +Elsie Fenton (FM)
Thursday OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL

Friday FERIA
Noon (St.F) Int. +Maura Bennet
Saturday FERIA
9.30am (St.F) Int.+Bernadette Sexton
6:00pm (St.F) Int. For the People

**At present all Masses will take place at St.Felix:
the Convent continues in lockdown for the time
being.**

ST.FELIX CHURCH IS OPEN
HALF AN HOUR BEFORE ADVERTISED
MASSES
AND ALSO 4.0pm - 5.0pm
ON SUNDAY, TUESDAY, FRIDAY
AND SATURDAY

The Daily Office

Lauds (Morning Prayer) is said a quarter of an hour before the first Mass.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Sunday, Tuesday, Friday and Saturday 4.0pm-
5.0pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation

During times of Exposition, as above, or by
appointment 'phone 282561

The Rosary Friday at 11.15am

Fr.John writes :

Dear Parishioners,

How are you? How are you coping? I feel that maybe many of us are going through an especially difficult time just now. In the first months of the Coronavirus pandemic, maybe we felt we were coping very well. We were, perhaps, more resilient and purposeful than we expected. The whole thing was a novelty then -- even if a somewhat scary one - and we were positive about the opportunities which it presented us with, and determined to be brave and come through it with honour. But now for some of us things seem very different. We feel so tired and dispirited, fed-up, demoralized. Our energy and our purposefulness seem to be spent, as irksome restrictions seem set to continue, as problems - economic and otherwise - seem to abound, and as what we knew as 'normal' retreats farther into the past. I suppose that this difficult time is the real time of testing. Our faith in the goodness of a loving God, and our turning towards him with trust, recognising our dependence upon his grace and his mercy - these alone will see us through.

I think we all wondered quite how it would seem to be back in church last Sunday, with the various restrictions in place. I for one felt that it didn't seem to be all that 'odd' - the Mass is the Mass after all, and the 'variations' were not too irksome. I expect everyone appreciated the shorter Homily which is required by the rules, and we found that we survived quite well without any singing. Everyone used the hand-sanitiser, and masks were available for those who wanted them. People were also very good about distancing.

The 6.0pm Mass was attended by over thirty people, and the 9.30am by over forty. Oddly, only fifteen clocked in for the 11.0am. Each of the Masses was just thirty-five minutes long. I'm hoping that those who did put their toe into the water last weekend will have told others that it is all carefully regulated, and that there is little or no danger of catching an infection. We mustn't let our lives be governed by fear. In the Gospel of the day we heard Our Lord say 'Come to me' and I think that those who did just that were probably pleased that they had done so.

One thing I forgot to say last week. You knew that during the lockdown Catholics were released from their Obligation to hear Mass every Sunday. This continues, and we are free to attend Mass on another day of the week rather than Sunday if we wish to do so.. In parishes with large Sunday congregations it is felt that this may lead to a spreading of the numbers over the whole week, which would make distancing more easy.

Your friend and Parish Priest,

Fr.John

THIS WEEK

Monday 2.30pm Funeral Mass for Ann Porter, followed by cremation at the Crematorium of the Seven Hills. The Funeral Mass will take the place of the normal 9.30am Monday Mass.

Wednesday 11.0am Fr.John hopes to take part in a meeting of the Deans with the Bishop by Zoom.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Joan Styles (2003), Michael Taylor (2007), Bill Sole (2016), Anthony McGrath (2010), Seam McManus (2011), Sr.Monica Brennan RJM (2011), Rita Robertson (2003), and Teresa Anna McNeill (2017) R.I.P.

From the Treasurer David Richardson writes 'The number of parishioners using Direct Debit for payment of weekly Mass giving prior to lockdown was eight. This has now swelled to 19, and is hopefully still rising. This is a means of contributing to our church without fuss, bother or scrabbling about at the last minute, and is highly recommended.'

THE SAINTS OF EAST ANGLIA

IX THE MARTYRS OF THE REFORMATION

On December 10th each year we celebrate the feast of the Blessed Martyrs of East Anglia. There are six of them, five priests and one layman. The first to suffer was John Robinson, who was executed in Ipswich in 1588. A Yorkshireman, he became a widower and went to Rheims to study for the priesthood, being ordained there in 1585. And the last to be put to death was Henry Heath, executed in 1643. He was born in Peterborough, and became Librarian at Corpus Christi College Cambridge. He too studied for the priesthood in France, and entered the Franciscans. He returned to England disguised as a sailor, but shortly after arriving he was arrested as a priest and sentenced to death. Like so many other martyrs of the Reformation period, he was executed at Tyburn. The one layperson amongst the East Anglian Martyrs was Brian Lacey., who was betrayed as a Catholic by his brother, Richard Lacey of Brockdish. After being arrested and imprisoned, he was condemned to death for aiding and abetting Catholic priests, and was executed in 1591.

I think it is sobering to contemplate these holy martyrs. Like us they were ordinary Catholics, ordained or lay. They were courageous and of good character, aiming only to be true to the faith which their ancestors in England had practiced for many centuries. Their only 'crime' was that of being faithful to Catholic teaching, for which they were ready to suffer. It makes us ask how loyal are we to the Catholic Faith? Would we be prepared to even inconvenience ourselves to be true to it, let alone be prepared to sacrifice our lives for it. Hopefully, they inspire us.