



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : Fr. John Barnes MA VF
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September 13th, 2020 : 24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm (St.F) Int. For the People
Sunday 9:30am (St.F) Int. Stephen, Fiona, and
Family (D&JB)
11:00am (St.F) Int

Weekday Masses

Monday FEAST OF THE EXALTATION
OF THE HOLY CROSS
9:30am (St.F) Int. The Badcock Family
(B&AL)
Tuesday OUR LADY OF SORROWS
9:30am (St.F) Int. +Betty Ryles (KW)
Wednesday ST.CORNELIUS & ST.CYPRIAN
9:30am (St.F) Int.
Thursday FERIA
No Mass today
Friday FERIA
No Mass today
Saturday FERIA
6:00pm (St.F) Int. For the People

**At present all Masses will take place at St.Felix:
the Convent continues in lockdown.
Members of the congregation are required to
wear face-masks during Mass at present : the
Celebrant must wear a face-mask when
administering Holy Communion.**

ST.FELIX CHURCH IS OPEN
HALF AN HOUR BEFORE ADVERTISED
MASSES
AND ALSO 4.0pm to 5.0pm
ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY

The Daily Office

Lauds (Morning Prayer) is said a quarter of an

hour before Mass.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
Tuesday 4.0pm to 5.0pm

Sacrament of Reconciliation
By request.

The Rosary Friday at 11.15am

THIS WEEK

**Fr.John had the first few days of his summer
holiday a couple of weeks ago ; he begins the
main part of his holiday on Thursday this week,
returning on Thursday October 1st. He plans
to be on the North Norfolk coast. The Masses
on the two Sundays when he is away will be
celebrated by Fr.Chris Dobson, a retired priest
who lives near Woodbridge. I know that you
will welcome him.**

Tuesday 10.30am The Deanery Clergy
meet at St.Felix.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Felix Shaw (2000),
Monica Barsby (2008), Michael Kay (2001),
Annie O'Hagan (2003), Patrick O'Reilly (2000),
William Keane (2009), and Sheila Etherington
(2017). May they Rest in Peace.

Money Matters Last Sunday £448.50 was
given at the Offertory, and £40.60 for CAFOD.
This Sunday, for the first time for what seems like
ages, there will be a Second Collection : it is the
annual collection for the Holy Places in Palestine,
which is usually taken on Good Friday.

Condolences In last week's Newsheet we offered condolences to Stephen Badcock, whose Mother has died : and now this week we do so to Fiona Badcock, who has also lost her Mother, Patricia Peacock. We asked that both Olive and Patricia may rest in light and peace, and that Stephen and Fiona may be comforted in their sad loss.

Parish Council Just five people have expressed a wish to take part in a distanced meeting of the Parish Council, with limited numbers, so in view of the Chairman's double bereavement, and the uncertainty of how many people can gather (although the latest restrictions really apply to social gatherings - parties - rather than to distanced business meetings) - it seems best if we wait a little before proceeding. I will keep those five names to hand.

HOLY COMMUNION

Yesterday afternoon I went around to a care home just to make sure that it was not possible for me to take Holy Communion to one of our elderly parishioners who is living there. I thought I knew what the answer would be, but I couldn't bear the thought of her being denied the Blessed Sacrament for months on end after having been a devout communicant for all of her life. Yes, I was told that it was 'absolutely impossible' for me to take Holy Communion to her. I went away feeling very sad.

I felt sad, too, that a considerable number of parishioners who are now able to get to Mass are not doing so. We are taking the necessary precautions in church, and if these are followed I really don't think that anyone is at risk. I don't think that we should let our fears - which are perhaps not wholly rational - interfere with our relationship with God, in which the Reception of the living Lord at the Altar plays such a vital and wonderful part. I would ask those people who have not returned to Mass to think very seriously about doing so. The Bishop has confirmed that the recently changed rules about assembly do not

apply to churches, and he emphasizes that our churches are in fact much safer places than many of the other places which we are now entering. Our Lord offers himself to us at the Altar. The grace and spiritual strength which we need are there. Can we rightly continue to say 'No'?

AND THE MASS

Of course I've been curious to know how you feel about the Mass as it is today - no hymns, no Prayer of the Faithful, a briefer homily, no Offertory Procession and no sharing of the Peace. Until today no one, to my surprise, has made any comment. But today a parishioner actually told me how much she prefers the present form of the Mass to how it was before. It was nothing to do with the fact that Mass is now much shorter, making it possible to get back home more quickly to ones coffee/newspaper/ Gin&Tonic/ television. No, it was because, she said 'it seems more directed towards God'.

I feel that too. I like her prefer things as they are now. I feel, as I think that lady does, that the Mass now has more of a sense of purpose, even urgency. There is no way in which we are going to Mass in order to be entertained, or to pass the time. We are going there to DO something very specific and necessary - namely to give God our love expressed in worship and to offer the Holy Sacrifice, by which we are liberated and renewed. And having offered the Christ and his saving work to the Father, to receive the same Christ as our Bread of Life. The 'liturgy' means the 'work'. Maybe we are currently getting down to work in St.Felix in a very good and purposeful way.

Patrons Hitherto Our Lady has been the principal Patron of the East Anglia diocese, with St.Felix, St.Edmund, and St.Etheldreda as secondary patrons. Rome has now ruled that a diocese may only have two patron saints, and so the patrons of the diocese of East Anglia are now just Our Lady of Walsingham and St.Felix. I'm glad that our own St.Felix has been kept!