



# PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : Fr. John Barnes MA VF  
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## October 25th, 2020 : 30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm (St.F) Int. Samuel Thomson  
Sunday 9:30am (St.F) Int. +Bernie O'Connor  
11:00am (StF) Int. For the People

### Weekday Masses

Monday ST.CHAD & ST.CEDD  
9:30am (St.F) Int.  
Tuesday FERIA  
9:30am (St.F) Int.  
Wednesday FEAST OF ST.SIMON& ST.JUDE  
9:30am (St.F) Int. Sr.Mavis' Intentions  
Thursday FERIA (ARJM)  
No Mass today  
Friday FERIA  
Noon (St.F) Int.  
Saturday FERIA  
9.30am (St.F) Int.  
6:00pm (St.F) Int. For the People

**All Masses continue to be at St.Felix'. 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 DURING THE  
RESTRICTIONS  
HALF AN HOUR BEFORE ADVERTISED  
MASSES  
AND ALSO 2.0pm-3.0pm  
ON MONDAY, TUESDAY, & FRIDAY

### The Daily Office

Lauds (Morning Prayer) is said a quarter of an hour before Mass on weekdays..

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Now that British Summer Time has ended, Exposition will return to its old time of Tuesday morning 10.0am -10.30am - the half hour after Mass. (Note that the afternoon opening of the church will now be 2.0pm-3.0pm on certain days, and not 4.0pm-5.0pm).

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

On request

The Rosary Friday at 11.15am

### THIS WEEK

**Next Saturday** the National Rosary Relay is taking place, and the diocese of East Anglia has been allotted the space 2.0pm-3.pm. I will be going into church at 2.0pm to say the Joyful Mysteries. I would be very pleased if others could join me.

**Next Sunday** is the Solemnity of All Saints.

### PARISH NOTICEBOARD

**Anniversaries this week** John O'Brien (2002), Michael Brookes (2009), Mary Cooper (2013), May Bantick (2001), and Mary Hockley (2004), May they Rest in Peace.

**Money Matters** Last Sunday £347.25 was given at the Offertory, and £135.35 for CAFOD. £150.50 was given in the retiring collection, which was for the Foreign Missions.

**First Holy Communion 2021** First lesson, Sat.Nov.7th ; the Parents Meeting is on Friday Nov. 13th. Application forms must be filled in.

**Thank you** to those kind people who have been doing the sanitising of the pews etc. after the

Masses. (We must see that it isn't left to just the same few people every time.) But please note that the cloths which have been used, and which may have picked up germs, should NOT be deposited in the wastepaper basket in the Sacristy. They should go in the black bag in the basket by the table at the back of the Nave seating, which is then removed and dealt with according to the directions we've been given.....

## THE EASTER COLLECTION

I imagine that some people are unclear about how Catholic priests are paid. They don't receive a fat cheque from the Church Commissioners at the end of each month as Anglican clergy do! The income of a Catholic priest comes from three sources : (1) His board and lodging, which the parish provides. (2) A monthly salary, currently set at £416. (3) The collections at Christmas and Easter - these are not a sort of 'Christmas box' to the priest, but a basic part of his pay. This year there was no Easter Collection - the churches were in shut-down, which meant that priests lost a sizeable portion of their income. In our neighbouring diocese of Brentwood, the bishop told the clergy to write out a cheque to themselves from parish funds for the amount they received last year. Our bishop has taken a different approach - He writes : *'Since parishes were unable to have the usual Easter Offering this year, I have asked that all parishes should take up an "Easter Offering" at all Masses during the weekend Oct.31st-Nov.1st. As usual, this offering is your gift to your priest. It has also been suggested that if the amount received shows a shortfall compared with the amount usually received, then the parish Finance Committee has the discretion to make a one-off payment to their priest this year. I am grateful to you for your generosity.'* Please note : a handful of thoughtful people did give me an envelope at Easter, and they mustn't consider putting anything on the plate next Sunday. Also, at Christmas & Easter, the priest only receives what is put on the plate : he doesn't benefit from anything that is given by direct debit.

## ENCOURAGING ONE ANOTHER

Last week I wrote about the difficulties which we experience these days as regards our faith. There

are various things which can subtly undermine our belief and trust in God if we allow them to do so. I said that we need to work hard at deepening our personal relationship with God - as indeed we have to work hard at any ordinary human friendship if it is to be maintained. The spiritual life is all about this deepening, enhancing, of our relationship with God, about coming to know and love him better. But also I suggested that being with our fellow believers is important to our keeping our faith alive.

I wasn't of course suggesting that we should enter into a kind of Catholic ghetto, having nothing to do with people outside our fellow believers. This obviously wouldn't be right, because we are meant to seek to communicate the Faith to others - all of us are called to be evangelists - heralds and messengers of Christ. If there is no engagement there can be no communication, and if there is no communication, then the Gospel cannot be communicated.

But I think it is important that we foster our awareness of being part of the world wide family of Catholics. We are not alone - even if maybe no one in our family believes. And supremely the way that we foster this awareness in ourselves is by coming together as the people of God around the Altar. There, physically, we SEE our brothers and sisters in Christ, others who are striving, and sometimes failing, as we do, to be true disciples of Our Lord Jesus Christ. We are there with them, one with them, hearing the one Gospel, receiving the one Body of Christ, united in that sacred space by the one Holy Spirit. There are, of course, many profound benefits as regards being at Mass. But not least of these is the way in which we both give and receive support in maintaining the Faith. We are there to encourage one another. Which makes it so sad, I think, that many people have not yet returned to the Altar. A number are still just watching Mass on the screen, and some are feeling that this is 'just as good' as being in church. But of course this is not the same. Most obviously because there is no reception of the Blessed Sacrament, the Food which we need for our spiritual nourishment, but also because there is not that personal interaction which comes about when we are physically present together in the sacred space. I wonder how we can best encourage our brothers and sisters to come back? - they need us, and we need them.