



# PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : Fr. John Barnes MA VF  
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## December 13th, 2020 : THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. +Gwyneth Jones (K&B)  
Sunday 9:30am Int. For the People  
11:00am Int. +Kenneth Alwyn

### Weekday Masses

Monday ST.JOHN OF THE CROSS  
**11.0am** FUNERAL MASS FOR CHARLES  
EGERTON RIP  
Tuesday ADVENT FERIA  
9:30am Int. +Alan Deveney  
Wednesday ADVENT FERIA  
9:30am Int. +Helen Robinson  
Thursday ADVENT FERIA  
No Mass today  
Friday ADVENT FERIA  
Noon Int. Malcolm Bonney  
Saturday FERIA  
9.30am Int. +Mary V. Sullivan (FM)  
6:00pm Int. For the People

**During the current restrictions**

**the church is open daily**

**9.0am to 3.0pm**

**Masks must be worn, and please on entering  
the church take a 'wipe' and sanitise  
where you have been sitting on leaving**

### The Daily Office

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

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday at 10.0am

### The Rosary

Friday at 11.15am

### THIS WEEK

**Monday** 11.0am Funeral Mass for Charles Egerton RIP, followed by burial in the Town Cemetery.

### THE CHRISTMAS MASSES

**CHRISTMAS EVE**  
5.0pm and 7.0pm

**CHRISTMAS DAY**  
9.30am and 11.0am

**Admittance to the Christmas Masses will be by ticket. Tickets can be obtained after Mass each day, on weekdays from the Sacristy, and on Sundays from the Porch.**

### PARISH NOTICEBOARD

**Anniversaries this week** Catherine Spencer (2008), Tony Byrne (2001), Jane Waite (2004), Neville Poots (2011), Sheila Bonello (2011), Martin Brogan (2007), Eileen Ascott (2008), and Andrew Yates (2013). May they Rest in Peace.

**Money Matters** Over the past couple of weeks £1,042.21 has been given at the 'Offertory' collection, and £137.92 for CAFOD. There is a retiring collection for the Diocesan Dependent Priests Fund today.

**Stella Maris** Julian Wong, Stella Maris Regional Port Chaplain for East Anglia and Haven Ports, writes 'Sunday 20th December - next Sunday - is being kept as Sea Sunday, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without whom we would not have most of the

items we buy in the shops. In parishes across England and Wales there will be a second collection for Stella Maris ( the Apostleship of the Sea).the official maritime welfare agency of the Catholic Church. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. We remember seafarers who have been separated from their families as a result of the pandemic, especially this Christmas. Many have had their contracts extended because of travel restrictions, and have been away from home for over a year. The Sea Sunday collection is vital to enable Stella Maris to continue its work, but if you cannot attend Mass next Sunday for any reason, perhaps you could remember seafarers in your prayers, and consider giving anyway. Thank you. To donate and for more information please visit <https://www.stellamaris.org.uk/> or text 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5.'

### CONFESSIONS BEFORE CHRISTMAS

It is customary of course to make our Confession and receive absolution before the great festivals, even if not at other times. It is the most important part of our spiritual preparation. Only if we are free from sin and the effects of sin can we truly enter into the joy of those seasons when we especially celebrate the love of God shown in the great actions by which we have been redeemed

Usually we have a Penitential Service before Christmas, but in these strange times it has not been possible to arrange one this year. It is still perfectly possible, though, to make one's Confession. If it is just a single Confession, then it can be heard in the Confessional in the normal way. But because sanitisation of the Confessional has to take place after each one, it is not very practical if a number of people are waiting, and so I am currently using the more open Sacred Heart Chapel for Confessions.

This week I will be in the Chapel to hear Confessions before Christmas on  
TUESDAY 10.0am to 10.30am (during Exposition)  
FRIDAY 2.30pm to 3.0pm  
SATURDAY 5.15pm to 5.45pm

Further times will be given in next week's Newsheet.

### WONDERFUL THINGS

It is almost a century since the discovery of the tomb of Tutankhamun in Egypt. You remember how when Howard Carter first looked into the burial chamber with its incredible treasures, someone behind him asked what he could see : "Wonderful things", he replied.

As we continue to keep this holy season of Advent, and contemplate the events which led up to the Nativity of Our Lord at Bethlehem, we too are looking at 'wonderful things'.

We've been reading at Mass some of the prophecies of the coming of Messiah which are written in the Old Testament. How wonderful that the Father prepared so long and so carefully for the Incarnation-event. How awesome is His age-old plan of redemption, formed from the very moment when mankind lost his friendship and favour through disobedience!

Last week we celebrated the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception. How wonderful that the Father prepared the Virgin Mother for her role as Mother of God by preserving her of all trace of sin from the very moment of her conception in the womb of Anna!

In the Gospel today we read of St.John Baptist, the forerunner - sent to announce the presence of Messiah. How wonderful that he was borne by an elderly Mother, and that he leapt in her womb when the Visitation by Mary took place!

Then Joseph - soon we will be filled with wonder as we consider his abundant faith - his readiness to comply wholeheartedly with God's plan, in a way marked by selflessness and humility.

And then Mary herself, chosen of all women to bear the incarnate Christ : the coming of the Archangel, her heroic response, the mystery of the Incarnation itself - how wonderful!

Wonderful things indeed, Surpassing treasures laid before us. May we feel a like awe & wonder to that felt by the archeologist in Egypt. Because we look upon greater treasures still.

### To cheer you up (maybe)

**Q.** What is a con?

**A.** A cone that has lost its 'e'.

**Q.** What are undercover agents called at Christmas?

**A.** Mincepies.