



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : Fr. John Barnes MA VF
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January 17th, 2021 : 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. For the People
Sunday 9:30am Int. +Chris Riley
11:00am Int.

Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA
9:30am Int. For a new bishop
Tuesday FERIA
9:30am Int.
Wednesday ST.SEBASTIAN
9:30am Int. Rita Miel
Thursday ST.AGNES
No Mass today
Friday ST.VINCENT
Noon Int. Church Unity
Saturday FERIA
9.30am Int. +Kuriakose
6:00pm Int. For the People

The Daily Office

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday at 10.0am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 5.15pm to 5.45pm in the Sacred Heart Chapel, or by appointment.

The Rosary Friday at 11.15am

CHURCH OPENING
During the current restrictions
St.Felix Church is open daily
9.0am to 3.0pm

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Derek Manthorpe (2006), Mary Ward (2011), Martin Amey (2000), Myrtle Shevling (2004), Michael Backler (2011), and Breda Bird (2019). May they Rest in Peace.

Money Matters There has not been a 'count' this week, but we have received a legacy of £1,000 from the estate of Kathleen Baraglia, which is timely, and for which we are very grateful.

Church Unity Octave This begins tomorrow, but this year the usual activities are not possible. We are asked, however, to pray for Unity especially when we pass the various churches in the town when taking our daily exercise. The intention for the Mass on Friday will be church unity. Details of the (virtual) observances in the town are on the St.Felix and CTF websites.

FR.JOHN WRITES

In a recent e.mail the Bishop re-iterated that the Government is permitting churches to remain open, and public worship to take place, in view of the spiritual and mental benefits which people derive from being able to visit their place of worship, and in our case, to attend Mass. This is a great blessing. It is dependent, of course, upon our continuing to take great care over distancing and sanitizing, and this we are doing. I think it is very sad that some denominations are just locking up their churches and abandoning public worship. What kind of witness is this offering?

For us, the obligation to attend Mass is currently suspended, but I'm glad that quite a few people continue to do so. Numbers at the daily Mass are much the same as ever, but numbers at

the Sunday Masses are considerably diminished. I think it is probably safer to be in church than to be in a supermarket or the like. Being at Mass is a significant act of witness, and greatly promotes our spiritual well-being. Yes, of course we must consider the interests of our bodies, but our souls matter too! We are more than just a body.

I'm so glad that some of you have already received the vaccine, and for others of us it is not far away. Both Pope Francis and Pope-emeritus Benedict were vaccinated last week, and the bishops have urged all of us to readily accept vaccination when it is offered.

At the moment I am only visiting when asked to do so. It is right to be sensitive to how people feel about others entering their homes. But I am ready and willing to take Holy Communion to the sick and the housebound whenever requested to do so, so please don't hesitate to ask me. I will wear a mask, and please, if possible, have hand-gel available for me to use.

WHEN YOU PRAY.....

II - *Hallowed by thy Name*

We must think of the Name as being the equivalent of the person. Just as when we bow when speaking the holy name of Jesus, we are not bowing towards, reverencing, a mere word, but are reverencing the divine Word, the Christ himself. And so when we say in the Lord's Prayer *hallowed by thy Name*, we are saying to the Father 'may YOU be held holy, may YOU receive the reverence and the honour which is rightly yours'.

To the Christian it is deeply distasteful to hear people speak disrespectfully of God - to hear them blaspheme, or 'take the Lord's Name in vain'. And this is not motivated by fear, fear of God's wrath, but by love : for just as we would find it deeply offensive to hear someone speak slightly or casually about someone close to us - a parent, a spouse, or a sibling, so we find it similarly offensive to speak like that about God. It is our love of God which makes us always try to speak and think reverently about him, and we want others to do the same. As ever in right thinking and right action, love is the motive.

It is all, of course, about right relationships. God is our Creator, our Maker, our King, our Father. And so it is only right that he is given the respect, the honour, which is proper to this relationship which he has to us. It concerns that right order, that harmony, which alone brings stability and peace. And so we pray *Hallowed be thy Name*.

YEAR OF ST.JOSEPH

The first of a series of extracts from the Holy Father's recent Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde* - 'With a Father's Heart'

'One hundred and fifty years after St..Joseph's proclamation as *Patron of the Catholic Church* by Blessed Pius IX, I would like to share some personal reflections on this extraordinary figure, so close to our own human experience. For, as Jesus says, 'Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks' (Mt. 12:34). My desire to do so increased during these months of pandemic, when we experienced, amid the crisis, how 'our lives are woven together and sustained by ordinary people, people often overlooked. People who do not appear in newspaper and magazine headlines, or on the latest television show, yet in these very days are surely shaping the decisive events of our history. Doctors, nurses, storekeepers and supermarket workers. cleaning personnel, caregivers, transport workers, men and women working in providing essential services and public safety, volunteers, priests, men and women religious, and so many others. How many people daily exercise patience and offer hope, taking care to spread not panic, but shared responsibility. How many fathers, mothers, grandparents and teachers are showing our children, in small everyday ways, how to accept and deal with a crisis by adjusting their routines, looking ahead and encouraging the practice of prayer. How many are praying, making sacrifices and interceding for the good of all'. Each of us can discover in Joseph - the man who goes unnoticed, a daily, discreet and hidden presence - an intercessor, a support and a guide in times of trouble. St.Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation. A word of recognition and of gratitude is due to them all.'