



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : Fr. John Barnes MA VF
The Presbytery, 8, Gainsborough Road, Felixstowe, IP11 7HT
Tel.01394 282561 e-mail frjohnfelixstowe@gmail.com

Parish Website: stfelixfelixstowe.uk Helping Hands - 07342722521

February 7th, 2021 : FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. For the People
Sunday 9:30am Int. +Michael Ross
11:00am Int. Sisters of Jesus & Mary,
Companions and Family of J&M

Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA
No Mass today
Tuesday FERIA
No Mass today
Wednesday ST.SCHOLASTICA
No Mass today
Thursday OUR LADY OF LOURDES
No Mass today
Friday FERIA
Noon Int. Philomena Robinson
Saturday FERIA
9.30am Int. +Doreen Marsh
6:00p Int. For the People

The Daily Office

Lauds (Morning Prayer) will be said a quarter of an hour before the Mass on Friday and Saturday.

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
daily, 9.0am to 4.0pm

THIS WEEK Fr.John plans to have a break at the beginning of this week, in place of a post-Christmas break.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Mary Sanford (2002), William Pipe (2006), Mary Drouet (2003), Tori-Anna Williams (2004), Joan Nelson (2014), Henry Dukes (2004), John Battersby (2015), and Cyril Keeble (2017). May they Rest in Peace

Money Matters Last weekend £443,80 was given at the Offertory, and £18.00 for CAFOD.

Lenten Reflections Barbara writes 'During Lent the Mill Hill Missionaries (*Missio*, Red Boxes) will be hosting a time of prayer and reflection for about twenty minutes each Friday, at 10.30am. To register or for more information please email redbox@mission.org.uk. See notice on the porch board.'

CTF Ecumenical Lent Course via Zoom

Anne writes 'This CTF (Churches together in Felixstowe) Lent Course, entitled *Caring for Creation* lasts for five weeks, commencing Sunday 21stFebruary and running until 21st March. There is a choice of days/times available. Full details on the CTF website. Suitable for either individual reflection or group discussion.'

FR.JOHN WRITES ;

I think that this pandemic must be causing the devil great satisfaction, and not only because the churches are half empty for worship, and some of them even closed, but also because the situation is allowing his 'D's' to flourish - those things the devil seeks to do, namely to Disturb, Divide, Dismay, Disrupt, Distress, etc. One can almost see him rubbing his hands with delight.

It is also enabling him to sow Fear. Fear is never from God - it is a work of the devil. God

wants us to be assured, courageous, bold, confident. The devil for his part wants us to cringe and cower with fear. Fear is a debilitating thing, easily preventing right and wholesome action, and we must never let our lives be dominated by it. Of course in the face of any danger we must be watchful, and take proper precautions : 'be wise as serpents', Jesus said - and so we are taking proper care in church, with distancing, sanitising, and the wearing of masks.

'Perfect love casts out fear', St.Paul said, and we must certainly try to cast out fear from our life rather than become enslaved by it. Let the Holy Martyrs be our inspiration. They showed a wonderful fortitude and courage in the face of danger and difficulty. I'm sure that they were tempted to be fearful when threatened by the terrible situations which they encountered. But they stood firm, putting their trust in the One who is powerful to deliver us from disaster.

YEAR OF ST.JOSEPH

A second extract from the Holy Father's recent Apostolic Letter

Patris Corde - With a Father's Heart

1. *A beloved father*

The greatness of Saint Joseph is that he was the spouse of Mary and the foster-father of Jesus. In this way, he placed himself, in the words of Saint John Chrysostom, "at the service of the entire plan of salvation".

Saint Paul VI pointed out that Joseph concretely expressed his fatherhood "by making his life a sacrificial service to the mystery of the incarnation and its redemptive purpose. He employed his legal authority over the Holy Family to devote himself completely to them in his life and work. He turned his human vocation to domestic love into a superhuman oblation of himself, his heart and all his abilities, a love placed at the service of the Messiah who was growing to maturity in his home".

Thanks to his role in salvation history, Saint Joseph has always been venerated as a father by the Christian people. This is shown by the countless churches dedicated to him worldwide, the numerous religious institutes, Confraternities and ecclesial groups inspired by his spiritually and bearing his name, and the many traditional expressions of piety in his honour. Innumerable

holy men and women were passionately devoted to him. Among them was Teresa of Avila, who chose him as her advocate and intercessor, had frequent recourse to him and received whatever graces she asked of him. Encouraged by her own experience, Teresa persuaded others to cultivate devotion to Joseph.

Every prayer book contains prayers to Saint Joseph. Special prayers are offered to him each Wednesday and especially during the month of March, which is traditionally dedicated to him.

Popular trust in Saint Joseph is seen in the expression "*Go to Joseph*", which evokes the famine in Egypt, when the Egyptians begged Pharaoh for bread. He in turn replied "Go to Joseph; what he says to you, do" (*Gen 41:55*). Pharaoh was referring to Joseph the son of Jacob, who was sold into slavery because of the jealousy of his brothers (cf. *Gen 37:11-28*) and who - according to the biblical account - subsequently became viceroy of Egypt (cf. *Gen 41:41-44*).

As a descendant of David (cf. *Mt 1:16-20*), from whose stock Jesus was to spring according to the promise made to David by the prophet Nathan (cf. *2 Sam 7*), and as the spouse of Mary of Nazareth, Saint Joseph stands at the crossroads between the Old and New Testaments.

WHEN YOU PRAY.....

V - Give us this day our daily bread.

When we say the words *Who art in heaven* we are reminded that there is a whole dimension beyond the world we see - the spiritual dimension, which has a greater reality and permanence than this present world order. And when we say *Give us this day our daily bread*, we are reminded that there is a bread more wonderful and even more necessary than the food which our bodies require day by day : food, bread, for our souls.

When we pray these words yes, we are asking that our material, bodily needs, should be provided for. And God is wonderfully generous in providing the fruits of the earth to maintain our earthly life. But also we are asking for that 'Bread from Heaven' by which our souls are fed - the Bread which is the Body of Christ, and which is made available to us day by day in the Holy Eucharist, the spiritual banquet of God's holy people.