



# PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : Fr. John Barnes MA VF  
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## February 14th, 2021 : SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. +Josephine McGuire  
Sunday 9:30am Int. +John Battersby  
11.0am Int. For the People

### Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA  
9:30am Int. For a new bishop  
Tuesday FERIA  
9:30am Int. For a good keeping of Lent

**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
Day of Fasting and Abstinence  
The beginning of Lent

Mass will be offered at St.Felix at  
9.30am, 11.0am, and 7.30pm

**Please collect (or download)  
the 2021 Lent Leaflet  
from the Parish Website**

Thursday LENT FERIA  
9.30am Int.  
Friday LENT FERIA  
**8.30am** Int. +Doris Hesketh  
Saturday LENT FERIA  
9.30am Int.  
6:00pm Int. +Marie Donnelly

### The Daily Office

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

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday 10.0am-10.30am

### 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

**Monday** 3.0pm Funeral of Denis Murray RIP, at the Crematorium of the Seven Hills.  
**Thursday** 11.0am Fr.John attends a meeting of the Diocesan Liturgy Commission by *Zoom*  
**Friday** 10.45am Fr.John attends a Meeting of the Trustees of the Cathedral. Please note that Mass is at 8.30am today.

### PARISH NOTICEBOARD

**The Ashing on Ash Wednesday** Under the present precautions, priests are not allowed to impose ashes on a person's forehead in the normal way. The traditional words at the Ashing will only be spoken once, to the whole congregation, as with the words preceding Holy Communion. We have been directed to sprinkle ashes over each person. This sounds terribly messy, and I think an alternative would be for each person to extend a hand, and for the priest to drop a few grains of ash onto that person's upturned palm. They could then sign themselves with the Cross in the normal way. The ceremony is, of course, optional to each person.

**Anniversaries this week** Sr.Felicity Moody RJM (2004). May she Rest in Peace.

**Appointment** The Bishop has appointed Fr. John to be Chairman of the Trustees of St. John's Cathedral. How much expenditure of time this will involve is not entirely clear, but it does involve four meetings of trustees each year, and these are to be held on a Friday morning. The first one is this week, and I'm afraid that it means having an early Mass rather than the usual Noon time. Perhaps during Lent this is good discipline!

**Pure Water** Barbara writes 'Dear Friends, One in three people around the world do not have access to safe drinking water. During Lent I am going to attempt the CAFOD Walk for Water challenge, wading 10,000 steps every day for 40 days. If you would like to sponsor me to help provide clean drinking water, either see me at church or put what you can spare in an envelope with my name on it, and put in through Fr. John's door. I will give a weekly update on steps in the Newsletter. See the notice board for more info.'

## **WHEN YOU PRAY....**

### **VI - *Forgive us our trespasses***

It is apt that we should consider this clause in the Lord's Prayer as we prepare to keep the holy season of Lent : for this is one of the two Penitential seasons in the Church's year, in which we seek to achieve a true sorrow for our sins, and make a special effort to amend.

Of course it is deeply unfashionable to speak of 'sin' today. It is deemed to be negative, morbid, and old-fashioned. And one of the characteristics of the modern age is, I think, that most people have little sense of sin. In the days when most people had an awareness of God, I think that people had a much stronger recognition of right and wrong. But now our consciences have somehow been blunted, and many seem to be deaf to the Holy Spirit as he seeks to speak to us by this means, telling what is wrong and what is right. This deafness does not make for happiness.

For the committed Christian, sin is very real, and its nature is very simple. It is quite simply disobeying God - and more specifically disobeying the two great commandments, that we should love God and love one another. All sin is a failure to love. And when we have failed God in this way, it is clearly right that we should be sorry for having done so, and ask for forgiveness and

reconciliation. Hence this petition in the prayer which Jesus gave us.

We ask for forgiveness, and how are we to obtain this precious and necessary gift? Our Lord tells us how when he says to his Apostles after his Resurrection 'Whoever's sins you forgive, they are forgiven'. He was inaugurating the Sacrament of Confession, having chosen this as the means by which our request for forgiveness can be answered. Our sin, our disobedience, is a reality. And so too is our need to use the Sacrament of Confession, and thereby obtain the forgiveness which is so readily ours through God's grace.

## **YEAR OF ST. JOSEPH**

### **A further extract from the Holy Father's recent Apostolic Letter *Patris Corde***

#### *2. A tender and loving father*

Joseph saw Jesus grow daily 'in wisdom and in years and human favour' (Lk. 2:52). As the Lord had done with Israel, so Joseph did with Jesus : he taught him to walk, taking him by the hand; he was to him like a father who raises an infant to his cheek, bending down to him and feeding him (Hos. 11:3-4). In Joseph, Jesus saw the tender love of God : 'As a father has compassion for his children, so the Lord has compassion for those who fear him' (Ps. 103:13).

The history of salvation is worked out through our weaknesses. All too often we think that God works only through our better parts, yet most of his plans are realized in and despite our frailty. Since this is part of the entire economy of salvation, we must learn to look upon our weaknesses with tender mercy. The evil one makes us see and condemn our frailty, whereas the Spirit brings it to light with tender love. Tenderness is the best way to touch the frailty within us. Pointing fingers and judging others are frequently a sign of an inability to accept our own weaknesses, our own frailty. Only tender love will save us from the snares of the accuser. That is why it is so important to encounter God's mercy, especially in the Sacrament of Reconciliation, where we experience his truth and tenderness. God's truth does not condemn, but instead welcomes, embraces, sustains and forgives us. That truth always presents itself to us like the merciful father in Jesus' parable. It comes out to meet us, and restores our dignity.'