



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : Fr. John Barnes MA VF
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March 7th, 2021 : THIRD SUNDAY LENT

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. For the People
Sunday 9:30am Int. +Judi Free
11:00am Int.+Patrick Barrett

Weekday Masses

Monday FEAST OF ST.FELIX
9:30am Int. +Michael Thomas (RJM)
Tuesday LENT FERIA
9:30am Int. +Alan Deveney
Wednesday LENT FERIA
9:30am Int. +Agnes Curley
Thursday LENT FERIA
No Mass today
Friday LENT FERIA
Noon Int. +Betty Codd & + George Wheeler
Saturday LENT FERIA
9.30am Int. +Michael Thomas (MD)
6:00pm Int. For the People

The Daily Office

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

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY

4.0pm *Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament*
4.30pm *Stations of the Cross*

Tuesday 11.30am Fr.John attends a Meeting of the Deanery Clergy at St.Mary's, Ipswich

Next Sunday is Mothering Sunday. Flowers will be blessed and given to the children for their Mothers in the usual way (but we will ask a Parent to come forward with each child to ensure distancing).

Monday 15th 3.0pm Funeral Mass for Michael Thomas RIP

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Leslie Hart (2006), Elizabeth Baston (2011), Anne-Marie Bayles (2014), Hellen Weal (2001), Janina Drouart (2004), Mary Read (2008), Helen Lawrence (2015), Sr.Sebastian RJM (2016), Fr.David Hennessy (2019). May they Rest in Peace.

Money Matters Last Sunday £402.00 was given at the Offertory, and £274.42 in the retiring collection for CAFOD. Also £24.00 in CAFOD envelopes. Today, an opportunity to support the work of the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child.

Tri-cycling for CAFOD Kate & Boni Pinto write 'Rosemary Chilcott, octogenarian great grandmother, has joined the 40 days Cafod water challenge. As she is unable to walk the distance she has chosen to cycle 5 miles daily on her tricycle. Please sponsor her if you are able. Please post donations through the Presbytery letter box.'

Parish Finances Alan Lamberton, Chairman of the Parish Finance Committee, continues from last week : 'In my submission for last week's newsletter there is an incorrect figure which I have found while preparing records for the new tax year. The figure for the collection for the year

2019-2020 is incorrect, the correct figure was £36,247. So far this year the income from donations stands at £27,914, down £8,333 from last year. This is slightly more than the loose plate collection last year from the Masses held at the Convent which has been closed this last year. I apologise for the error and thank you for continued donations to the maintenance of our Parish and Diocese.'

WHEN YOU PRAY.....

VIII - *and lead us not into temptation*

Here we are open and honest about our weakness, we face up to reality. We have given way to temptation many times. Many times we have been shown by our conscience what is right, what we ought to do, and we have chosen, knowingly, what is wrong. There are two facts which we must remember.

The first is the reality of the Tempter, the devil. He wants us to think he doesn't exist - that makes his work easier. He does exist, and he never tires of trying to bring us down. He wants to rob us of our inner peace, our happiness, our close relationship with God. His work is to disrupt and destroy. He knows our weaknesses - he knows how to tempt us and when. And he doesn't give up

The second fact is that we have the gift of free will - we are not forced to listen to the temptations which the devil lays before us. We are perfectly capable of saying 'no', although that can be difficult at times. To guide the right exercise of our free will, we also have our conscience, that inner voice which tells us what is right (ie. what is God's will, and will make for happiness) and what is wrong (ie. what is contrary to God's will, and will make for unhappiness. We all have a conscience : it is a precious gift given to each one of us, but one which needs to be honed and informed by the teaching of Our Lord and his Church.

So temptation is real, and free will guided by conscience is real. This the situation. But just on our own we can't get it right. We are weak, and we need help, which we call grace. And so we pray, 'lead us not into temptation'.

THE GOSPEL FOR LENT III

It is suggested that we try to re-read the Sunday Gospel reading on each day of the following week, and maybe think about the points suggested below.

The Gospel is JOHN 2:13-25

Just before the Jewish Passover Jesus went up to Jerusalem, and in the Temple he found people selling cattle and sheep and pigeons, and the money changers sitting at their counters there. Making a whip out of some cord, he drove them all out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well, scattered the money changers' coins, knocked their tables over and said to the pigeon-sellers. 'Take all this out of here and stop turning my Father's house into a market.' Then his disciples remembered the words of scripture: Zeal for your house will devour me. The Jews intervened and said. 'What sign can you show us to justify what you have done?' Jesus answered. 'Destroy this sanctuary, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews replied, 'It has taken forty six years to build this sanctuary: are you going to raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking of the sanctuary that was his body, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believe the scripture and the words he had said.

During his stay in Jerusalem for the Passover many believed in his name when they saw the signs that he gave, but Jesus knew them all and did not trust himself to them; he never needed evidence about any man; he could tell what a man had in him.

Monday Jesus went up to Jerusalem. He knew what awaited him there, but was true to his purpose. How courageous and purposeful are we in God's service? Are we brave and confident?

Tuesday He drove out those who were abusing the Temple. Do drive out from ourselves what pollutes our thinking, and prevents right action?

Wednesday Again Jesus shows great courage in cleansing the Temple. Are we sometimes put off doing what is right by what people will say about us? Jesus teaches us about having no truck with what is offensive to God.

Thursday Jesus body, now raised and glorified, is a sanctuary, a place of worship. We encounter his risen Body at the Altar ; it is the focus of our worship. We must approach him with love & awe.

Friday Many saw the signs and believed. What signs do we see in our world, in the Church, in our community, in our own lives, of the presence and the power of God? Do we believe?

Saturday Jesus 'could tell what a man had in him'. He knows us through and through. Is he pleased or disappointed with what he finds in our own actions, words, and thinking?