



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

April 18th, 2021 : THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm +Karen, +Ruth, & +Alex Thomson
Sunday 9:30am +Mark Compton (FM)
11:00am For the People

Weekday Masses

Monday EASTER FERIA
No Mass today
Tuesday EASTER FERIA
No Mass today
Wednesday EASTER FERIA
No Mass today
Thursday EASTER FERIA
No Mass today
Friday SOLEMNITY OF ST. GEORGE
Noon Int. The Mazor Family, in Thanks-
Saturday EASTER FERIA giving
9.30am Int. + HRH Prince Philip
6:00pm Int. For the People

The Daily Office

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

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

Fr. John plans to take a short post-Easter break in the first part of this week. He will be back in time for Mass on Friday.

Friday Today being a Solemnity, the Solemnity of St. George, Friday abstinence is dispensed

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Kevin Hendley (2015), Bernard Moran (2006), Cornelius Lane (2002), and Mary Harney (2000). R.I.P.

CAFOD Walk for Water Challenge Barbara writes 'Many thanks to everyone who sponsored me during Lent. I accumulated £470 to provide clean drinking water for people living in remote areas.'

Money Matters Next weekend there will be a retiring collection for the Diocesan Priests' Training Fund.

Missio Red Boxes Barbara continues 'A reminder that I shall be collecting Red Boxes at all Masses on April 24th/25th. If this is not convenient, I can collect them from your house.'

Parish Income The Chairman of the Finance Committee writes 'We are now in the tax year 2021-2022 and new envelopes are available in the church entrance for those who donate using envelopes. Please collect and return - full! Some donors have moved to Standing Order donation, and bank details to enable you to do this are also in the church entrance. Thank you to those who have already done this, a regular income allows easier planning for maintenance and other works. The Diocese will soon submit the claim for the Gift Aid rebate for the past year. Some parishioners have signed gift aid declarations, and should be aware that they must ensure they have paid sufficient tax through the year to cover all the Gift Aid declarations they have signed for charities throughout the year. Gift Aid forms are also available in the church entrance for those

who wish to join. Using Gift Aid increases your donation by 25%, at no additional cost to you : the government gives back to the church some of the tax you have paid them. Why turn down a chance to get some back for your church? Thank you all for your continued donations through out this unusual and difficult year. Sincerely, Alan Lamberton.'

Parish Council Last week I said that hopefully we could shortly have another distanced meeting in the Hall, but our Advisor on Covid Precautions tells me that the regulations do not currently allow this. So we will have to wait a little longer before we can meet to plan our campaign for rejuvenating the parish after the lockdowns. Meanwhile do please be thinking, as I am, about how we can accomplish this.

OUR TWO HELPERS

Each one of us baptized Christians has two helpers to assist us on the sometimes arduous path of our pilgrimage through this life. Our principal helper is God the Holy Spirit, given to us at our Baptism. The second helper is our own Guardian Angel. I think (hope) that most of us are aware, at sometimes more than others perhaps, that we are recipients of a guidance and an assistance which is supernatural. And maybe sometimes you wonder, as I do, which of these two helpers is 'seeing us through' at any particular time.

I don't think that the teaching of the Church gives us any detailed guidance in this - it is for each of us to discern whether, at any point, it is the Holy Spirit or our Guardian Angel who is giving us the help we need. My personal rough guidelines are these : when I am reminded that I ought to donate to a particular charity, or am guided in what to say in a homily, or told that some action or attitude is right (or wrong), or that I ought to see a particular person - then I think it is God the Holy Spirit who is directing me. But when I'm reminded, say, that I haven't turned a light off, or have forgotten someone's birthday, or haven't got in milk or bread, - then I think it is my Guardian Angel who is giving me help. In other words, God the Holy Spirit helps us in our religion - in those things which pertain to our loving and serving of God and our neighbour - and our Guardian Angel helps us in the non-spiritual details of our daily

life. Does this make sense? I wonder what you think?

YEAR OF ST.JOSEPH

A further excerpt from Pope Francis Apostolic letter 'With a Father's Heart'

A creatively courageous father As we read the infancy narratives, we may often wonder why God did not act in a more direct and clear way. Yet God acts through events and people. Joseph was the man chosen by God to guide the beginnings of the history of redemption. He was the true 'miracle' by which God saves the child and his mother. God acted by trusting in Joseph's creative courage. Arriving in Bethlehem and finding no lodging where Mary could give birth, Joseph took a stable and, as best he could, turned it into a welcoming home for the Son of God come into the world. Faced with imminent danger from Herod, who wanted to kill the child, Joseph was warned once again in a dream to protect the child, and rose in the middle of the night to prepare the flight into Egypt.

A superficial reading of these stories can often give the impression that the world is at the mercy of the strong and mighty, but the 'good news' of the Gospel consists in showing that, for all the arrogance and violence of worldly powers, God always finds a way to carry out his saving plan. So too, our lives may at times seem to be at the mercy of the powerful, but the Gospel shows us what counts. God always finds a way to save us, provided we show the same creative courage as the carpenter of Nazareth, who was able to turn a problem into a possibility by trusting always in divine providence.

If at times God seems not to help us, surely this does not mean that we have been abandoned, but instead are being trusted to plan, to be creative, and to find solutions ourselves.

At the end of every account in which Joseph plays a role, the Gospel tells us that he gets up, takes the child and his mother, and does what God commanded him. Indeed, Jesus and Mary his mother are the most precious treasure of our faith. In the divine plan of salvation, the Son is inseparable from his mother, from Mary, who advanced in her pilgrimage of faith, and faithfully persevered in her union with her Son until she stood at the cross.