



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : Fr. John Barnes MA VF
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May 2nd, 2021 : FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm For the People
Sunday 9:30am +Mark Compton (FM)
11:00am +Michael Dowden

Weekday Masses

Monday FEAST OF ST PHILIP & ST.JAMES
9:30am Int. +Vernon Watts
Tuesday FEAST OF THE ENGLISH
MARTYRS
8:15am Int.
Wednesday EASTER FERIA
9:30am Int. +Charles & Ethel Pritchard (FM)
Thursday EASTER FERIA
No Mass today
Friday EASTER FERIA
8.15am Int. +Nicholas & Catherine O'Carroll
Saturday EASTER FERIA (FM)
9.30am Int. +Horace & Ethel Dawson (FM)
6:00pm Int. For the People

The Daily Office

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

Sacrament of Reconciliation

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

The Rosary Friday at 11.15am

REGINA COELI

Said daily at Noon and 6.0pm during Eastertide in place of the Angelus

*Joy to thee, O Queen of Heaven, Alleluia!
He whom thou wast meet to bear, Alleluia!
As he promised hath arisen, Alleluia!
Pour for us to him thy prayer, Alleluia!*

*V. Rejoice and be glad, O Virgin Mary, Alleluia!
R. For the Lord is risen indeed, alleluia!
Let us pray.
O God, who by the resurrection of thy Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, hast vouchsafed to bring joy to the whole world : grant, we beseech thee, that aided by the prayers of his Mother the Virgin Mary, we too may be brought to the joys of everlasting life. Through the same Christ Our Lord. Amen.*

THIS WEEK

Tomorrow (Monday) The Diocesan Pilgrimage to Walsingham takes place : the Bishop will celebrate Mass at Noon, and Rosary & Benediction will take place at 2.30pm. The events will be live-streamed : please see www.walsingham.org.uk

Tuesday Please note that the Mass is at 8.15am today, as Fr.John has to attend a Historic Churches Committee site meeting at Gorleston later in the morning.

Friday Please note that the Mass again has to be at 8.15am, as later in the morning Fr.John has to attend a meeting of the Cathedral Trustees, at Poringland.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Ruby Stevenson (2011), Vernon Watts (2019), Lucy Buckwell (2002), Sr.Martha O'Malley (2002), Dorothy Real (2002), Alan Deveney (2014), Ann Button (2013), Kathleen Greaves (2000), and Winifred Barker (2004). May they Rest in Peace.

Money Matters Last Sunday £399.75 was given at the Offertory, and £40.10 for CAFOD.

The retiring collection was for the Diocesan Priests' Training Fund, to which £336.40 was given.

Marriage & Family Life annual Mass This will be at the Cathedral on Saturday June 12th at 11.0am. Certificates will be given to those celebrating a special anniversary this year (1st, 5th, multiples of five thereafter) To register to attend (and ask for a certificate) go to <https://www.rcdea.org.uk/marriage-mass-registration/>

WAITING

There can be nothing better to do in these great fifty days of Eastertide than to think about - to meditate upon - those resurrection appearances of Our Lord Jesus Christ. My favourite one is the appearance to the disciples by the lakeside, maybe because I find it so easy to imagine the early morning sunlight glinting on the water, and the little waves lapping on the shore.

You remember that the disciples had gone out fishing, and all night had caught nothing. Maybe they were being tempted to return to their earlier occupation. Jesus had died and had risen, and maybe they felt that this was the end of the matter so far as they were concerned (the Holy Spirit had not yet come to them, empowering them and driving them out to proclaim the Gospel). But significantly they caught nothing that night. This was not to be the way forward to them, this return to being fishermen. Jesus had said that they were to be fishers of men.

And then in the first light they saw a figure on the shore, whom John recognised as being Jesus, the risen Christ. Jesus waiting for them. Waiting to receive them, to welcome them, and to feed them. Waiting patiently for them to come to him.

The disciples had been mistaken if they had indeed thought of simply returning to their lives as fishermen. And maybe we sometimes go off, following our own whims and inclinations, unmindful of what Our Lord may be wanting us to do and to be. Left to ourselves, just doing what we feel like doing, leads to a kind of emptiness. They caught nothing. But Jesus is always there, just waiting patiently for us to come back to him. And when we do come back, he welcomes us and feeds us, as he did those first disciples.

MARY'S MONTH OF MAY

We've now started to keep this special month in honour of Our Lady, when the Church bids us pay special attention to the precious gift which Our Lord gave us from the Cross - the gift of his Mother to be Our Mother. This link which has been given between us and Mary is very wonderful. It means that we, all our days, can experience the care of a Mother who knows all about both joy and sorrow. A Mother who supports us by her prayers, even as she inspires us by her example.

How shall we keep this special month? The Holy Father urges us to say the Rosary each day of the month. Pope John Paul, you remember, said that when we recite the Rosary, we are 'looking at Jesus with Mary' : what could be more edifying and more delightful? And what has such potential to deepen our faith, and promote that friendship with Our Lord into which we are all called? It would be good, too, if during this Month of Mary we not only said the Rosary privately or with our family each day, but also if we made an effort to come to the public Rosary said in church each Friday morning at 11.15am. A faithful three people take part with me in this devotion on Friday mornings : how good if Mary could be honoured by more people coming along during May! I know that some people are at work each morning - but there are plenty of retired people in the parish who could build Friday morning Rosary into their weekly programme!

Again, people sometimes bring flowers to adorn the Lady Altar : they leave them, and I put them into a vase. This is an obvious and attractive way of showing love for Our Lord's Mother. How lovely it would be if the Lady altar could be decked with flowers during this month of May! Many of us older people have lost our earthly Mother, but when it is possible we like to express our continuing affection by taking flowers to their grave. Through Our Lord's gift, our heavenly Mother, Mary, is with us now, and flowers are a way of showing affection for her, too. Our showing of devotion in this way will, of course, encourage the devotion of others. Devotion, like faith, is contagious!