



# 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

## June 6th, 2021 : SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

### Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. +Rudolf Belsak  
Sunday 9:30am Int. +Jenny Byrne  
11:00am Int. For the People

### Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA  
9:30am Int.  
Tuesday FERIA  
**8.30am** Int. +\_Norah Sandford (FM)  
Wednesday ST.COLUMBA  
9:30am Int.  
Thursday FERIA  
No Mass today  
Friday SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS  
Noon Int.  
Saturday IMMACULATE HEART OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY  
9.30am Int. +Elsie Fenton (FM)  
6:00pm Int.

### The Daily Office

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

### THIS WEEK

**Today** 2.0pm Baptism of Alexander Ashton, son of Barry and Christine Royal.  
**Tuesday** 10.30am Fr. John attends a Deanery Meeting at Leiston. This means that the Mass has

to be at 8.30am today. But some of you seem to like an earlier time?

**Friday** Today is the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Friday Abstinence (from meat) is dispensed today due to this.

### PARISH NOTICEBOARD

**Anniversaries this week** Joan Hazell (2004), Sr. Clare Cook (2005), Florence O'Donnell (2000), Rita Pahlas (2007), Ann Porter (2020), Nora O'Brien (2004), Michael McKeon (2013), and Norah Liffen (2014). May they Rest in Peace.

**Money Matters** Last weekend £365.36 was given at the Offertory, and £54.40 for CAFOD.

**Our Seminarian** Those of you with good memories will remember my writing - maybe at the end of last year - about the Bishop wanting one of the diocesan Seminarians to be based here. His first stay, due to take place after Christmas, was cancelled due to the pandemic. But now he is to come here for a three-week stay beginning next week. We look forward to welcoming him. His name is Benjamin Barratt, and he is studying for the priesthood at Oscott.

### THE LOVE OF GOD

You'll have noticed that this Newsheet features two great Feasts of the Church, the Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi) and the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart of Jesus. It is appropriate that we keep these two great feasts within a few days of each other, because both are essentially about the love which God the Son, our Lord Jesus Christ,

has for us. The Sacred Heart is most obviously about that love - the heart has long been a symbol of love. But if this second feast is about the fact of the love of Jesus, then Corpus Christi is about the expression of that love ; because love is most clearly expressed in self-giving, and Corpus Christi is about Jesus giving himself to us in the Blessed Sacrament.

'God is love', St.John wrote in one of his letters, meaning I think not that God is an abstraction, but rather that Love is the first and foremost characteristic of God. He is love before all else, perfect love - which has made it seem appropriate to speak of the fire of God's love : fire that has a purity and intensity in its burning. But all love is known in the expression of itself, in concrete and very knowable actions. During his incarnate life Our Lord expressed his divine love in his dealings with people - curing the sick, comforting the afflicted, feeding the hungry, never tiring of being available to the people who flocked to him, and feeding them with the words of life. And finally being ready, purely out of love, to suffer and to die in his offering of himself to the Father as the sacrifice which opens heaven to believers.

And just as the love of God was expressed by Our Lord in his merciful and saving actions in his incarnate life, so his love continues to be expressed above all else in his giving of himself to us in the Eucharist. He gives himself to the Church at her altars so that first we may offer Him to the Father - the sacrifice that takes our sins away. And then secondly so that like the people of the Old Covenant with their animal sacrifices, we may feed upon what has been offered - feed, as people of the New Covenant upon the Body and Blood of the risen and ascended Lord. How wonderful this is! How abundant is the divine love which we experience as Christian disciples!

May we, as we keep the Solemnities of Corpus Christi and of the Sacred Heart of Jesus be filled with love and gratitude for the wonderful love which Jesus has for each one of us! And may we seek always to respond generously to that love.

## YEAR OF ST.JOSEPH

### *A final extract from Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter 'With a Fathers Heart'*

'The aim of this Apostolic Letter is to increase our love for this great saint, to encourage us to implore his intercession and to imitate his virtues and zeal.

Indeed, the proper mission of the saints is not only to obtain miracles and graces, but to intercede for us before God, like Abraham and Moses, and like Jesus the one mediator who is our advocate with the Father, and who 'always lives to make intercession for us ' (Hebs.7:25). The Saints help all the faithful 'to strive for the holiness and the perfection of their particular state of life'. Their lives are concrete proof that it is possible to put the Gospel into practice.

Jesus told us 'Learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart' (Mt.11:29). The lives of the saints too are examples to be imitated. St.Paul explicitly says this : 'Be imitators of me!' By his eloquent silence St.Joseph says the same.

Before the example of so many holy men and women, St.Augustine asks himself 'What they could do, can you not also do?' And so he drew closer to his definitive conversion, when he could exclaim 'Late have I loved you, Beauty ever ancient, ever new!'

We need only ask St.Joseph for the grace of graces : our conversion. Let us now make our prayer to him :

*Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,  
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary,  
To you God entrusted his only Son;  
in you Mary placed her trust;  
with you Christ became man.*

*Blessed Joseph, to us too  
show yourself a father  
and guide us in the path of life.  
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,  
and defend us from every evil. Amen.*