



# 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

## October 24th, 2021 : 30th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. For the People  
Sunday 10.30am Int. +Raymond Smith

### Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA  
9:30am Int. +Elisa Massotti  
Tuesday ST.CHAD & ST.CEDD  
9:30am Int. +Laurence & Alice Butterworth  
Wednesday FERIA  
**10.0am FUNERAL MASS FOR KATHLEEN HEALEY RIP**  
Thursday FEAST OF ST.SIMON & ST.JUDE  
No Mass today  
Friday FERIA  
Noon Int. A Private intention  
Saturday FERIA  
9.30am Int. +Richard Boraman  
6:00pm Int. A Private intention (E)

### The Daily Office

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

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday at 10.0am Benediction at 10.30am

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 5.15pm to 5.45pm, or by appointment.

The Rosary Friday at 11.15am

### The Mass today

The readings can be found on p.149 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p. of The Sunday Missal.

Hymns at 10.30am 880, 969, 663

**Today is the final Sunday of our Stewardship Campaign**

***FAITHFUL STEWARDS  
OF GOD'S GIFTS***

**with one Sunday Morning Mass  
at 10.30am**

**(Next Sunday, Masses at  
9.30am and 11.0am)**

**Coffee in the Hall after Mass**

### THIS WEEK

**Today (Sunday)** 3.30pm Meeting for young people interested in Confirmation next year, at the Presbytery.

**Monday** 10.10am Meeting of the Finance Committee (Stewardship Campaign), Presbytery.  
2.30pm Meeting of the 'Visitation 2021' group at the Presbytery.

**Wednesday** 10.0am Funeral Mass for Kathleen Healey, followed by cremation at the Crematorium of the Seven Hills. (note that Mass is not at 9.30am today)

### PARISH NOTICEBOARD

**Anniversaries this week** John O'Brien (2002), Michael Brookes (2009), Mary Cooper (2013), May Bantick (2001), and Mary Hockley (2004). May they Rest in Peace.

**Julia McIntee RIP** Some of you will remember Paul & Julia McIntee, who move from Cobbold Road to Elmswell. Julia died recently ; we send our condolences and the promise of prayers to Paul, who cared for his wife so faithfully,

**Money Matters** Last Sunday £535.77 was given at the Offertory, and £41.14 for CAFOD. Today there is a retiring collection for *Missio*

**Confirmation** Preparation is about to begin for Confirmation next year. Candidates have to be over 13 by next year. Are there any others? If so, come to the Presbytery at 3.30pm today.

**Fridays** About three weeks ago I suggested here that we maybe change the order of the Services on a Friday morning, so that the Rosary comes after Mass, rather than before Morning Prayer, and that it is said whilst Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament is taking place : that would be  
11.15am Morning Prayer  
11.30am Mass  
Noon Exposition and Rosary.  
I invited comments, but not one has been received, which I think must mean that everyone agrees that this would be a good idea. And so from the beginning of November - that is a week on Friday - this will be the new order of events.

### **SEEKING A WAY FORWARD**

When Lockdown happened, and the Convent closed to the public, I put on an 11.0am Sunday Mass at St.Felix. I thought that this would help people who were used to attending a Sunday Mass at 11.0am. At first, very few availed themselves of this opportunity, but then numbers grew until sometimes the 11.0am congregation has been as large as the 9.30am one. So now we have two more or less identical Masses on a Sunday morning, each with a moderate attendance, which doesn't make a lot of sense, - and I suppose will pose difficulties when both Coffee and Childrens' Liturgy get underway : we haven't the resources to stage two Childrens' Liturgies on a Sunday morning, and it won't be easy to stage two coffee sessions. The time has come when we need to look at things, and plan for the future.

As I see it we have two alternatives -

**OPTION ONE** to make permanent what we have been doing for these three Sundays of the Stewardship Campaign, namely have just one Mass, at 10.30am or thereabouts. The advantages of this option is that only one Childrens' Liturgy and one Coffee session will be required ; also there would hopefully be a fairly full church, which is always encouraging, and the advantage of all being united together - which is surely right. Coming-together makes for strength and vigour!

**OPTION TWO** to continue with two Masses at 9.30am and 11.0am, but to give each a distinct character. The 9.30am could be a short Mass, aimed at children and young families, with a limited amount of music, and simple teaching. The new - and very right and successful - holding of First Holy Communion preparation on a Sunday morning would be linked to this, and indeed that instruction would gain from being linked with a simple Childrens' Mass. Then the 11.0am Mass would be a more formal, reflective, and unhurried offering of the Mass, with more music, incense, etc.

I've discussed these two options with the Bishop, who has to approve any changes in the Sunday pattern of worship in a parish. He said that he is agreeable to whichever of these two options I decide to go with, **ONLY** I must see what the people think about it, which I am only too keen to do. Next Sunday we go back to the 9.30am plus 11.0am scenario which we had before the Stewardship Campaign, and I would like us to continue with this pattern for the month of November, using that time to reflect on what is the best way forward. We can then begin whatever pattern is decided upon when Advent begins . What I would like you to do is to think carefully about which option **YOU** think would be best for the building up of our parish, as we continue to recover from these last few months and hopefully move forward. Next week I will say how I would like you to communicate your feelings about the future of Sunday morning worship here.

For myself, I can see the advantages of both options - it's always been my misfortune to see both sides of an argument, and not know which to go for! So your opinion will be most helpful.