



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : Fr. John Barnes MA VF
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November 28th, 2021 : FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. For the People
Sunday 10:0am Int. Our First Holy Communion candidates, who will be making their Act of Commitment at this Mass

During lockdown Fr. John has been saying a private Mass for the Sisters at the Convent at 5.0pm each Sunday, and he will continue to do this. But from next Sunday, Advent II, the Sisters will be pleased to welcome any parishioners who wish to join them for this Mass. Please enter by the old 'nursery entrance' on the Orwell Road.

Weekday Masses

Monday ADVENT FERIA
9:30am Int. +Andrew Richard Down
Tuesday FEAST OF ST.ANDREW
9:30am Int. +John Sullivan (FM)
Wednesday ADVENT FERIA
9:30am Int. +Roy Fenton (FM)
Thursday ADVENT FERIA
9.30am Int. +Dorothy Milton
Friday ST.FRANCIS XAVIER
No Mass today
Saturday ADVENT FERIA
9.30am Int.
6:00pm Int. For the People

The Daily Office

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesdays at 10.0am Benediction at 10.30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 5.15pm to 5.45pm, or by appointment

The Mass today : The readings can be found on p.82 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p.62 of The Sunday Missal. The Sunday readings are now Year C, and the weekdays readings Year II. Hymns at the 10.0am Mass : 851, 102, 662

THIS WEEK

Friday Our normal Lauds/Mass/ Exposition & Rosary pattern has to be interrupted today, as Fr. John has to attend a meeting of the Cathedral Trustees at St. John's Cathedral at 10.00am

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Patrick Hall (2007), Constance Donohue (1996), Bernard Brooks (2019), Sr. Carmel Murphy (2003), Mary Kalo (2003), Kenneth Hylins (2013), Helen Richards (2000). May they rest in peace.

Money Matters Last Sunday £561.28 was given in the Offertory and £66.12 for CAFOD.

Childrens' Advent Booklets Monica writes 'The Day by Day Advent puzzle books for children are available on the table in the Porch. Please encourage the children to take one, and grandparents are welcome to take them for their grandchildren.'

FROM THE BISHOP

THE SYNODAL PATH 'The survey for The Synodal Path in our Diocese will go online on our Diocesan and Parish website from this weekend November 27/28, Advent Sunday. Please take the time over the coming weeks to prayerfully complete the survey and return it to Stephen, our Synodal Rep, by e-mail: saintf78@gmail.com.'

Every response is valuable! There is a special Prayer Card for you this weekend.' (To access the Synodal Pathway in order to complete the survey 1) Go to The Catholic Diocese of East Anglia website: www.rcdea.org.uk 2) Search Synodal Pathway 3) Click on either Synodal Pathway or Synodal Pathway Groups 4) Follow the links in the questionnaire 5) and return it to Stephen).

STEWARDSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Stephen Badcock writes 'Thank you to all those who have volunteered to help with parish activities. There is a poster on the notice board at the back of church listing a number of lead volunteers for the various categories. Please make yourself known to your Lead Volunteer for further advice regarding rotas and how you can be of help. If necessary please contact your Lead Volunteer by speaking to Fr. John in person or by e.mail (address overleaf), and he will be able to put you in contact with the relevant person.

HONOURING SUNDAY A STATEMENT FROM THE BISHOPS CONFERENCE

Longing for our Lord

We the Bishops of England and Wales are attentive to the experience of the last year or so, when we have lived our faith through the limitations of the pandemic. We have heard of the longing which some express as a "homesickness". We want to be in the presence of the Blessed Sacrament. We yearn to celebrate the sacraments together, especially the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass. We desire to be nourished by Our Lord in Holy Communion. The live streaming of the Mass and the remarkable response of our Catholic communities to those in need, have provided comfort, sustenance and resilience.

The Eucharist, source and summit

The Eucharist is the source and summit of our spiritual and pastoral life. Many people have said to us that they have appreciated the noble simplicity of the Mass at this time, which has allowed the mystery and majesty of our Lord's sacrificial love to shine through.

The central appeal of the Mass, its beauty and its transcendence, raises our minds and hearts to God in an unambiguous and compelling manner. Our Lord Jesus invites us to receive anew the gift of Sunday as the preeminent day, the day of the Resurrection, when the Church gathers to celebrate the Eucharist. Here we stand together before our heavenly Father, offering our thanksgiving and prayer, through our Saviour in the Holy Spirit. Here we receive Christ in his Word. Here we are nourished by Christ in his precious Body and Blood. This is our primary joy, for which there is no substitute, and from which we draw our strength.

The Gift of the Sunday Eucharist

The Sunday Eucharist is a gift; as God's holy people we are called to praise and thank God in the most sublime way possible. When the Church speaks of the Sunday obligation, it reminds us that attending Mass is a personal response to the selfless offering of Christ's love.

At this time, we recognise that for some people there may be certain factors which hinder attendance at Sunday Mass. The pandemic is clearly not over. The risk of infection is still present. For some, there is legitimate fear in gathering together. As your bishops, we recognise that these prevailing circumstances suggest that not everyone is yet in the position to fulfil the absolute duty to attend freely Sunday Mass.

Responding to the Gift

We now encourage all Catholics to look again at the patterns which they have formed in recent months with regard to going to Mass on Sundays. This would include consideration and reflection about what we might do on Sundays, such as sports or shopping, or other leisure and social activities. This review, and the decisions which arise from it, fall to every Catholic and we trust this will be done with honesty, motivated by a real love for the Lord whom we encounter in the Mass. The Sunday Mass is the very heartbeat of the Church and of our personal life of faith. We gather on the "first day of the week," and devote ourselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers (Acts 2:42). The Eucharist sustains us and spurs us on, renewing our gratitude and our hope.