



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : Fr. John Barnes MA VF
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December 19th, 2021 : FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. For the People
Sunday 9:30am Int.+ Alice Robinson and
David Robison

Weekday Masses

Monday ADVENT FERIA
9:30am Int. +Kathleen Major
Tuesday ADVENT FERIA
9:30am Int. +Alan Deveney
Wednesday ADVENT FERIA
9:30am Int. +Jenny Byrne
Thursday ADVENT FERIA
No Mass today
Friday ADVENT FERIA
11.30am Int. +John Battersby

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
Friday at Noon

The Rosary Friday at Noon (during Exposition)

The Mass today

The readings can be found on p. 90 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p.74 of The Sunday Missal.
Hymns at the 10.0am Mass : 113, 112, 607

Confessions before Christmas

Monday Penitential Service, 2.30pm
Tuesday 10.0am (during Exposition)
Wednesday 10.0am
Friday (Christmas Eve) 2.30pm & 5.0pm

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE (Friday)

6.0pm The First Mass of Christmas
and Blessing of the Crib
10.0pm The Mass of Midnight

CHRISTMAS DAY (Saturday)

10.0am The Mass of the Day

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY (Sunday) (Boxing Day)

10.0am Parish Mass

Penitential Service before Christmas

This will take place on Monday this week, at 2.30pm. We are experimenting with holding the Service in the afternoon rather than in the evening this year. The Service provides an ideal opportunity to make a Confession before Christmas, and thereby to prepare ourselves for celebrating the Incarnation and Birth of Our Lord. It would be sad if we had prepared our homes and our tables for the festival, but had neglected our soul. Only a good confession and God's wonderful gift of forgiveness can prepare us spiritually for Christmas. Fr. Edmund from Woodbridge, Fr. Joseph from St. Pancras, and Fr. Paul from St. Mary Magdalen's, have agreed to help me on Monday afternoon. As usual the Blessed Sacrament will be Exposed for adoration during the time when Confessions are being heard, and this quiet time before Our Lord will in itself be a

part of our spiritual preparation for Christmas.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Andrew Yates (2013), Stanley Ring (2009), Doris Bird (2002), Margaret Hanlon (2009), Monica Cooper (2019), Joseph Grace (2003), Jenny Byrne (2019), Heather Campbell (2001), and Patricia Schwan (2015). May they Rest in Peace.

Money Matters Last Sunday £472.51 was given at the Offertory, and £51.98 for CAFOD. There was a retiring collection for the Dependant Priests' Fund, in which £276.11 was given. The collection on Christmas Day goes to the Parish Priest, as a constituent part of his annual income. (Note : a Parish Priest only receives what is put on the plate on Christmas Day & Easter Day - he cannot benefit from Standing Order giving.)

Many thanks Fr. John was very grateful for the kind wishes and promises of prayer which he received at the time of his eye surgery last week. Extraordinarily and fortuitously it took place on the Feast of St. Lucy, the patron saint of eyes, and seems to have been very successful. Unfortunately he is not allowed to wear a face mask for the next two weeks, but he will persevere with a visor!

Afghanistan Crisis Appeal Boni and Kate have forwarded the following message from CAFOD 'We know this is a very busy and challenging time for parishes and priests but the situation in Afghanistan is dire and we think the Catholic community will want to help. Across Afghanistan more than 8 million people are on the brink of famine because of drought, collapsing economy, food shortages, conflict, and COVID-19. The UN warns the country is 'fast becoming the world's largest humanitarian crisis'. CAFOD is doing all it can to support sister Caritas agencies and local partners to reach communities most in need - especially women and children. You can find out more here : <https://cafod.org.uk/News/Emergencies-news/Afghanistan-crisis-appeal>

Ecumenical matters Anne Poole writes 'The Church Unity Octave is traditionally observed from 18th-25th January, and has been prepared by

the churches of the Middle East. In Felixstowe an Ecumenical Pilgrimage is again planned, for the morning of Saturday January 22nd (detailed info to follow), giving an opportunity to pay a brief visit to many of our town's Christian places of worship, either inside or outside - COVID rules permitting - to pray for Christian Unity. The CTF United Service takes place on Sunday 23rd January at 3.30pm at The River of Lifer Church, Langer Road, Felixstowe.

HOW DO I MAKE MY CONFESSION?

- * Give yourself a quiet ten minutes or so to prepare, at home or in church.
- * Ask the Holy Spirit to help you see clearly what needs to be confessed and forgiven.
- * Ask yourself about your LOVING OF GOD. Have you been faithful at Mass? Have you always received Holy Communion reverently? Have you been Faithful in your daily prayer? Have you thanked God daily for his goodness? Have you prayed for others? Have you asked what things God wants you to do (and not do)?
- * Ask yourself about your LOVING OF OTHERS. Have you always been patient, forgiving, good tempered, unselfish, truthful, generous; or have you been critical, ready to speak and hear badly of others, slow to be helpful, slow to make allowances? Have you had any wrong relationships? Have you stolen anything? Have you hurt anyone?
- * Ask yourself about your LOVING OF YOURSELF. Have you treated your body with respect? Have you been disciplined in eating and drinking? Have you been jealous or envious? Have you wanted praise, or been self-pitying?
- * Then go to church at a time when Confessions are being heard (or when you've made an appointment), and when it is your turn, approach the priest. He will guide you through if you need guidance. Remember that he is there to help you : he won't be critical of you, only glad that you are seeking forgiveness and inner peace. And remember that he himself has to go to confession too : he too needs God's forgiveness.