



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : Fr. John Barnes MA VF
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October 2nd, 2022 : 27th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. For the People
Sunday 10:00am Int. +James Boyle
6:00pm (Convent) Int.

Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA
9:30am Int. +Mary Moffatt (CP)
Tuesday ST.FRANCIS OF ASSISI
9:30am Int. +David Black
Wednesday ST.FAUSTINA KOWALSKA
No Mass today
Thursday ST.BRUNO
4:30pm (Convent) Int.
Friday OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY
9:30am Int. +Helen MacNallan
Saturday FERIA
8.0am Int. +The Souls in Purgatory
6:00pm Int. For the People

The Daily Office

Lauds (Morning Prayer) will be said a quarter of an hour before Mass on Mon, Tues, Fri, & Sat..

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 Rosary Friday at Noon

The Mass today

The readings can be found on p.146 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p.1069 of The Sunday Missal.

Hymns at 10.0am 725, 735, 629

THIS WEEK

Monday 9.30am The St.Felix Toddlers Group meets in the Hall.

Tuesday 10.45am The Catechism Group meets in the Cooper Room.

Friday CAFOD Harvest Fast Day. Please try to eat more simply today, and put what you save in the CAFOD envelope attached to today's Newsheet ; bring it back next Sunday for the CAFOD retiring collection

The Bishop is visiting the Convent at the end of the morning today, and wishes Fr.John to be present ; therefore the Mass at St.Felix today will be at 9.30am, rather than at the normal Friday time of 11.30am.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week John Douglas (2001), John Harwood (2021), Ellen Bayley (2000), Jane Reid (2015), and Fred Barnett (2006). R.I.P.

Money Matters On Sunday September 18th, £381.60 was given at the Offertory, and £67.60 for CAFOD. On Sunday September 25th, £299.12 was given at the Offertory, and £35.50 for CAFOD. Next Sunday there will be a retiring collection for CAFOD.

The Walking Group I apologise for the fact that a Walk had not been arranged for yesterday, which was a first Saturday of the month, but I was only just back from my summer holiday, and still

sorting myself out. Hopefully we can all be out for the first Saturday of November, Saturday 5th.

My Holiday Several of you have been kind enough to ask how my recent holiday in North Wales went. It was very enjoyable, despite decidedly indifferent weather. How suddenly Summer has given way virtually to Winter! But it was good to be amongst the hills and mountains again - a contrast with the less dramatic contours of East Anglia ; a drive through Snowdonia was especially memorable. I was also able to visit - and sketch - some very fine mediaeval churches in Cheshire and in the Vale of Clwyd.

Last Sunday I went to Mass at the little Catholic church at Ruthin in Denbighshire. The Indian priest there has three churches to look after, at Ruthin Denbigh, and St.Asaph, spread out over quite a number of miles. It made me realise how fortunate I am to just have one church to think about!

But as with every holiday, almost the best part was getting home again! I often think that one of the primary benefits of a holiday is to make one appreciate anew one's own home. Do you agree?

THE NAVE WINDOWS

I wrote a few weeks ago about the problem facing us with the eight windows in the Nave at St.Felix : about how the lead is beginning to perish, as it does after a century or so (our windows are one hundred and ten years old) causing the glass panels to bulge out. It is especially noticeable on the outside of certain of these windows. Windows where this is happening are not as draft proof as one could wish, and if simply left, panes (quarries, as the small diamond-shaped pieces of glass are called), will eventually fall out. Which would be even more drafty!

I asked Terry Devlin, the proprietor of the best firm of lead glaziers in East Anglia, Messrs.Devlin Plummer, who operate just south of Norwich (and who are currently conserving several stained glass windows at the Cathedral) to come out and advise, which he did. He has given me a price, but he has also made a most interesting suggestion. This is that instead of simply re-leading the existing pale-greenish frosted quarries,

we should consider replacing them with clear glass quarries. This would flood the church with light, and a certain cheerfulness. The present greenish frosted is maybe not in itself terribly attractive.

All I want to say about cost at this point is that new clear glass would be slightly, but not hugely, the more expensive option. Soon, of course, we will have to think about cost, and you will guess that the whole operation, whatever we do, will be very expensive. We will have to think about how we will pay for the work, which is in no way an unnecessary extravagance, - it is simply repair work which will have to be done .

But first, before we think about money matters, I think we need to address the issue of whether we would prefer clear glass to the present greenish frosted glass. It is, we might note, the only greenish frosted glass in the church. Yes, the glass in the Porch and in the big window above the Organ Loft (which doesn't yet need attention) is frosted, but 'white'. And in the two main side-chapels, the stained glass figure-work is set against a background of clear glass quarries.

We will be able to discuss this matter at the next meeting of the Parish Advisory Council, on Monday November 7th (2.30pm). But meanwhile please will you think about what would be most attractive in our church - clear glass, or the present greenish frosted glass, and do please tell me what you think.

IN OUR CHURCH

4. The Paschal Candle stand This very grand piece of church furnishing dates back to the first years of our church - it appears clearly in some of the earliest photographs, and is one of the very few survivors of that period. It's purpose is to hold the Paschal Candle, lit as we begin to celebrate Easter on Holy Saturday evening. The Paschal Candle represents the risen Christ in the midst of his people, and so it is appropriate that the candle stand should make a statement. When the fifty days of Eastertide are over, the Candle and its stand are placed by the Font, the place where we first share in the Easter life of Our Lord. The Candle is lit at Baptisms, and the candidates Baptismal Candle is lit from it - a symbol of our sharing in that new Easter life.