



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : Fr. John Barnes MA VF
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October 9th, 2022 : 28th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. For the People
Sunday 10:00am Int. +The Souls in Purgatory
6:00pm (Convent) Int. Sr.Joan's
Intentions

Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA
9:30am Int. +Liz Strange
Tuesday FERIA
8.0am Int. For the People of Ukraine
Wednesday ST.WILFRID
9:30am Int. Renee Newell
Thursday ST.EDWARD THE CONFESSOR
4:30pm (Con) Int.
Friday FERIA
11:30am Int.
Saturday ST. TERESA OF AVILA
9:30am Int.
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., Wed., Fri., & Sat.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday at Noon

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.149 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p.1073 of The Sunday Missal.

Hymns at 10.0am : 924, 770, 967

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. This week we will look at paragraphs 668-679 of *The Catechism of the Catholic Church*. If you are not able to come, why not read those paragraphs at home? Please note that Mass is at 8.0am today, rather than 9.30am, as Fr.John has to attend a meeting of the Diocesan Historic Churches Committee in Norwich.

Wednesday Noon The Bishop meets with the Deanery Clergy in the Hall here, to discuss the future provision of Chaplaincy at the Ipswich Hospital.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Joe Bonner (2006), Glynis Loube (2004), Mary Garner (1999), Sheila Gow (2002), Mary Scott (2006), Catherine Rundle (2001) and Joyce Hughes (2006), May they Rest in Peace.

Money Matters Last Sunday £470.96 was given in the offertory and £63.20 for CAFOD. There is a retiring collection for CAFOD today, following the Fast Day in Harvest.

Coffee Morning Jenny writes 'To be held on Saturday 22nd October 10.30 am - Noon. Includes refreshments, guess the weight of the cake and a tombola. A chance to get together and have a chat, do please come along, we are looking

forward to seeing you. In aid of parish funds and The Food Bank.'

Missio Red Boxes Barbara writes 'Dear Red Box friends, I shall be exchanging Red Boxes next weekend October 15th/16th. If this is not convenient for you I can make an alternative arrangement. Please make sure your name is on your box so that I can issue a receipt.'

First Holy Communion Preparation We plan to begin preparation for First Holy Communion in 2023 after the forthcoming half-term holiday. Children need to be in Year 3 at school to begin. The first step is to obtain a registration form from Fr. John : no child can begin preparation until that form has been completed.

Visit of the Relics of St. Bernadette The relics of St. Bernadette, the visionary of Lourdes, are to visit the Cathedral this week, as part of a tour of the UK. The relics will arrive at the Cathedral at 11.30am on Thursday, and will leave for the Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs, Cambridge, at 9.0am on Saturday. The full programme for the Visit can be found on the Diocesan Website.

IN OUR CHURCH

5. The Crucifix above the Tabernacle

Churches are meant to have a prominent Crucifix in conjunction with the main Altar, and we are fortunate in having such a very fine one here at St. Felix. It is beautifully carved, and just the right size for its setting. I often find myself looking at it when I'm having my prayer-time in St. Joseph's Chapel in the early morning ; Cardinal Hume, one of my spiritual heroes, said how helpful it can be to look at a Crucifix. I do hope that you have got one in your home.

And yet does it maybe seem a little strange to have the figure of a dead man so prominently displayed in a Catholic church? Isn't it rather off-putting to strangers entering the building? Doesn't it seem just a little macabre , and certainly gloomy? Well hopefully anyone who did react like this would ask what it was all about ; would express their feelings of surprise and revulsion. And then whichever of us happened to be about

-you or me - would be able to explain. What would we say?

I think we'd want to say first who this man is : that it is no ordinary man, but God the Son 'through whom all things were made'. And we'd want to say that at a certain point in time, two thousand years ago, He chose to come into this world, taking our human nature of a human Mother, and all so that as the New man, not cut off from the Father by disobedience, he could bring about reconciliation between us and the Father.

And then we'd want to say that the reason why he came into our world, and was ready to die on the cross for us - offering himself to the Father on our behalf - was love. Love for people in every place and in every age - the burning love of his Sacred Heart - 'Greater love has no man than this, than that he should lay down his life for his friends'. Yes, we'd agree, the figure of the crucified Christ speaks of the wickedness of mankind, who put to death the Saviour of the World. But primarily the Crucifix speaks not of the wickedness of man, but of the profound love of God. First and foremost the Crucifix is a declaration of divine Love.

Then finally, of course, we would want to affirm very strongly that what is seen is not the end of the story. No, the Christ who hung on the Cross is risen from the dead, and alive for ever. Alive with a new life to share with those open to receive so precious a gift. And maybe we would want to add that the risen Christ is wonderfully, mysteriously, present in the Tabernacle that stands just below the Crucifix.

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