



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : The Very Revd. Canon John Barnes VF
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January 22nd, 2023 : 3rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. For the People
Sunday 10:00am Int.
4:00pm (Convent) Int.

Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA
9:30am Int. +Charles & Ethel Pritchard (FM)
Tuesday ST.FRANCIS DE SALES
No Mass today
Wednesday FEAST OF THE CONVERSION
OF ST.PAUL
8.0am Int.
Thursday ST.TIMOTHY & ST.TITUS
4:30pm (Convent) Int.
Friday FERIA
11:30am Int. +Horace & Ethel Dawson (FM)
Saturday ST.THOMAS AQUINAS
9:30am Int.
6:00pm Int. +Karen, Ruth, & Alex Thomson

The Daily Office

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

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.128 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p. of The Sunday Missal.
Hymns at 10.0am : 725, 708, 609

THIS WEEK

Today 3.0pm The annual Ecumenical

Service for the Church Unity Octave, at St.John's Church, Orwell Road.

Monday 7.0pm First meeting of the new Social & Fundraising Committee, Presbytery. Anyone interested is most welcome to come along. We hope to plan a programme of social events for this year. What would you like to see taking place in our parish? What should we be making available for our young people and older people, and for people of different nationalities? Let's try and bring our parish to life. Come along and contribute your ideas!

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

11.30am Mass of Thanksgiving for Bishop Alan Hopes, in the Cathedral. Do come along if you can for this diocesan thanksgiving for the generous and distinguished ministry of Bishop Alan, and the Presentation to him. All will be welcome.

No Mass & Exposition at St.Felix this morning, but there will be a Mass tomorrow, Wednesday, at 8.0am, for the Feast of the Conversion of St.Paul.

Wednesday 10.0am Fr.John attends the Funeral Mass for Deacon Clive Brooks' at St.Mark's, Ipswich. Mass here today is at 8.0am.

Friday The Deanery Clergy's annual lunch takes place today ; Rosary will be as normal, but no Exposition.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Myrtle Shevling (2004), Michael Backler (2011), Breda Bird (2019), Patricia West (2011), Kenneth Doubleday

(2016), and Kevin Daly (2021). R.I.P.

Money Matters Last Sunday £365.90 was given at the Offertory, and £39.70. £278.75 was given in the retiring collection, for Bishop Alan's testimonial.

Keys A reminder that everyone who has a key to the Church, Hall, or Presbytery is asked to fill in a form so as to make a register of keyholders. This is required for insurance purposes. The forms are in the Porch. So far, very few forms have come back in. Please let's complete this exercise soon.

THE CONVERSION OF ST.PAUL

We remember this event on Wednesday this week, how St.Paul, full of fury against the young Christian Church was determined to do all he could to extinguish it : he was travelling towards Damascus, to persecute Christians there, when the risen Christ spoke to him, and brought about his conversion. Thereafter Paul became one of the greatest witnesses to Jesus in the whole history of the Church, and accomplished an amazing work in spreading the good news of the Gospel, and in establishing the Church.

The word 'conversion' means 'turning towards'. A person is converted to the Christian

Faith when they turn away from darkness and err towards the life and light of the living Christ. All of us are called to conversion - to turn to Jesus. For some it is a moment of sudden enlightenment, as it was for St.Paul: suddenly seeing, vividly, the reality and veracity of Jesus, and the Faith which he taught, with a flash of blinding conviction. But for most of us it doesn't work like this. For most of us I think conversion is a life-long process. A gradual coming to know Him, and coming little by little to know the reality of his presence and the depth of his love for us, and so putting our trust in him.

So there are two different modes of conversion - the sudden flash, and the gradual emergence into faith and commitment. I suppose falling in love can be like that - love at first sight, or love that gradually develops. Maybe we sometimes think that it would have been nice to have had sudden and blinding conversion such as Paul had. But how exactly we come to faith is in God's wise hands, and in accordance with his plan for us. However he brings about our trust and commitment towards Jesus - suddenly or gradually - it is a great blessing. The greatest blessing of all. So it is good that this Feast of the Conversion of St.Paul leads us each year to think about the mystery of conversion. and to pray for the deepening of our own conversion, and for the conversion of others..