



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : The Very Revd. Canon John Barnes VF
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April 9th, 2023 : THE SOLEMNITY OF EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday Masses

Saturday 8.30pm Int. For the People
Sunday 10:00am Int.
Noon (Convent) Int.

Weekday Masses

Monday EASTER OCTAVE
9:30am Int.
Tuesday EASTER OCTAVE
8.0am Int. +Lousamma
Wednesday EASTER OCTAVE
9.30am Int.
Thursday EASTER OCTAVE
1.0pm *FUNERAL MASS FOR ANNE
SYKES RIP*
4:30pm (Convent) Int.
Friday EASTER OCTAVE
11:30am Int.
Saturday EASTER OCTAVE
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.

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 (during Exposition)

The Mass today

The readings can be found on p.251 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p.363 of The Sunday Missal.
Hymns at 10.0am : 267, 271, 268

THIS WEEK

Tuesday 10.30am Fr. John attends a Meeting of the Diocesan Historic Churches Committee at Poringland. This means that Mass today will have to be at 8.0am.

The Catechism Group is on holiday until Tuesday April 25th.

Thursday 1.0pm Funeral Mass for Anne Sykes, followed by Cremation at the Crematorium of the Seven Hills.

Friday 7.0pm Meeting of the Social Committee at the Presbytery. Amongst other things we will be planning the International Lunch on Sunday May 7th (the day after the Coronation). New members of the Committee will be welcome.

Saturday 9.0am and 10.30am - Fr. John says Mass at the Warren Hill and Hollesley Bay Prisons. This means that there will not be the usual 9.30am Mass at St. Felix.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Miriam Harcourt (2004), Kathleen Newman (2008), Brian Hughes (2006), Edith Martin (2008), David Holding (2009), Margaret Smyth (2010), and Ida Shaw (2012). May they Rest in Peace.

Money Matters Last Sunday £476.74 was given at the Offertory, and £23.60 for CAFOD. During March, £2,078.00 was given by Direct Debit. Today the collection is given to the Parish Priest, as a constituent part of his annual income.

Congratulations to the former Chairman of our Parish Council, Philip Dance, who has been appointed Chairman of the Governors of St.Alban's Catholic High School in Ipswich. He will be excellent, and we wish him well.

Missio Red Boxes Barbara writes : 'In 2022 the people of England and Wales gave 2 million pounds through Red Boxes and donations to *Missio*, and in the diocese of East Anglia over £50,000 was raised. Here in St.Felix Parish £1,781.65 was donated - thank you so much for your continuing generosity. We are part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries through prayer and financial support. Please see the poster in the porch showing one of the projects you have helped to fund. If anyone would like to take a Red Box, please let me know, I have plenty of spares. Barbara Lamberton, Fxt.279373'

THE EASTER OCTAVE

There used to be several Octaves in the course of the Christian Year, but now there are just two, at Christmas and at Easter. But what is an Octave? It is the seven days following a greater holy day, making eight in all, eight days each of which shares in the dignity and solemnity of the first. During the Octave, the Offices repeat the same hymn and psalms each day, as if the greater holy day was simply extended to cover the Octave. The *Gloria* is used at Mass on each of the days, and on the Friday that falls within the Octave we are dispensed from the Friday abstinence from meat rule. Why not try to be at Mass on each day in the Octave?

THE BEST THING

I was depressed to hear in an advert for Sainsburys on Classic FM that 'the best thing about Easter is the food'. It brought home to me the emptiness of lives which have no spiritual dimension - and that means the lives of so many people today. For food to be supposed 'the best thing' about this time, that should be a time of great rejoicing over the victory of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and all that this means for humanity - how profoundly sad.

The 'best thing' about Easter : it is the promise of eternal life, the assurance that death will not have the last word. Christ is risen, and we who are 'in Christ' by baptism, joined to the risen Lord, we will rise with him as surely as we must first also die with him. He rises with new life to share with us, and what could be better than that? It's more significant than a meal, however well-cooked that meal may be! For us Christians, food is certainly not 'the best thing' about Easter! And how we long for all people to know this, and have a real cause for rejoicing in this holy season.

And yet there is a way in which for us Catholics food IS 'the best thing about Easter' : the food which we receive at the Altar , the very body of the risen and glorified Christ. For when we receive Jesus in Holy Communion we are encountering the risen Christ as truly as his disciples encountered him on the first Easter Day. We are experiencing the wonder and the joy of that momentous day so long ago. Meeting the risen Christ at the Altar as truly as Mary Magdalen met him in the garden, meeting him, and more than meeting him - receiving from him a share in the new and endless life : how can ordinary food, the food we eat in our dining rooms or kitchens possibly be 'the best thing about Easter'? How fortunate we are to know that this is not the case!

PICTURE OF
PASCHAL CANDLE
AT ST.FELIX
IN HARD COPY