



# PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : The Very Revd. Canon John Barnes VF  
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## June 11th, 2023 : SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST

### Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. For the People  
Sunday 10:00am Int. The Ipswich Circle of  
Catenians  
4:00pm (Convent) Int. +Brian & Paul  
Dowley

### Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA  
9:30am Int. +Jim Hallissey  
Tuesday ST. ANTHONY OF PADUA  
9:30am Int. Our First Holy Communicants  
Wednesday FERIA  
No Mass today  
Thursday FERIA  
11.0am *FUNERAL MASS FOR ANNA  
MARIE BUTTON RIP*  
4.30pm (Convent) Int.  
Friday SOLEMNITY OF THE MOST  
SACRED HEART OF JESUS  
10.0am (Convent) Int.  
11:30am Int. +Joe Cox (JM)  
Saturday IMMACULATE HEART OF  
MARY  
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, Fri. & Sat..

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday at 10.0am Benediction at 10.30am  
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.83 of the Parish  
Mass Book, and on p.822 of The Sunday Missal.  
Hymns : 662, 663, 629

### THIS WEEK

**Today** The 10.0am Mass is attended by  
members of the Ipswich Circle of Catenians.  
3.0pm Interment of the cremated Remains of  
John & Patricia McGrath in the Memorial Garden.  
**Tuesday** 10.45am The Catechism Group  
meets in the Cooper Room.  
**Thursday** 11.0am Funeral Mass for Anna  
Marie Button, Followed by Cremation at the  
Crematorium of the Seven Hills.  
**Friday** The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus.  
Because today is a Solemnity, the Friday  
abstinence rule is dispensed.  
**Saturday** 2.0pm Rehearsal for the First Holy  
Communions tomorrow.  
**Next Sunday** First Holy Communions will be  
made at the 10.0am Mass. As there are just seven  
candidates, there will be room for everyone.

### PARISH NOTICEBOARD

**Anniversaries this week** Nora O'Brian (2004),  
Michael McKeon (2013), Nora Liffen (2014),  
Mary Spillane (2004), Sr. Campion Green RJM,  
and Chris Nelson (2019), May they Rest in Peace.

**Money Matters** Last Sunday £297.0 was given  
in cash at the Offertory, and £22.43 for CAFOD.  
Our Treasurer has provided some figures for our  
giving during the month of May : direct debits  
amounted to £2,270.00, and £39.35 was given via

the new Dona machine in the porch. £1,420.34 was given on the plate. The overall collections during the month amounted to £3,727.69. Next Sunday there will be a retiring collection for Catholic Life Charities.

### THE NAVE WINDOWS

It was reported in last Sunday's Newsheet that three of the window 'lights' - that is, one whole window - had already found sponsors : this Sunday we can report that three more 'lights' have been sponsored - that now amounts to two whole windows, a quarter of the whole project!

The first new window - the one over the Sacristy door - was being made-up last week, and will be installed in the next two or three weeks ; things are moving!

### THE BLESSED SACRAMENT II

This feast which we keep today is named THE SOLEMNITY OF THE BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST. Of course we still know it by its old name of Corpus Christi - Latin for The Body of Christ. But the correct name reminds us of the equal status of the Body and the Blood. Sometimes the Precious Blood has seemed to be overshadowed or even overlooked. I heard a priest suggest last week that this may in part be because only the Host, the Sacred Body, can be displayed in the monstrance for adoration, and this in the popular mind leads the Host to seem to have a superior status. Maybe that is so. But the fact is that the Body and Blood are of equal dignity, and equal in significance as regards the work of our salvation. The Body hung upon the Cross, and there the Sacred Blood was poured out - a vital part of the self-offering of Christ made on our behalf, and foreshadowed by the shedding of blood in the sacrifices of the Old Covenant. The Chalice containing the Precious Blood is, the Second Eucharistic Prayer declares 'the Chalice of Salvation'.

The *General Instructions of the Roman Missal* which I quoted last week speaks of the

reception of both the Host and the Chalice in Holy Communion as being a 'fuller form as a sign'. In its wisdom, Holy Church now invites us to receive both the Body and the Blood. Indeed Jesus invites us to do so - eat this bread, drink this cup. Which is why we must think very carefully about whether we ought to follow the direction of the Bishops and begin to receive 'under both kinds' when the possibility of doing so recommences next month. Both the *Instructions* and the bishop make it quite clear that no one is being required to receive Holy Communion under both kinds. Quite simply, the risen and glorified Christ is equally present in both the Host and the Chalice, and so no one is 'missing out' by receiving just the Host. Each communicant is left entirely free to make their choice - no one is being dragooned into receiving the Precious Blood. Rather we are being invited and encouraged. 'Drink my Blood', Jesus said at the Last Supper, when he instituted the Blessed Sacrament. And we can't help but be moved by this invitation to partake of the Precious Blood shed for us on the Cross. I think it helps us to unite ourselves more closely to Jesus, and to have a deeper awareness of all that he has done to win for us the freedom of eternal life.

An invitation which we are free to accept or refuse. But what we are not free to refuse, I think, is an acknowledgement of what the consecrated chalice contains. It is truly the life-giving Blood of the Saviour, and is to be treated with the greatest awe and reverence. Yes, we are free not to receive the Precious Blood if we wish. But it has been rather awful in the past to see those who chose not to receive it walking past, head held high, as if the priest or lay minister administering the Chalice was holding nothing more than a glass of tap water, and simply refusing to acknowledge the presence of the Precious Blood. If we are not receiving the Chalice, we should certainly genuflect or bow deeply as we pass the place where it is being administered. To simply walk past is irreverent, and a denial of the true presence of the Blessed Lord in the form of his Precious Blood.

**Doors** Now that the weather is rather warmer, it is good to leave the outside door of the church open. An open door says "Welcome, come in !" A closed door seems to say "Keep out!". But it is best for us to keep the inner glass doors closed.