



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : The Very Revd. Canon John Barnes VF
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July 2nd, 2023 : 13th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses

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

Weekday Masses

Monday FEAST OF ST. THOMAS
9:30am Int. + Fred Bantick (FM)
Tuesday FERIA
9:30am Int. + Fr. Dennis Brophy (FM)
Wednesday FERIA
No Mass today
Thursday ST. MARIA GORETTI
4:30pm (Convent) Int.
Friday FERIA
11:30am Int.
Saturday ST. WITHBURGA
6:00pm Int.

The Daily Office

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

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

The Mass today

The readings can be found on p.96 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p. of The Sunday Missal.
Hymns at 10.0am : 683, 966, 720

THIS WEEK

Monday 10.30am A Meeting of the Parish Finance Committee, at the Presbytery.

Tuesday 10.45am The Catechism Group meets in the Cooper Room. This week we look at paragraphs 1076 to 1090. All welcome.
3.30pm The first of the two Afternoon Teas for Church Cleaners, in the Presbytery garden.

Friday 3.30pm The second Church Cleaners Afternoon Tea - again hopefully in the garden!

Saturday No morning Mass today, as Fr. John has to attend the Ordination of two new priests at the Cathedral.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversary this week Betty Adams (2004) RIP

Money Matters Last week £401.43 was given at the Offertory, and £41.00 for CAFOD.

Next Sunday is Sea Sunday Barbara writes : 'Felixstowe is one of the largest ports in the country, but I wonder how many of us think about the seafarers and fishers who work on the ships that we see going in and out? Next Sunday, Sea Sunday, we will be encouraged to pray for them, and for the Stella Maris Port Chaplain, Julian, and to make a donation, if we are able, to Stella Maris. This is the worldwide Catholic charity which supports seafarers and fishers and enables chaplains to provide many and varied services, physical, mental and spiritual, and a friendly welcome in a strange port. You will hear more next week.'

THE BLESSED SACRAMENT V

A few days ago I received an e.mail from a man - I didn't recognize his name - saying that he believed we were preparing to re-introduce the availability of the Precious Blood at Mass, and that he would like to make a helpful suggestion. He said that he had heard of somewhere from which individual washable plastic 'glasses' could be obtained, and that perhaps we could allay any fears of infection by using these. I was unsure as to how serious he was, and sent back a brief e.mail saying "No. It's not what they did at the Last Supper".

Maybe I should have expanded on that. I certainly wasn't being facetious : we do in the celebration of Mass seek to 'do what the Lord did'. And so, for example, we add a little water to the chalice - just as was customary in Jesus' time. And we use unleavened bread at the Altar, as would have happened at the Last Supper because it was a Passover meal. It's not that we are in the business of historical re-enactment, wanting to get every detail accurate, but rather we are eager to do as Jesus did since we want to obey his command 'do this' as fully as we can. And we know that far from being a 'historical re-enactment', the celebration of Mass makes present, makes real to us, what Our Lord did at the Last supper.

As we have thought already, the risen Christ is present in both the Chalice and the Host, so that if we receive 'in one kind' as we say - ie. just the Host - we are certainly receiving the living Lord. Further, the Church has the authority to withhold the Chalice if there is some good reason for doing so. It did so in the recent pandemic, for fear of infection, and it did so back in the fifth century, when northern tribesmen were bursting into the Roman Empire, and many of them, half-converted to Christianity, could not be trusted to approach the Chalice with due reverence. That earlier withdrawal lasted for rather a long time.....

But now the Precious Blood is to be made available to us once more, and maybe our desire to 'do what the Lord did' at the Last Supper will incline us to accept the Churches' invitation. For Our Lord gave to the disciples at the supper both the consecrated Bread and the consecrated Chalice; he said to them both 'eat this' & 'drink this'. Although we are going to be free, as previously, to 'receive under one kind', I really

don't think that we should refuse the Chalice lightly.

ALONE

As you drive towards Felixstowe from Ipswich on the A14, you pass a turning signposted Bucklesham & Brightwell. On the corner of this turning there is a group of four small but shapely Scots pine trees. And then a little distance from them is another pine tree that is stunted and misformed. It looks as if the four shapely trees are standing together, comfortable in each others company, and that the fifth tree has been excluded from the group because it is not like the others - being misformed and ugly in appearance, it is an outcast.

Each time I pass this tableau I think of those who are excluded from society because they have some kind of disability or are not for some reason acceptable to others. Those who are excluded, outcast, rejected. Those upon whom people turn their backs. I think that we Christians, who are bidden to love all the people we encounter, must have a special care to include the outcast and rejected. They are our brothers and sisters, loved by God, and to be loved by us. We cannot, must not, allow them to feel excluded.

THE NAVE WINDOWS

A day or two ago I heard from the Glaziers that the first window - the one above the door into the Sacristy - is almost ready, and should be fitted this week - maybe on Wednesday or Thursday. It is very exciting. Then, apparently, they will proceed with the windows on the other side of the church.

Generous sponsorship by the Sisters RJM of a whole window came in during the course of last week, plus an anonymous gift of £450 *in memoriam* from a kind parishioner.

If you are thinking of sponsoring a window (£8,118) or one of the three 'lights' within a window (£2,800) it would be good if you could come to a decision fairly quickly, as the engraved 'quarries' need to be put in hand soon, ready for insertion into the windows which will, before long, be nearing completion.