



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : The Very Revd. Canon John Barnes VF
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August 6th, 2023 : FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

Sunday Masses

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

Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA
9:30am Int. +Frankie Bendell
Tuesday ST.DOMINIC
9:30am Int. +Josie Hatchett (FM)
Wednesday FEAST OF ST.TERESA
BENEDICTA OF THE CROSS
No Mass today
Thursday FEAST OF ST.LAWRENCE
4:30pm (Convent) Int.
Friday ST.CLARE
11:30am Int.
Saturday FERIA
9:30am Int. +John Gardiner (FM)
6:00pm Int. + Kathleen Hughes

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.174 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p. 752 of The Sunday Missal. Hymns at 10.0am : 208, 883, 607, 761

THIS WEEK

Today 3.0pm Baptism of William, son of Andrew and Donna Quinton.

Monday 9.30am The Parents and Toddlers Group meets in the Hall.

Tuesday The Catechism Group is on holiday.

Thursday 7.0pm Meeting of the Social Committee, at the Presbytery. The main business will be to plan the annual Parish Barbecue : please will anyone who is prepared to help with this come along!

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Betty Ryles (2020), John Ashe (2008), Eileen Stafford (2012), and John Sullivan (2002). May they Rest in Peace.

Money Matters Last Sunday £355.58 was given at the Offertory, and £11.80 for CAFOD.

The Scouts We all enjoyed the visit of the 7th Epping Forest Scout Troop to the 10.0am Mass a fortnight ago (they were in camp at Nacton). Their leaders have written :

'Dear Canon John,
We are now back from Camp after a lovely week in Suffolk which gave our Scouts lots of memories. One of these will be the hospitality and kindness offered by you and the parishioners at St.Felix. It was great that our Scouts could assist you on the altar and help with the Offertory as

they love to be involved. Cakes and drinks are always well received and those depicting the Scout badges were a brilliant idea..

After a rather wet and tiring start to camp the Leaders really appreciated the Mass and the warm welcome.

With many thanks,

Rob, Jo and Tom, 7th Epping Forest Scout Troop,
St Edmunds, Loughton, Essex.

THE TRANSFIGURATION

I suppose that it is only every six or seven years that August 6th - the date of the Feast of the Transfiguration - falls on a Sunday. But this year it so happens. And how good this is, because the Transfiguration is an important event in the incarnate life of Our Lord, and one which needs to be brought before us.

Our Lord Jesus Christ is both truly God and truly Man. This is the fact and the wonder of the Incarnation. 'The Word was made flesh', St. John writes. In theological language, Jesus has two NATURES, the human and the divine, within his one PERSON. Now some of the events in Jesus' life seem to relate very clearly to his human Nature eg. when he was thirsty, when he wept, when he endured pain. Whilst other events seem to relate equally clearly to his divine nature eg. when he turned water into wine, when he fed five thousand people with just a small amount of food, when he rose from the dead.

Now to which 'box' do we assign the event of the Transfiguration? To Jesus' divinity or to his humanity? At first we are tempted to say 'to his divinity' - and truly the light with which he shone was a supernatural, uncreated light. And yet - we read in the Bible that Moses face shone with light, so that he had to cover his face with a veil, and it is told of certain saints - St. Francis in the thirteenth century, for example, and St. Seraphim of Sarov in the nineteenth, that they on occasion were transfigured, shining with light. They were transfigured, but they were certainly not divine. The Transfiguration is not one or the other, I think, not to be neatly allotted to either 'the divine' or 'the human' of Our Lord..

Perhaps we would say that this event relates to BOTH his divine and the human Natures - to the whole Christ. The Light with

which he shone, yes, was supernatural, uncreated

light, of divine origin, his, by his being God the Son. But on the other hand it was his obedient, undefiled human Nature - Christ the New Man - which allowed that divine light to shine through and shine out from him. If this is so, then the Transfiguration is a wonderful showing of the two-fold Nature of Christ - his being both truly God and truly Man..

THE NAVE WINDOWS

During last week we received a further generous and anonymous donation of £200 from a parishioner, for which we are grateful. These donations mount up. We still need sponsorship, however, for one 'light' within a three-light window (£2,800), and for the half-length window over the Lady Chapel arch. The re-glazing of this half-length window will cost £5,920, or £2,000 for each of the three 'lights'. The glazier informs me that the installation of the new windows will begin quite soon. Something to look forward to!

AUGUST

Hooray, it's August again. That very special month of the year when the pace of life seems to slacken somewhat. Most organisations are not holding meetings, some people are away on holiday. There seems to be more time to see our friends, and to offer hospitality. Time to draw breath before the Autumn activities begin, and the roundabout gears up again,

But a time when hopefully we have more scope to look after the spiritual department of our being - a part of our life which sometimes seems to get neglected. Perhaps more time for our daily prayers, and to read a good spiritual book. More time just to be still - 'Be still, and know that I am God', as the Psalmist wrote. Or, if you like, to 'stand and stare', as the poet urged. Time for that precious activity of contemplation, of being rather than doing.. But mind, the days of August go by very quickly. We must try not to waste the opportunities which it presents.