



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : The Very Revd. Canon John Barnes VF
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September 10th, 2023 : 23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. For the People
Sunday 10:00am Int. +Douglas Birchall (JY&
4:00pm (Convent) Int. NP)

Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA
2.0pm FUNERAL MASS FOR DOUGLAS
BIRCHALL RIP
Tuesday FERIA
8.0am Int. +Rebecca Clary
Wednesday ST. JOHN CHRYSOSTOM
No Mass today
Thursday EXALTATION OF THE HOLY
CROSS
4:30pm (Convent) Int.
Friday OUR LADY OF SORROWS
8.0am Int. +Charles Garratt (FM)
Saturday ST. CORNELIUS & ST. CYPRIAN
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 Tues, Fri, and 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.125 of the Parish
Mass Book, and on p.769 of The Sunday Missal.
Hymns at 10.0am : 833, 966, 643, 910

THIS WEEK

Today 3.0pm The Teddy Bears' Picnic, for

Children & Young Families, in the Presbytery
Garden.

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

2.0pm Funeral Mass for Douglas Birchall,
followed by Cremation at the Crematorium of the
Seven Hills. No 9.30am Mass today.

Tuesday The Mass is at 8.0am today because the
glaziers will be continuing work on the windows
today. They hope to finish this week.

10.45am The Catechism Group resumes, in the
Cooper Room. We will be looking at paragraphs
1122 to 1134.

Wednesday Noon Fr. John attends a Meeting of
the Cathedral Chapter, at St. John's Cathedral.

Friday 10.30am Fr. John attends a Meeting of
the Cathedral Trustees, St. John's Cathedral. So
Mass here is at 8.0am, not 11.30am today.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Pamela Russell
(2009), Sr. Genevieve Devereux (2019), Felix
Shaw (2000), Monica Barsby (2008), Michael Kay
(2001), Annie O'Hagan (2003), Patrick O'Reilly
(2001) and William Keane (2009) **R.I.P.**

Money Matters Last Sunday £347.06 was given
in the Offertory and £6.70 for CAFOD. The total
collections for August are as follows: Plate:
£1390.77, Direct Debit: £2180.00, DONA: £51.16.

The Barbeque Once more we were blessed
with good weather, and the BBQ seemed to be a
great success. It was very much a team effort, with
many people involved in the arrangements and
production. We are most grateful to them, and to
all who brought food to share - there was a
splendid spread. The Presbytery garden makes
such a good setting for the event, and the large

Pavilion was a welcome addition on such a hot and sunny day.

A lady called 'Anne' won a major Raffle prize - it is being kept for her at the Presbytery. All we know is that she is fairly new to the Parish, and sells seaweed - fascinating.

Sewers wanted No, not new drains - people who can sew! We are running short of Purificators - the cloths with which the Chalice is wiped by Lay Ministers when administering the Precious Blood, and by the Priest when he cleanses the vessels at the end of the Communion. They are very simple : just a piece of linen roughly one-foot square, hemmed around either by hand or machine, and folded. The linen will be provided, together with a sample Purificator. If several people volunteer, we will have a stock for the future. Can you help, please?

Advance warning Fr. John leaves for his Summer Holiday a week on Monday, Sept. 18th. He resumes a fortnight later, on Monday, Oct. 2nd

Notice Anything? Have you noticed anything different on the front of the church?

THE NAVE WINDOWS

Most of the new windows are now in place. I do hope that you are pleased with them. For myself, I'm delighted : the church is flooded with light, and there is a new feeling of spaciousness. The architecture of the building seems to be enhanced, and the stained glass is shown up to better advantage. The glass itself is lovely : it is hand-blown, and has slightly uneven surface which makes it twinkle. The work should be completed in the course of this week, and then we will experience the full effect. The three young men who are doing the installation, Aaron, Tyrone, and Josh, have worked very hard and shown great skill and enthusiasm. It has been a pleasure having them around.

THE SIGN OF PEACE

I've mentioned before the *General Instruction of the Roman Missal* It's printed at the beginning of the Missal (the full Roman Missal, which we use on the Altar), and it directs how the Mass is to be celebrated. All priests are bound to follow the directions given there when they say Mass - they are not free to indulge in their own likes and dislikes, or in their liturgical fads and fancies. To some this might seem restrictive. But in fact it makes for the preservation of the unity of the Church, our all doing, in the supreme act of worship, the same thing. Unity, being of one mind, is the theme of today's Gospel reading, and so it is not inappropriate to think about our liturgical unity in the Roman Church.

As regards the Sharing of the Peace, the *General Instruction* says this :
'.....*There follows the Rite of Peace, by which the Church entertains peace and unity for herself and for the whole human family, and the faithful express to each other their ecclesial communion and mutual charity before communicating in the Sacrament.*

'As for the actual sign of peace to be given, the manner is to be established by the Conferences of Bishops in accordance with the culture and customs of the peoples. However, it is appropriate that each person, in a sober manner, offer the sign of peace only to those who are nearest.'

Now this discouragement from roaming far and wide in the giving of the peace and seeking, it sometimes seems, to attempt to greet everyone within the church or chapel, may seem too staid, too restrictive. But it is easy, I think, to see why we are told to only greet those nearest to us. At that moment the Blessed Sacrament, the Body and Blood of Our Lord, are present on the Altar. It is a time of prayerful solemnity, when our attention should very much be centred upon Jesus. A wide-ranging giving of the peace in a jolly manner - is not, as the *General Instruction* says, 'appropriate' at that moment. A jolly greeting of friends, and of one and all, should really come after the Mass is over. It's a case of doing the right thing at the right time. And the 'sober manner' spoken of is the right thing at this solemn time of the Mass, when we are awed to be in the sacramental presence of the living God.