



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : The Very Revd. Canon John Barnes VF
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September 17th, 2023 : 24th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses

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

Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA
No Mass today
Tuesday FERIA
No Mass today
Wednesday ST.ADREW KIM TAE-GON
No Mass today
Thursday FEAST OF ST.MATTHEW
No Mass today
Friday FERIA
No Mass today
Saturday ST.PIUS OF PIETRELCINA
6:00pm Int. For the People

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.128 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p.773 of The Sunday Missal.
Hymns at 10.0am : 962, 934, 629, 938

THIS WEEK

Fr.John leaves for his Summer Holiday tomorrow, and will resume in exactly a fortnight's time, on Monday October 2nd. He is hoping to spend a few days at an historic property in Staffordshire before a weekend at the Catholic Heritage Centre at Stonyhurst in Lancashire. He then, if all goes according to plan, returns to North Norfolk for a final few days.

Sadly, with the shortage of Priests, it is not possible to cover weekday Masses when the Parish Priest is absent. But the weekend Masses will be covered of course. Fr. Kevin Jordan, the Parish Priest of St. John's Wood in London, who was here last year with his faithful dog Milo, has kindly agreed to come again : he too will be on holiday, staying at his cottage near Framlingham. We are most grateful to him.

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

Tuesday 10.45am The Catechism Group meets in the Cooper Room. This week we look at paragraphs 1135-1144.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Sheila Etherington (2017), Marjorie Atkinson (2002), Christine Searle (2013) and John O'Mahony (2021). May they Rest in Peace.

Money Matters Last Sunday £464.26 was given in the Offertory, £22.43 for CAFOD and £109.61 for the 2nd collection for Catholic Education..

Thank you Jenny Birchall and family would like to thank very sincerely so many friends for their Mass intentions, messages of sympathy and help since Doug's death. To everybody who made the Mass so special and to those who attended the funeral. Last but not least, to the ladies for the wonderful food at the wake.

The Sponsored Walk This year a group of nine of us walked to nine churches in central Felixstowe. The weather was excellent, and as we did our walk in the morning, leaving at 10.0am, it was not excessively hot. We said the Our Father in each place of worship, together with a prayer for the people who meet there. At several of the non-

conformist churches the stewards thanked us for praying in their church. I think we all felt that it was a very worthwhile exercise. Sr.Lucy also visited a large number of churches using her bicycle. If you sponsored one of us, please let us have your sponsorship money as soon as possible, so that we can send it all in to the Suffolk Historic Churches Trust : then, as you know, fifty per cent comes back to us for our own church. Thank you, sponsors, thank you to those who manned the church during the day, and thank you participants!

The Teddy Bears' Picnic Again we were blest with excellent weather, and more young families than ever attended this happy event. This year Krystina together with Ian and Emma organized the event, and we are most grateful to them. As ever there were plenty of teddy-bear themed games and activities, and even Teddy Bear cakes and biscuits at tea time!

Suffolk Refugee Support Barbara writes 'The S.R.S. AGM takes place on Wednesday Oct.4th, 6.30pm-8.30pm at Museum Street Methodist Church., Black Horse Lane, Ipswich. I shall attend so if anyone would like to join me to hear about the amazing work of S.R.S. just let me know. The Annual Report is available in the porch. Barbara Lamberton.

Did you guess? In last week's Newsheet I asked whether you could see anything different on the front of the church. No one responded, so I'll tell you : the head of St.Felix' pastoral staff has reappeared! The head of the staff had become detached, and was leaning loose against the wall, in danger of falling on someone's head. The glaziers very kindly offered to deal with the matter, and have done so. They assure me that the head of the staff is now very secure.

JOY AND SORROW

In the first half of this month we have kept two major feasts of Our Lady. On September 8th, the joyful feast of Mary's birthday, and then last Friday the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows.

Birthdays are always joyful times and even if, as we get older, our own birthday is not a time of unbounded pleasure, we are nevertheless glad to celebrate the birthdays of others. It gives us an opportunity to tell the people who are special to us just how special they are. A time, too, for us the

recognise how much the person means to us, and to give thanks for the way in which they enrich our life. On Mary's birthday we recall how much we owe to her, each one of us in a personal way. Because without her willingly giving flesh to God the Son at the incarnation, he would not have had that flesh to offer for us on the Altar of the Cross : nor that new resurrection life which he shares with us in the Holy Sacrament.

The day following Holy Cross Day - which was last Friday - is kept as the feast of Our Lady of Sorrows. On it we remember Mary standing beneath the Cross of Jesus, and we are conscious of the mental and spiritual agony of the blessed Mother. How deeply the best of Mothers must have felt the horrific crucifixion of the best of Sons. We see Our Lady joining her suffering to that of Jesus: being one with him in that offering made to the Father by which we are pardoned and reconciled.

The joyful Mother, the Sorrowful Mother. Mary, who is our Mother, knows all about joy and sorrow, and so is able to enter into our own joys and sorrows. A Mother who understands ; a Mother who is there for us in all the eventualities of our life.

THE WINDOWS

At last, the work on the windows is complete! The church - especially on a sunny day, looks wonderful. More daylight, less electric light! We are more than pleased with the work of the three young glaziers, and most grateful to the kind and generous donors.

We mustn't, of course, forget our collection of stained glass at the east end of the church. The Rosary window is of the same date as the windows which have just been replaced, 1912, and I have asked the head of the glazing firm, Terry Devlin, to cast his eye over it and check that all is well.