



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : The Very Revd. Canon John Barnes VF
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January 14th, 2024 : 2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. +Joan Henderson
Sunday 10:00am Int. + Bill Pain
4:00pm (Convent) Int. For the People

Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA
9:30am Int. Elizabeth Utting
Tuesday ST.FURSEY
No Mass today
Wednesday ST.ANTHONY
No Mass today
Thursday FERIA
No Mass today
Friday ST.WULSTAN
No Mass today
Saturday ST.SEBASTIAN
6:00pm Int For the People

The Daily Office

Lauds (Morning Prayer) will be said a quarter of an hour before Mass on Monday.

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. 127 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p.835 of The Sunday Missal.
Hymns at 10.0am : 601, 172, 720, 862

THIS WEEK

Fr. John hopes to take his post-Christmas break this week

Monday Elizabeth Utting's special birthday was last Friday, when Fr. John had to dash off after Mass to the annual Deanery Lunch : today he invites friends of Elizabeth and other attendees at the 9.30am Mass to come into the Presbytery for a celebratory drink after Mass.

Tuesday 10.45am The Catechism Group meets in the Cooper Room. This week we look at paragraphs 1373 to 1382.

Next Sunday Because of the Unity Service in the afternoon, the Convent Mass will be at **5.0pm** Rather than the usual 4.0pm.

CHURCH UNITY OCTAVE

Thurs. Jan 18th – Thurs. Jan. 25th

For details of the various activities during the Octave – including the Ecumenical Walk on Sat. Jan 20th – see the Parish Web site and the notice board in the Porch.

**The Annual Unity Service
is next Sunday, Jan. 21st, 3.0pm at
St. Peter & St. Paul, North Felixstowe
Preacher : The Rt. Revd. Peter Collins,
Bishop of East Anglia**

PARISH NOTICBOARD

Anniversaries this week Rutland Barsey (2005), Evelyn Gedge (2018), Albert Schmitz (2004), Denis Murray (2021), Derek Manthorpe (2006), and Mary Ward (2011). May they Rest in Peace.

Money Matters Last Sunday £385.72 was given in cash at the Offertory, and £23.80 for CAFOD.

Coffee after Sunday Mass Phil & Anne Dance write 'WE NEED YOU! Please could anyone help with our teas/coffees after the 10.0am Sunday Mass ? Perhaps some families might like to join in? It's only once a month and everyone loves a cuppa. Have a word with Anne and Phil Dance after 10.0am Mass and we can tell you more about it.'

Diaries Someone asked me to get them two Catholic Diaries when I was at the Cathedral last Tuesday. I got them, but cannot remember who the person was! Please ask me.

LENT

I know we have only just finished keeping Christmastide, but Lent begins very early this year – On Wednesday, February 14th, just a month away – and so it is time that we were thinking about what we would like to see happening in the Parish. I'm hoping very much there might be the usual Friday soup lunches for CAFOD, and we will certainly want to have Stations of the Cross. In addition, I'm wondering whether we might this year arrange Discussion Groups, meeting each week in houses? What do you think? It would be about right, I should think, to aim at four Groups, which would meet weekly during Lent - about five times. I'd be more than happy to host one of the groups at the Presbytery each week : I wonder are there three other people who would be prepared to host a group? If there is support, then I'll suggest a programme – a passage of Holy Scripture each week, with questions for discussion provided.

THE FIVE PRECEPTS OF THE CHURCH

1. SUNDAY MASS

We read in paragraph 2042 of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* 'The first Precept – You shall attend Mass on Sundays and holy days of obligation – requires the faithful to participate in the Eucharistic celebration when the Christian community gathers together on the day commemorating the Resurrection of the Lord'.

We're reminded that Sunday is special because Sunday – every Sunday – is the commemoration of Our Lord's resurrection, an event which has huge significance not just for the Church but for every one of us individually. Jesus rose with new life to share with his people. If he had not risen,

we would have no future. On Sunday, we celebrate not just the fact that He has risen, but that WE are inheritors of eternal life. The Apostles, aware of the huge significance of the Resurrection, must have wondered how, in what way, they should celebrate it week by week. The answer was obvious : to obey Jesus' command 'Do this in remembrance of me' They would be both obeying his command, and also encountering him, the risen Christ, in the Sacrament which he had given his Church. And so for two thousand years God's people have gathered together Sunday by Sunday to 'do' the Mass. Sunday Mass attendance has been seen as a badge of being a Catholic – our duty and our glory.

So I think it is very natural and very proper that the Church lays upon us the request that we should take part in the Mass Sunday by Sunday. Just as natural and as right as a Mother insisting that her children eat their meals day by day. The Church knows that we will gain by being at Mass each Sunday. Our faith will be strengthened by worshipping with our brothers and sisters in Christ, and our spiritual life will be nourished by receiving Jesus in Holy Communion. Being a Christian is not an easy matter. We need to be strengthened, and Jesus has provided the means. Our Mother the Church tells us to take what is so lovingly offered to us by Our Lord

I think the Church so today is immeasurably weakened by the fact that so many of its members are 'hit or miss' over accepting this first Precept of the Church. If all of us Catholics were at Mass Sunday by Sunday without fail, how the Church would be strengthened, and how we as individuals would be strengthened! And how our witness to the world would be strengthened! It's not difficult now that we have the choice between Saturday evening and Sunday morning or afternoon. It just needs determination. And love.

ST.FURSEY

On Tuesday we keep the feast of St.Fursey, the Irish monk who came to East Anglia with his companions in the seventh century, and lived in the ruins of the Roman fort at Burgh Castle, near Yarmouth, given to him by King Sigebert. From where he taught the Christian Faith and baptized in that area. He later went to France, and was Abbot of Langny, in Picardy. May he pray for us.