



# PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : The Very.Revd.Canon John Barnes VF  
The Presbytery, 8, Gainsborough Road, Felixstowe, IP11 7HT  
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Parish Website: stfelixfelixstowe.uk Helping Hands - 07342722521

## February 11th, 2024 : SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

### Sunday Masses

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

### Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA  
9:30am Int. A Private Intention  
Tuesday FERIA  
9:30am Int. +Eileen & Charles Pritchard (FM)

**ASH WEDNESDAY**  
*The beginning of Lent*  
*A Day of Fasting & Abstinence*

9:30am Int. Our keeping of Lent  
11.0am (Convent) Int.  
7.30pm Int. +Bernard Davies (FM)

Thursday LENT FERIA  
4:30pm (Convent) Int.  
Friday LENT FERIA  
**7:30am** Int. +Michael Thomas  
Saturday LENT FERIA  
6:00pm Int. For the People

### The Daily Office

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

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday at 10.0am Benediction at 10.30am

### 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.137 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p.849 of The Sunday Missal.  
Hymns at 10.0am : 851, 803, 820, 652

### THIS WEEK

**Today** 11.15am -12.15pm The Confirmation Group meets at the Presbytery.

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

**Wednesday** Ash Wednesday : Service times opposite, and in the Parish Lent Paper.

**Thursday** 10.30am Fr.John attends a Deans' Meeting at Poringland.

**Friday** 10.0am -3.0pm Fr.John has to attend a mandatory Safeguarding Meeting at Poringland. Mass will have to be at 7.30am today.

12.0 Noon onwards – The first of the Lent Lunches, in the Hall. See Parish Lent Paper.

7.0pm Meeting of the Social Committee at the Presbytery. If you are of a sociable nature and ready to help, do please come along. All welcome. (All needed! – several events need planning.)

**Saturday** 9.0am & 10.30am Fr.John is down to say the Prison Masses. No 9.30am Mass here.

(Note : the Lent Groups begin NEXT week)

### PARISH NOTICEBOARD

**Anniversaries this week** Henry Dukes (2004), John Battersby (2015), Cyril Keeble (2017), Francis Brooks (2021), Sr. Felicity Moody (2004) and Michael Thomas (2021). R.I.P.

**Money Matters** Last Sunday £278.47 was given in the Offertory and £8.50 for CAFOD.

**Suffolk Refugee Support** Barbara writes: ‘Please see the letter and pictures on the notice board thanking all who donated gifts at Christmas for refugee children’.

**Snowdrop Day** Barbara writes: ‘Snow Drop Day at Falkenham Church is Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> February 10am – 2pm. Soup and rolls, cake, coffee and tea’.

**Helping Hands** Catherine writes: ‘Helping Hands, our Parish help group needs help! We could help more people if we had a few more volunteers. I think we are a bit short of people because there might be some confusion about what such a commitment means. Volunteers can go for weeks or even months without being asked to do something such as give a lift to someone in the Parish to Mass or a medical appointment (lifts being one of the two main things we do). Some volunteers do lift shares so are not committed every week if say they are bringing someone to Mass. The other thing a few volunteers do is visit people in their homes. This may be a weekly or less frequent visit (they decide between them how often they would like to meet). This is a really valuable part of Helping Hands and can make such a difference to people’s lives, but I appreciate being a home visitor is not for everyone. So please think and pray about whether you could give up the occasional hour or would be drawn to visiting someone. Even if you would just like to find out more, please call me on the Helping Hands telephone number: 07342722521 or find me at Mass at the weekend’.

**Childrens’ Lent Books** Monica writes: ‘The Children’s Day by Day Puzzle Books for Lent are available in the church porch. Children, parents and grandparents, please take one. The puzzle books for Easter will be available on Palm Sunday’.

### **FEEL LIKE A PILGRIMAGE?**

Last Summer I was asked by some friends and acquaintances from Walsingham, Bury, and Dereham to lead a Pilgrimage to Tyburn, where so many Catholics were martyred. We all enjoyed the Pilgrimage so much that we decided to have another one during this Spring half-term. The venue this time is to be the Shrine of St.Etheldreda at Ely, and the date is Tuesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> – a week on Tuesday. I wondered if any Felixstowe parishioners would like to join us? You would be most welcome. St.Etheldreda was a seventh-century East Anglian princess who became a Religious and founded a monastery at Ely. The Catholic church there has a remarkable relic of her, almost a whole arm. We plan to begin with Mass in the Catholic church at

Noon (we would need to leave Felixstowe at about 10.0am) and then after a picnic lunch in the Parish Rooms we will go to the Cathedral to visit the place where the shrine stood before the Reformation. Normally it costs £14 to go into the Cathedral (outrageous) but Fr.David Finegan, the Parish Priest, has kindly arranged for us to be admitted free as pilgrims. Do tell me if you are interested. I can take three people in my car, and others cars may also decide to go.

## **THE FIVE PRECEPTS OF THE CHURCH**

### **5. Providing for the needs of the Church**

The *Catechism of the Catholic Church* para. 2043 says ‘The faithful also have the duty of providing for the material needs of the Church, each according to his abilities’. What are the ‘material needs of the Church’? Well, such basic things as lighting & heating in the church & hall, repairs and maintenance, the expenses of providing for a resident priest, etc.etc., which amount to quite a large sum each year. The Church is a family into which we are born by Baptism, and each parish is a family within that family. The grown-up members of any family who live at home all have to chip in with the expenses of running that home, and in just the same way it’s right that parishioners all chip in (realistically) to pay the parish expenses. People can’t – shouldn’t – think that the church building and the priest are just there for them to use without contributing towards the costs. We don’t expect to use the electricity supply at home without paying for it.

This fifth Precept of the Church reminds us that we should all be contributing to the costs of maintaining our parish, - its buildings, its worship, its priest – and furthermore doing so in a realistic way. When I see loose change – small change – in the Offertory on Sundays I really wonder whether everyone is doing their bit! The balance between income and expenditure in this parish is definitely precarious. It has certainly been better since the last Stewardship campaign, when more of you undertook to contribute by direct debit. The situation could be further improved if still more people chose to play their part by contributing to the parish in that particular way. If you don’t give by direct debit, please will you consider doing so? And if you are only giving week by week what you gave five or ten years ago, please will you review the part you are playing in ‘providing for the needs of the Church’?