



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : The Very Revd. Canon John Barnes VF
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May 5th, 2024 : FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses

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

Weekday Masses

Monday EASTER FERIA
9:30am Int. +Norah Sandford (FM)
Tuesday EASTER FERIA
9:30am Int. +Mark Compton (FM)
Wednesday EASTER FERIA
No Mass today
Thursday SOLEMNITY OF THE
ASCENSION OF THE LORD
9.30am Int. For the People
11.0am (Convent) Int.
7.30pm Int. +Elsie Fenton (FM)
Friday EASTER FERIA
11:30am Int.
Saturday EASTER 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, Thurs.& Fri.
Vespers at 7.15pm on Thursday.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesdays 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.266 of the Parish

Mass Book, and on p.442 of The Sunday Missal.
Hymns at 10.0am : 283, 287, 607, 356

THIS WEEK

Today 11.15am The Confirmation Group meets at the Presbytery.

Monday The Parents and Toddlers Group are not meeting today, it being a Bank Holiday.

THE DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM Monday, May 6th

Noon Procession from the village to the Shrine
3.0pm The Pilgrimage Mass

Tuesday 10.45am The Catechism Group are also not meeting this week, as several members are away. We resume a week today, when we will look at paragraphs 1533 to 1553.

Thursday is Ascension Day, a Holy Day of Obligation. Note that the Convent Mass is at 11.0am, not at 4.30pm today.

Saturday Fr. John says the Prison Masses again this week, so no 9.30am Mass here.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Sr. Martha O'Malley (2002), Dorothy Real (2012), Alan Deveney (2014), Ann Button (2013), Kevin Williams (2023), Kathleen Greaves (2000), Winifred Barker (2004), Sr. Bernadette (2001) and Audrey Flynn (2018). May they Rest in Peace.

Sr. Pauline RJM It is sad to record the death of

Sr. Pauline, who died last week. Like a number of the Sisters she had worked abroad, but came to Felixstowe to retire. We send our love and sympathy to the Sisters. May she Rest in Peace.

Money Matters Last Sunday £352.90 was given in cash at the Offertory, and £43 for CAFOD.

Mass for the Sick This was to have been held next Tuesday, but it seems to have come upon us suddenly, and we are unprepared! So it will be postponed – a new date will be given very soon.

MARY'S MONTH OF MAY

Once more we find ourselves in Our Lady's special month. Not only does it's name proclaims it to be so, but also the awakening of the trees, the hedgerows, and the flowering shrubs. There are primroses and cowslips in the meadows, besides the hawthorn blossom - or Mayflower, as it is known - in the hedgerows, and soon that lovely roadside plant will be flowering which we know in England as Our Lady's Lace. The wealth of flowers which grace this month seem to speak of the loveliness of the Virgin Mother, who bore the Saviour of the world, who, because He deigns to be called our Brother, makes Mary our Mother too.

In Church, I do hope that people will bring flowers for the Lady Altar – an array of these would proclaim our love for Mary. And also at the 10.0am Mass on the Sundays in May, the final hymn each week will be in honour of Our Lady.

But outside Church, how good it would be if we all chose to use a Marian devotion each day. It could be the *Regina Coeli* which the Church uses in this Easter Season, the *Memorare*, or a decade or chaplet of the Rosary. Here I'm going to make a confession : I don't know the words of the *Memorare* off by heart, and I'm determined to learn them as a May exercise! But maybe it would be good during May to have a series here in the Newsheet about the best-known of the Marian devotions? Let's see how we go.

MARIAN DEVOTIONS : 1 –THE HAIL MARY

The right starting place is with this basic and best-known devotion to Mary - one which surely all Catholics use every day – many times if they say the Rosary!

It begins with two quotations from St. Luke's Gospel. First the words of the Archangel Gabriel at the Annunciation - *Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee.* Mary is proclaimed to be sinless - full of grace ; she is ready for the unique and wonderful vocation which God has given her. He is with her, the angel says – ready to enable her, strengthen her, protect her, as she bravely answers his momentous request to give flesh to the Saviour of mankind. And then next come the words of Elizabeth at the time of the Visitation : *Blessed art thou amongst women, and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.* Elizabeth, led by the Holy Spirit recognizes just who the Child is that Mary is carrying ; she speaks with wonderment regarding both the Child and his Mother - both are blessed : Blessed be God! And blessed is she who is called to be Mother of God!

And then finally the Church adds a simple petition addressed to Mary : *Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners, now and at the hour of our death!* The Church, assured by the words of both Gabriel and of Elizabeth, turns beseechingly and lovingly to the gentle Mother, asking that she will support us by her prayers throughout the course of our life, until God wills that it comes to an end. We ask of her life-long help and protection.

THE CHARITY AUCTION On Friday, June 28th

People are already showing interest in, and enthusiasm about, the proposed Charity Auction at the end of next month, being held, you remember, as a thanksgiving for the new Nave windows. In the course of the past week a number of new offers have come in – both of Promises and of Items. Amongst the Promises is an eight-inch celebration cake, to be decorated for whatever occasion the buyer chooses ; a golf lesson with the Professional at the Felixstowe Golf Course ; a two one-hour dog walking sessions, with an experienced dog walker; and Sunday Lunch for two at the Yacht Club at Leverington. Whilst amongst the Items to be auctioned is a Clarinet with a quantity of clarinet music ; a sumptuous two-volume work (cased, and unopened) on the Art & Architecture of Venice ; and a flower picture by a talented local artist. Please keep the offers coming in!