



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest : The Very Revd. Canon John Barnes VF
The Presbytery, 8, Gainsborough Road, Felixstowe, IP11 7HT
Tel.01394 282561 e-mail frjohnfelixstowe@gmail.com

Parish Website: stfelixfelixstowe.uk Helping Hands - 07342722521

August 4th, 2024 : 18th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6:00pm Int. For the People
Sunday 10:00am Int. +Reg Bunt
Noon (Convent) Int.

Weekday Masses

Monday FERIA
9:30am Int.
Tuesday FEAST OF THE TRANS-
FIGURATION OF THE LORD
9:30am Int. Catherine Perkins
Wednesday FERIA
No Mass today
Thursday ST.DOMINIC
4:30pm (Convent) Int.
Friday FEAST OF ST.BENEDICTA
OF THE CROSS
11:30am Int.
Saturday FEAST OF ST.LAWRENCE
9.30am Int.
6:00pm Int. +Douglas Birchall

The Daily Office

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Tuesday 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.115 of the Parish Mass Book, and on p.893 of The Sunday Missal.

Hymns at 10.0am : 852, 865, 982, 887

THIS WEEK

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

Tuesday The Catechism Group is now on holiday until September 3rd.

Next weekend The annual Foreign Missions Appeal takes place at all of the Masses, made by Fr.Fidelis of the St.Paul Missionary Society.

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week Enid Egan (2017), Peter Cuthbertson (2020), Dennis Jones (2000), Peter Newman (2006), William Corbett, Betty Ryles (2020) and John Ashe (2008). May they Rest in Peace.

Money Matters Last Sunday £270 was given in cash at the Offertory and £34 for CAFOD.

Parish Barbeque Tom & Linda Jones, Joint Chairmen of the Parish Council, write :

‘Dear Fellow Parishioners,
As you will be aware Fr. John is to retire soon. His last Mass at St Felix as our Parish Priest will be on 8th September at 10.00am. Each year we have a BBQ in his garden, and this year we have arranged the date to coincide with this Mass. Fr. John has been ordained for over 53 years as both an Anglican and a Catholic Priest and has devoted his life to the love and service of God and his community. We do hope you will join us for a celebration to give thanks for Fr. John’s ministry. Please look out for posters at the back of church

which will have the details of the event and how you can help make the day a success.’

DEFENCE

I’ve recently driven behind a 4-by-4 bearing the name ‘Defender’ on its rear, and a beautiful new wrist-watch which some kind parishioners have given me also has ‘Defender’ printed on the dial. I don’t doubt that there is a make of raincoat called ‘Defender’, and probably a type of insect-repellent too. Do we maybe seem rather concerned in society about having ‘defenders’?

I think Christians always have been so concerned, which is unsurprising in view of the fact that the Church has ever been engaged in spiritual warfare. Scripture speaks of the devil ‘prowling about like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour’, and we know that we have to be constantly on our guard against the temptations which the devil never tires of setting out before us. We are equally aware of the subtlety of the devil’s assaults, and of our own weakness in spiritual combat. No wonder then that we feel the need of Defenders, being very much aware of our need of them in our Christian life.

St. Thomas Aquinas in his classic *Thanksgiving after Holy Communion* prays that Jesus present in the Holy Sacrament may be ‘a firm defence against the snares of all my enemies’, and in the devotion *Anima Christi*, so familiar to us in its hymn-form ‘Soul of my Saviour’, we pray ‘From the evil Enemy defend me’. We see Our Lord Jesus Christ as our strong Defender, but we also perhaps believe that he exercises this care in part through the ministry of our Guardian Angel. I think in the future life, when we see all things - past and present - clearly and truly, we will be surprised by the diligence with which our Guardian Angel cared for us and defended us throughout the course of our life here on earth. So good then if we recognise here and now that diligent care given by our Guardian Angel, seeking daily his defence, and rejoicing in it.

THE ROSARY WINDOW

I’ve told you already of how the glass in the East Window, or Rosary Window, is in need of re-leading. It is of the same age as the Nave windows, which were re-leaded last year, and

facing more or less South it has been subject to even more battering from the weather. It has been proposed, you remember, that the *Alive in Faith* money which has accrued over the past ten year, and which can only be used for a specific parish project approved by the diocese, should be used for this particular work. The Parish Council approved this project unanimously, and now the Diocesan *Alive in Faith* Committee has given its approval too.. Further, Fr. Michael has approved the project – I didn’t want to begin a project which my successor might not be happy with. It is possible that, being listed, we may need a Faculty for the work : I’m looking into that, and don’t foresee any problem over it.

But there is nevertheless a problem : the cost of the work -including scaffolding, which is always expensive- will be just short of sixty thousand pounds, and the *Alive in Faith* money is only around half of that. It would be prudent not to dip into our resources for that extra money. I’d like to suggest therefore that those who wish to should maybe SPONSOR A MYSTERY in the window! Of course there are fifteen Mysteries of the Rosary depicted there, plus two Angel panels and three pairs of floral panels, bringing the total to twenty. If twenty people ‘Sponsored a Mystery’ to the tune of £950 each, then the work (with the AIF money) would nearly be paid for! It is possible that people who were not able to contribute to the Nave windows may feel able to support this venture. Certainly no one who so generously sponsored the Nave windows would be expected to contribute again.

So please look up at the Rosary window, and see if maybe there is a Mystery (or Angel or Flowers) which you feel drawn to, and would like relate to in a special way through sponsorship. If there is please tell me, and I will mark off as ‘taken’ the panel as shown on the plan of the window displayed in the Porch. (Only please note that I have already bagged sponsoring the Mystery of the Presentation in the Temple!)