



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Smith
The Presbytery, 8, Gainsborough Road, Felixstowe, IP11 7HT
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Parish Website: stfelixfelixstowe.uk Helping Hands - 07342722521

1st December 2024 – First Sunday of Advent

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6.00pm Int. +Gordon Hartley
Sunday 10.00am Int. *Pro Populo*
12noon (Conv) Int.

Weekday Masses

Monday Advent FERIA
No Mass today
Tuesday St Francis Xavier (Migrants' Day)
No Mass today
Wednesday Advent FERIA
No Mass today
Thursday Advent FERIA
4.30pm (Convent) Int.
Friday St Nicholas
11.30am Int. +Peter McGuire
Saturday St Ambrose
9.30am Int. Holy Souls
6pm Int. +Billy Donachie

The Daily Office

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

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Friday at noon

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 5.15pm to 5.45pm
or by appointment.

The Rosary

Friday at Noon (during exposition)

THIS WEEK

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 will be reflecting on paragraphs 1849 – 1876.

New Music for Advent...

We plan to introduce a new Mass setting at the 10 am Sunday Mass from today – James Macmillan's *St Anne's Mass*. So, the *Kyrie*, *Sanctus*, *Agnus Dei*, and *Mysterium fidei* will be sung to a new tune that will hopefully become familiar to us all with time. Our singing group are hoping to introduce the *Gloria* at Christmas (there is no *Gloria* during Sundays in Advent).

PARISH NOTICEBOARD

Anniversaries this week

Mary Kalo (2003), Tadeusz Drovot (1998), Kenneth Hylins (2013), Helen Richards (2000), John Collins (2021), Elizabeth Barnes (2005), Sr Ursula Tierney (2009), Sr Mary of the Sacred Heart (1999), Ivy Watts (2001), Victor Ward (2008), Sr Assisi Clifford (2006), Joseph Smyth (2007) and Kate Godfrey (2001)

May they Rest in Peace.

Money Matters

Last Sunday £384.99 was given in cash at the Offertory and CAFOD £13.20. These figures are in addition to standing orders and DONA machine offerings.

Ipswich Hospital Chaplaincy

If you or a loved one are in hospital – please let the Chaplaincy team know - (01473) 704100/chaplaincy@esneft.nhs.uk and please let them know that you are a Catholic.

Prayer & Listening Ministry

Our Diocese of East Anglia hosts a Confidential Catholic Prayer and Listening Ministry providing support for parishioners (over 18 years of age) in need. For more information please see...

www.rcdea.org.uk/listening-and-prayer

Helping Hands

Over the years - since our Parish help group began - our volunteers have given many parishioners lifts to Mass, to church functions and to appointments at the two hospitals and doctors' surgeries. Some have visited people at home or in care homes or in hospital.

Now we have reached a stage where we are unable sometimes to meet requests for help simply because we no longer have enough volunteers. Joining **Helping Hands** is not onerous and need not require a weekly or even monthly commitment. It is an occasional opportunity to help someone if we are available when asked. People who choose to do visiting decide themselves how much of a time commitment they want.

The more volunteers we have the more we can help our fellow parishioners in practical ways especially those who can no longer get to Mass independently. Recently I had a request for a lift to Ipswich hospital but was unable to help because none of us were available and I felt so bad. Today I have learned of a lady who can no longer walk to Mass and would like a lift. Volunteers bringing people to Mass could be on a rota – perhaps each providing only one lift a month if we had enough people.

We now have only 11 volunteers, a considerable drop from our original 25. Please think and pray about becoming a **Helping Hands** volunteer and help keep our little group going.

Every single lift and every single visit make a positive difference to someone and I'm sure all the volunteers, past and present, would agree it makes them feel good too! People want to be part of the St Felix Parish Family even when they can't easily get to Mass. Many thanks.

Catherine Richardson

The Advent Day by Day puzzle books for children are available on the table at the back of the church. Please take them for your children and grandchildren.

Reconciliation Service – Tues 17th Dec 2.30pm

As part of our journey through Advent and to prepare ourselves to welcome the Saviour at Christmas please note there will be a Reconciliation Service at St Felix at 2.30 pm on Tuesday 17th December. Two priests in addition to Fr Michael will be on hand to hear confessions.

Posada – an Advent devotion

Meaning 'Inn' in Spanish - the tradition of the **Posada** during Advent is a way of welcoming into our homes Mary and Joseph as they make their way to Bethlehem. The **Posada** statue will be blessed at the start of Advent and then parishioners are invited to host the statue in their own home for one night. Everyone who hosts the **Posada** liaises with the next people on the list for the transfer from one home to another. Prayer leaflets are available so that when hosting the **Posada** these prayers can be said by all in the house as a way of preparing ourselves to welcome God's message of salvation into our lives, hearts and homes. **Please sign up using the sheet in the Porch at the back of Church.**

Christmas Giving Tree

Dear fellow parishioners. Once again, we have the opportunity to reach out to the children and young people supported by the Suffolk Refugee Centre. The Giving Tree will be in the church from 23rd November until the 9th of December after which the team from Suffolk will collect our donations so that they have time to distribute them. We invite you to take a label from the tree, buy the gift indicated on the label, wrap the gift, attach the label and pop it in the box provided next to the tree. The giving tree has always been a great success and a demonstration of the love and support of the Felixstowe community. Anne and Phil Dance

Christmas Fayre – Sat 7th December

The Convent of Jesus and Mary invite you to their Christmas Fayre – 63 Orwell Road, Felixstowe IP11 7PP. Doors open at 10am ('till 4 pm) - Free Entry. Soup and Roll from 12noon.

A BIG THANK-YOU to everyone who supported our *Stella Maris* Soup Lunch last Friday. The final total raised will be in next week's newsletter but there was a wonderful response by all! Many thanks!