



# PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Smith  
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Parish Website: stfelixfelixstowe.uk Helping Hands - 07342722521

## 15<sup>th</sup> December 2024 – Third Sunday (Gaudete) of Advent

### Sunday Masses

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

### Weekday Masses

Monday Advent FERIA  
**9.30am** Int. +Mai McLean  
Tuesday Advent FERIA (*O Sapientia*)  
**9.30am** Int. The Sick of the Parish  
Wednesday Advent FERIA (*O Adonai*)

### No Mass today

Thursday Advent FERIA (*O Radix Jesse*)  
**4.30pm** (Convent) Int.  
Friday Advent FERIA (*O Clavis David*)  
**11.30am** Int. The Holy Souls  
Saturday Advent FERIA (*O Oriens*)  
9.30am Int.  
6pm Int. *Pro Populo*

### 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 10am with 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)

### Hymns for the 10 am Mass

94 On Jordan's bank  
116 Long ago, prophets knew  
873 Come, Lord Jesus, come  
720 Be still, for the presence of the Lord

### *Christmas Mass Times*

#### **Christmas Eve – 24<sup>th</sup> December**

6pm – St Felix

8pm – Convent

10pm – St Felix

#### **Christmas Day – 25<sup>th</sup> December**

10am – St Felix

12noon - Convent

### *Reconciliation Service*

#### **Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2.30pm**

As part of our journey through Advent and to prepare ourselves to welcome the Saviour at Christmas

**Two priests** in addition to Fr Michael will be on hand to hear confessions.

### *Service of Carols and Readings*

A prayerful reflection in words and music on the mystery of the Incarnation

#### **Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> December at 3pm at St Felix**

All welcome!

Followed by refreshments  
in the Parish Hall.

### **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 1878 – 1896.

**Reflection on today - Gaudete Sunday...**

St John Paul II once said that Advent is a season of rejoicing because it revives the expectation of the most joyful event in history: the birth of the Son of God by the Virgin Mary. And so, as Christmas Day approaches so our joy grows. The third Sunday of Advent is called *Gaudete* which means 'rejoice' or 'praise.' We might think of the joy of the shepherds who journeyed to see Jesus in Bethlehem and we note that, in contrast to the purple of the other candles, the third candle of our Advent wreath is pink, the colour for joy. As St John Paul pointed out: this joy results from our knowledge that God is not distant but close, not indifferent but compassionate, not aloof but a merciful Father who follows us lovingly - respecting our freedom. We pray that this joy will transcend all our difficulties during our lives here on earth.

## PARISH NOTICEBOARD

### Anniversaries this week

Jane Waite (2004), Neville Poots (2011), Sheila Bonello (2011), Martin Brogan (2007), Eileen Ascott (2008), Alice Robinson (1994), Andrew Yates (2013), Stanley Ring (2009), Yoris Bury (2002), Sr Berchmans JM (2022), Margaret Hanlon (2009) and Monica Cooper (2019).

*May they Rest in Peace.*

### Money Matters

Last Sunday £446.94 was given in cash at the Offertory and CAFOD £8.03. These figures are in addition to standing orders and DONA machine offerings.

**This weekend** – there is second collection for the Dependent Priests' Fund taken at all Masses.

### Ipswich Hospital Chaplaincy

If you or a loved one are in hospital – please let the Chaplaincy team know - (01473) 704100/[chaplaincy@esneft.nhs.uk](mailto: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](http://www.rcdea.org.uk/listening-and-prayer)

### Helping Hands

With Christmas not far away we have a number of events coming up including Christmas Masses. If you require a lift to the Penitential Service on Tuesday 17th December, the Carol Service on Sunday 22nd December, or to Mass at Christmas then please call **Helping Hands** on 07342722521 or speak to Catherine Richardson or Fr Michael after Mass.

### Jubilee Year of 2025

The Jubilee Year of 2025 is fast approaching and there will be an Opening Mass of the Jubilee Year at our Cathedral of St John the Baptist in Norwich. The Holy Father, Pope Francis has asked that all Bishops celebrate the Opening of the Jubilee Year at their Cathedrals. Bishop Peter therefore warmly invites you to join him at our Cathedral for our Diocesan Opening Rites and Mass at 11am on the 29<sup>th</sup> of December, in solidarity with celebrations around the world.

### Pilgrimage to Rome - the Jubilee of Youth -

As part of the Jubilee 2025, the Diocese will be leading a pilgrimage to Rome, joining with hundreds of thousands of young people from all over the world. There are a limited number of places left with bookings accepted on a first come first served basis. If you will be age 16 – 30 next summer 2025, come and join us, but book now! See [www.rcdea.org.uk/youth](http://www.rcdea.org.uk/youth) for more details.

**Rachel's Vineyard.** Do you know someone hurting from a past abortion? **Rachel's Vineyard** is a healing ministry for those suffering from the trauma of abortion. The healing weekends offer a supportive, confidential and non-judgmental environment where women and men can deal with painful post-abortive emotions and receive healing. The next **Rachel's Vineyard retreat** weekend in our diocese will take place on March 21st -23rd 2025. With booking now open and a limit of 8 people per retreat, it is advisable to book early. For more information about this retreat or to arrange a time to chat please contact Charlotte on [/suffolk@rachelsvineyard.org.uk](mailto:suffolk@rachelsvineyard.org.uk). Further information: [www.rachelsvineyard.org.uk](http://www.rachelsvineyard.org.uk)