



PARISH OF SAINT FELIX, FELIXSTOWE

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Smith OCDS

The Presbytery, 8, Gainsborough Road, Felixstowe, IP11 7HT

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Parish Website: stfelfelixstowe.uk NEW Helping Hands - 07770768168

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 14th DECEMBER 2025 - GAUDETE SUNDAY -

Sunday Masses

Saturday 6.00pm +Michael Walton

Sunday 10.00am Int. *Pro Populo*

Advent Play in Church Hall after 10am Mass

4 pm (Convent, 63 Orwell Rd)

Weekday Masses

Monday ADVENT FERIA

9.30am Int. +*William Clarke*

Tuesday ADVENT FERIA

9.30am Int. +*John O'Mahony*

Wednesday ADVENT FERIA (*O Sapientia*)

No Mass today

Thursday ADVENT FERIA (*O Adonai*)

4.30pm Int. (Convent) +*John Smith*

Friday ADVENT FERIA (*O Radix Jesse*)

11.30am Int. +*Stephanie O'Mahony*

Saturday ADVENT FERIA (*O Clavis David*)

No Mass this morning

6.00pm Int. *Pro Populo*

The Daily Office

Lauds (Morning Prayer) will be said quarter of an hour before Mass on Mon and Tues only.

Exposition of Bl. Sacrament & Benediction

Tuesday from 10am

Friday from 12noon

The Rosary

Friday at Noon (during exposition)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

- Saturday 5.15pm to 5.45pm
- Tuesday 10am (during exposition)
- Or... by appointment

Please be aware that Confessions are also available in the Ipswich Parishes...

- St Mary's, 322 Woodbridge Rd., IP4 4BD
- St Mark's, 180 Hawthorne Dr., IP2 0QQ
- St Pancras', 1 Orwell Pl., IP4 1BD

Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve – 24th December

8pm – Convent

10pm – St Felix

Christmas Day – 25th December

10am – St Felix

12noon - Convent

Service of Carols and Readings

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

Sunday 21st December

at 3pm at St Felix

All welcome!

Followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall.

Hymns at 10am Mass today

Nos: 94,113,776,970.

Monday: St Felix Toddlers – Our Parents & Toddlers Group meets in the Hall **10-11.30am**

Tuesday: Catechism Group meets at **10.45am**. We are continuing to read Pope Leo's *Dilexi te*

Lifts to Mass

If you would like a lift to Christmas Mass please contact **Helping Hands** (07770768168).

If you would like to join **Helping Hands** to assist with visiting or with providing transport for those in need please phone 07770768168 for more information. **New volunteers welcome!**

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

Reflection on today - Gaudete Sunday...

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! 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.

Anniversaries around this time/this week

Catherine Spencer (2008), Tony Byrne (2001), Olga Searle, Phillis Ainsworth, Jane Waite (2004), Neville Poots (2011), Sheila Bonello (2011), Alphonse Gluba, Helena Hussey, Martin Brogan (2007), Eileen Ascott (2008), John Spencer, Albert Scahill, Alice Robinson (1994), Sr Joan Swaffield, Sr Felicitas Arkwright, Derrick Hockley, Anthony Bowker, Patricia Thraves, Betty Vickers, Andrew Yates (2013), Stanley Ring (2009), Doris Bird (2002), and Sr Berchmans RJM (2022)

May they Rest in Peace

Prayers for the sick

We remember any sisters at the Convent of Jesus & Mary who are unwell, also... Betty Fisk, Ann Haines, Maria Maltby, Margaret Nelson, Helen Shayle, Di Thomas, Bernadette & Keith Thomson, Chris Watts, John Whelan and many others.

MONEY MATTERS

The Sunday collection for the 7th December was £753.91 given in cash, CAFOD was £10.21. These figures are in addition to standing orders and DONA machine offerings.

Advent Day by Day puzzle books for children are available in the porch of the church. Please take them for your children and grandchildren.

The Posada – is a way of welcoming into our homes Mary and Joseph as they make their way to

Bethlehem. Parishioners are invited to host the statue in their own homes for one or more nights as a focus for prayer and reflection. Please use the sign-up sheet in the Church Porch.

Community of Our Lady of Walsingham

We're very grateful to the COLW sisters who gave us a very joyful and fulfilling Day of Recollection last Saturday on the topic of Christian Hope. For those who would like to learn more about this community please see the link here: www.walsinghamcommunity.org

More useful resources for Advent...

www.lightoftruth.uk is a catechetical resource provided by the Dominican Sisters in the New Forest including ideas for Children's Liturgy as well as adult catechesis.

www.radiomariaengland.uk provides a wide range of radio programmes, events, and other resources to help us grow our Catholic Faith.

Volunteers to Support School Admission Appeals

The *Diocese of East Anglia Schools' Service* is seeking volunteers to serve as school admission appeals panel members, helping ensure parents' rights are upheld when a child is not offered a place at their preferred Catholic school. Panel members play a vital role in considering cases where parents wish to challenge a refusal of admission. Each hearing typically lasts 20 to 30 minutes, although some may take longer. Panel members are always able to decide their own availability, making this a flexible opportunity suited to those available during school hours. Appeals may be heard in person or *via* video conferencing, and volunteers can express a preference for the type of hearings they are comfortable with. All panel members will receive training. To ensure a balanced and fair process, each panel is made up of lay members, people without professional involvement in education, and education members, people with experience working in or under-standing schools. Individuals cannot sit on panels for schools with which they have a personal connection e.g. being a parent, governor or staff member. If interested or to find out more please contact Helen Bates, Assistant Director (Schools' Service) at the Diocese of East Anglia, 21 Upgate, Poringland, NR14 7SH. Email: ssc@rcdea.org.uk or Tel: 01508 495509.