

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF ST PANCRAS, IPSWICH

Deum diligere et quæ sunt Dei

‘To love God and the things of God’

The Presbytery
1 Orwell Place
Ipswich
IP4 1BD

Tel: 01473 252596
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Parish Priest:
Fr Joseph Welch

Sundays: Yr B
Weekdays: Yr 2

January is dedicated to
the Holy Name of Jesus



Sunday 28th January 2023

Fourth Sunday of the Year

09:30 — Pro Populo

11:00 — Ella Abbott

Monday 29th January

Feria

10am — Holy Souls

Tuesday 30th January

St Martina

8am (TLM) — James O’Sullivan RIP

Wednesday 31st January

Requiem

1pm — Rita McCormack RIP

St John Bosco

6pm — Holy Souls

Thursday 1st February

St Henry Morse

12:15pm — Rita McCormack RIP

Friday 2nd February

Candlemas

8am (TLM) — Una McWeeny RIP

12:15pm — Maria Dajnowicz RIP

7pm — Pro Populo

Saturday 3rd February

St Blaise

10am — Beryl Edwards RIP

Vigil of the fifth Sunday of the Year

6pm — Holy Souls

CONFESSIONS:

Mon — **Sat**: 30 minutes before each Mass

& Sat: 5pm — 5:45pm

1st Friday: 6pm — 7pm

ADORATION: Sat: 5pm — 5:45pm

ROSARY: Mon — Fri: after Mass

DEVOTIONS TO O.L. OF IPSWICH &

S. PANCRAS: Sat after 10am Mass

TLM Masses: 2nd Sunday of the month at
8am. (Next 2nd Sunday Mass: 11th Feb.)

CANDLEMAS

THE PURIFICATION OF OUR LADY & THE PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD

Forty days after the nativity of Our Lord, that is, 2nd February, Our Lady and St Joseph take the infant Christ to the Temple in Jerusalem to do what the Law of Moses requires (Lk 2:22-40).

First, Our Lady is purified after having given birth. Just as a chalice is purified at the end of Mass after it has contained the Precious Blood of our Saviour (that is, it is returned to a fit state to be stored once more in the sacristy until the next Mass) so a woman, having performed something so precious as bringing new life into the world, is purified and brought back, as it were, to a more ordinary and mundane state of life..

Second, the first born son must be given to Almighty God as a gift and then bought back, or redeemed, by the parents with the offering of a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.

Third, Our Lady and St Joseph are met by Simeon who has been inspired by the Holy Spirit to enter the Temple that day. He greets Mary, but warns her that just as her Son will become a sign of contradiction in the world so she, too, will suffer a sword to pierce her own soul, a prophecy which is fulfilled when she stands at the foot of the Cross and watches her Son die for the sins of the world.

Simeon, in his song the *Nunc Dimittis*, which is said throughout the Church every evening by everyone who says Compline (Night Prayer), declares the new infant to be a ‘light of revelation to the people’ It is from this prophecy that we get our ceremony of candles. At Candlemas, candles are blessed, and we walk in procession imitating the Holy Family’s journey to the Temple. Just as Mary and Joseph carry Our Lord, so the candles we carry represent the light of God’s sanctifying grace that we carry in our souls.

Candlemas brings to a close the Church’s season of light which began on Christmas Day when the Light of the world was born in a stable in Bethlehem. After this day, Christmas cribs are taken down once more and stored until next Christmas.

THE FEAST OF ST BLAISE & THE BLESSING OF THROATS

On 3rd February we celebrate the feast of St Blaise, and throats are blessed. There will be the traditional Blessing of Throats after the 10am Mass on Saturday of this week.

LENT, HOLY WEEK & THE SACRED TRIDUUM

Holy Week and the Sacred Triduum (Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday) are still a long way off but now is the time to put the dates in your diary and organize your work and holiday schedules so that you can get to each of the main services:

Ash Wednesday (14 Feb)—Masses at 8am (TLM), 12:15pm, 7pm (sung)

Maundy Thursday (28 March)—Mass of the Lord’s Supper at 8pm

Good Friday (29 March)—Liturgy of the Passion at 3pm

Holy Saturday(30 March)—Easter Vigil at 9pm

Please consider making a **STANDING ORDER** instead of a weekly cash contribution to the parish. Thank you.

BANK: Barclays ACCOUNT NAME: St Pancras Catholic Church SORT CODE: 20-44-51 ACCOUNT NUMBER: 00775843

St Pancras Catholic Church is part of the East Anglia Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: registered charity no. 278742

Catholic Mothers' Group meets every Monday in school term time at about 11am for the five Cs: coffee, cake, chat, catechism, and chaos. Toddlers welcome.

Church Cleaning Group Please join us every Friday straight after the rosary, grab a duster or a mop, and help us to keep God's house clean and tidy. Thank you.

Bd Carlo Acutis Group (14-17 year olds) Meets this week on Thursday 1st at 7pm. Newcomers welcome.

Catholic Young Adults (18-35 year olds) Next meeting: Friday 9th February at 7pm.

Book Club Monday, 11th March at 7pm to discuss *The Mass in Slow Motion* by Mgr Ronald Knox.

Rosary Crusade We are praying for the conversion of souls in Ipswich and beyond and will lay a spiritual bouquet at the feet of Our Lady when the Bishop comes to bless our new statue in May. Please complete a slip week by week.

The CTS Sunday Missal 2024 Copies are available for sale at the back of church priced £9:95.

Lifts to Mass Might someone (or a team of people) be able to offer lifts to Mass for a resident of a care home on the Henley Road please? If so, speak to Fr Joseph.

Lent at St Pancras Please take one of our booklets giving details of all of our services and events during Lent.

Saturday Sacristan We're looking for someone to help set up everything for Adoration on Saturday afternoons once a fortnight, and to clear things away again after the evening Mass. If you can help, please speak to Fr Joseph.

Diocesan newspaper Copies of the latest edition are available now with two articles about life at St Pancras.

Crib collection The Crib collection for Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) will close on 2nd February. Please be as generous as you can. Thank you.

Sick List Prayers are asked for Jim Convey, Larry Crowley, Ciro Dellabella, Mary Driscoll, Linda Mitchell, Rosemary Pease, Brian Price, Leighton Scott, and Bernie Wood.

Of your charity

Please pray for the repose of the souls of Rita McCormack, James O'Sullivan, and Anthony Glaccum who died recently, and for all those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Stanislaus Mendes, Ladislaus Voros, Samuel Page, Cecil Adam, Patrick Duncan, William McInerney, James Newton, J. Clowery, Mabel Everett, Br Celsus FSC, Thomas Ryan, Daisy Gotting, Paraska Suchowij, Harold Tunstill, Joseph Geraghty, Olive Langan, Maria Borodko, Stella Talbott, Bridget Clifford, John Berry, Gerarda Dunn, Christopher Ennis, Constance Parnell, Eric List, Michael Donohoe, Rachel Arkwright, Christine Cook, Margaret Rooney, Maria Cannone, Una McWeeny, George Sharpe, Mary Ward, Ptarick Grehan, and Robert Valentine. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

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The parish **SAFEGUARDING REPRESENTATIVE** is Mim McMahon who may be contacted by anyone of any age, at any time, with any safeguarding concerns: 01394 274395 or 07813199275 or mim@trianglemusic.info or mim.macmahon@gmail.com

For the diocesan **SAFEGUARDING CO-ORDINATOR**, contact 07429 215344 or safeguarding.coordinator@east-angliadiocese.org.uk

Fr Joseph writes: We continue our new series on the Sacraments by looking at the important doctrine of free will.

THE SACRAMENTS PT 3 — FREE WILL

For many, the question of free will, especially when it is used for evil ends, is problematic. Some hold to a largely deterministic view of life and suggest that our actions are so shaped by our environment and upbringing that we have little, if any, free will. Others question how a good and all-powerful God can permit His creatures a freedom that enables and allows them to cause harm. As with so many aspects of our Faith, the paradoxical answer rests not in an 'all-or-nothing' approach, but in a 'both-and' view. We both have free will *and* our behaviour is influenced by circumstances; God is both all-powerful *and* He is limited by an inability to contradict His own nature.

'God is love' St John teaches us (1 Jn 4:8). God is the One who, by His very nature, loves, and cannot not love. Elsewhere, St John shows us what Our Lord meant by 'love' when, at the Last Supper, He said, 'Greater love than this no man has, that a man lay down his life for his friends' (Jn 15:13). In other words, the essence of love is to give, and in the case of Our Lord, He willed to give everything He was and had: 'I lay down my life... No man takes it away from me, but I lay it down of myself' (Jn 10:17-18).

To love, then, means to give.

When God chose to create us, He did so that we might share in what He is and has. For God to give a creature existence and life is to have given that creature a share in His own existence and life. In other words, the act of creation is itself an act of giving and therefore an act of love. If to love means to give, then love can be given and received, but it cannot be taken. The single most fundamental element of God's work of creation, and of God's plan for His rational creatures, is that He would love them and that they would be free to choose to love Him in return. But for us to love Him, we must be free to choose to love Him: He cannot take our love.

To have been created without this free will to choose to love, or to give, would have meant that we had not been created in God's image and likeness (Gen 1:26). But God could not create rational creatures *except* with the free will to choose to love. To have done so would have meant contradicting His own nature because He is pure reason, pure freedom, and pure love. And if there is one thing God cannot, in fact, do it is to contradict His own nature. He cannot, for example, make Himself less than infinite, less than all-powerful, less than all-knowing, less free, less than love itself, for then He would cease to be God.

This freedom to love, to choose to give, lay at the heart of what the sacraments are and how they work.

ROSARY CRUSADE

Praying the rosary to Our Lady of Ipswich for the Conversion of Souls in Ipswich and Beyond

(Please return slips to Fr Joseph or place them in the Prayer Request box in front of the Lady altar. Thank you.)

Week Beginning...

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(Please enter date here)

Number of rosaries said for this intention
this week (and your initials):

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