

Peace



**PARISH OF ST. FELIX,
HAVERHILL**

FOURTH SUNDAY of ADVENT

21st December 2025

Psalter - Week 4

ST. FELIX CHURCH, PRINCESS WAY, HAVERHILL, CB9 9BP

Presbytery - 3 Wentworth Terrace, Haverhill, CB9 9BP

Parish Priest: Fr. JOHN WARRINGTON:

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Deacon: Rev. HUW WILLIAMS:

Tel: 07399 163718

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Messages may be left via our website: www.stfelixchurch.org.uk

***To contact a priest in an emergency please call 07773 478835**

Our School: St. Felix Catholic Primary School: Tel: 01440 703775

Head teacher: Mrs Anne-Marie Price

CHURCH CLEANING TEAMS

Tuesday 23rd December – Christmas Clean – Volunteers please!

Saturday 27th December – Jili Jijo, Diony Jose, Bindhu Roy

Sat. 3rd January – Alan Kent, Mike Bradshaw, Ann O'Flanagan, Helen Burns

SUNDAY WELCOMERS/STEWARDS

Sunday 21st December – Jose Family & Ron White

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day – Volunteers please.

Sunday 28th December – Pat & PJ Sheehy and Annette Field

Dear Friends,

At the wedding feast at Cana, Mary told the servants 'Do whatever he tells you'. We too should do this we are told but in order to do so, we must first listen. Mary did just that when the angel Gabriel appeared to her, and Joseph also listened to angel of the Lord - angels being messengers from God - and both Mary and Joseph followed God's plan. Zechariah also heard from the angel Gabriel, but he doubted the message and, as a result, he was unable to speak until his son, John, was born.

I am not a good example of a listener to God - a bit slow in the uptake, but I hope that I am improving. Not struck dumb at present!

We all need to listen for God - but how? Here are five ways:-

1. **silence**: to hear God's voice, we need to be quiet and give our whole attention to Him. In a noisy and busy world this can be challenging to achieve.
2. **Scripture**: the Word of God is living and effective, and it is through the Holy Scriptures that God speaks to us. Listen to the readings at Mass, read the Bible at home: give some time to the scriptures - a little every day.
3. **conscience**: listening to our conscience reveals God's voice, which calls us to love and do good and reminds us when we do otherwise. Our conscience guides us to do God's will.
4. **others**: interacting with others - we are all made in God's image and can reveal God's message to each other in what we say and in what we do.
5. **nature**: the beauty of nature reflects God's infinite beauty, and through it, we can hear His voice. Take time to be with nature - God's creation - see God at work in all that is around us and rejoice in it.

In these last few days of Advent let us listen out for God as we prepare to celebrate the birth of Jesus - God with us.

Dcn Huw 😊



ST. FELIX CHRISTMAS CLEAN

TUESDAY 23rd DECEMBER from 12 midday.

Can you please spend an hour or so to help get our church ready for our Christmas celebrations?

+

Free cuppa and good company

HYMNS for SUNDAY 21st DECEMBER



112 – O Come, O Come Emmanuel

116 – Long Ago Prophets Knew

113 – The Angel Gabriel

114 – When the Angel Came to Mary

HELP TO PUT UP OUR CHRISTMAS CRIB

Sunday 21st December after the 10 a.m. Mass

Please stay behind after Mass for a short time if you can help put up our Christmas Crib on the step before the altar.

Thank you

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS DONATIONS



There is still time this weekend to make a donation for the Christmas flowers at St. Felix. Envelopes are available in the blue box on the table in the Narthex.

Please write the name or names of those you would like to dedicate flowers to on the envelope.

If the person or persons are deceased, please indicate by writing RIP after their names.

A list of dedications will be placed by the altar during the Christmas season.

Thank you, Dave Arnold, Flower Team Coordinator

EXPOSITION and ADORATION of the BLESSED SACRAMENT



**FIRST
SUNDAY of the MONTH**

4.30 – 6.30 p.m.

**You are welcome to come
and spend time in prayer
before the
Blessed Sacrament**



Dear Friends

Wishing you and your families every blessing for Christmas, and for the Christmas Season. As we celebrate the mystery of the Incarnation, Jesus being born for us, God coming among his people in all humility to bring peace, joy, love and hope for all, we pray for everyone in our families, in our Parish community and the wider communities in which we live and work. As we celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace, we offer prayers for peace, remembering especially people of Ukraine, Gaza and Israel and other parts of our world where there is conflict and war, pain and suffering.

Isaiah proclaims the message for all people, in the midst of darkness, we have seen a great light! Christ is born for us, alleluia! The challenge for us as we celebrate Christmas is to long for the light, to long for freedom from all that oppresses and all that keeps anyone from God in any way. We are invited to long with our whole being for God's presence in every aspect of our lives.

As Paul speaks to Titus, he tells us clearly that God has appeared so that we can know Jesus Christ. As we celebrate the birth of Jesus we are reminded of the grace that God has freely given us, grace that leads to God's saving love being revealed. As we enter the Christmas season, Paul reminds us that the grace of God has appeared to all and that we are called to live in a way that reflects this grace, to reflect the love of Jesus as we celebrate his birth.

Only in the Gospel, as we hear the words of Luke, do we come to see clearly how all of this will come about: through the birth of the Saviour, Jesus Christ. All are called to see through the darkness to the light that God is giving us, the Light of the World, who comes to bring us hope, peace, joy and love. As we rejoice in the birth of our Saviour and trust in Him as much as we can, we are given freedom from darkness so that we can live in the light, live in His grace. God's love has come to earth and we can rejoice now and forever.

With every blessing and prayers for Christmas and the Year ahead..

Fr John & Deacon Huw



CHRISTMAS AT ST FELIX

CHRISTMAS EVE – Wednesday 24th December

5.00 p.m. Children's Mass for Christmas

9.30 p.m. Christmas Carols

10.00 p.m. Midnight Mass



CHRISTMAS DAY - Thursday 25th December

10.00 a.m. Mass for Christmas Day

[NB: There will be NO Mass on Friday 26th December]

FEAST of the HOLY FAMILY

Saturday 27th & Sunday 28th December

Masses on Saturday at 6.30 p.m. and Sunday at 10.00 a.m.

SOLEMNITY of MARY, HOLY MOTHER of GOD
Thursday 1st January 2026

11.00 a.m. MASS for PEACE

*Theme of Pope Leo's Message for the 59th World Day of Peace:
'Peace be with you all: Towards an "unarmed and disarming"
peace'*

Mass followed by a 'BRING AND SHARE' LUNCH.

SECOND SUNDAY of CHRISTMAS
Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th January

Masses on Saturday at 6.30 p.m. and Sunday at 10.00 a.m.



SOLEMNITY of THE EPIPHANY of THE LORD
Tuesday 6th January

Masses at 10.00 a.m. and 7.30 p.m.

Reflections to inform our thoughts, prayers and actions on
'Living Simply'

Every time you smile at someone, it is an action of love, a gift to that person, a beautiful thing.

Kind words can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless.

St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta

CRIB APPEAL



This year, as a diocese, our crib appeal will be for the Latin Patriarchate in Jerusalem. His Beatitude, the Patriarch, Cardinal Pierbattista Pizzaballa has tirelessly worked with the whole peoples of the Middle East, petitioning for peace, compromise and goodwill in the region. He is a recognised figure in the negotiations and brings about a serenity and neutrality to the proceedings.

He has visited Gaza frequently, especially Fr Gabriel's parish of the Holy Family in Gaza and offered his prayers, encouragement and support. In sending money directly to his care, he will ensure that the charity is distributed to places where it is most needed - whether that be in Gaza or the West Bank.

There will be a collection box near the crib and a button icon on the Dona machine.

Thank you.

CLOSING OF THE JUBILEE YEAR OF HOPE

Bishop Peter invites you to celebrate the end of the Jubilee Year of Hope at Mass in the Cathedral in Norwich on Sunday 28th December at 11 a.m.

Pope Leo will formally close the Jubilee Year of Hope on the Feast of the Epiphany in Rome on Tuesday 6th January 2026

PRAYER INTENTIONS

God our Father, we pray for the many people who have asked for our prayers; for their healing and their peace. Hold them, shelter them and keep them in your tender care. Comfort those who grieve and give courage to those who are fearful. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

- Please pray for people requesting prayers in our 'Intentions Book'. Particularly remember those who are ill and those caring for them.
- Please continue to pray for lasting peace in the Middle East, Ukraine, Sudan and everywhere in the world affected by war and conflict.
- Pray for people living in any form of poverty. Remember the work of REACH and everyone associated in any way.
- Pray for all people and lands devastated by effects of climate change. Pray that everyone will do what they can to protect & nurture Creation.
- Pray that all producers of food and commodities receive just treatment and fair recompense for their labour and products.
- Pray for migrants and refugees that they will receive just and compassionate help.
- Pray for prisoners, their families and those who work with them. Remember especially all those associated with HMP Highpoint.
- Pray for Fr. John, Dcn. Huw, the people of our parish, particularly those in care and nursing homes, and the staff and pupils of St Felix School.

Pray for all the people we know and love who have died.

Remember their families and all who grieve.

Remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Renata Nedzynski, Bridget Gore, Mira Thomas, Nicola Smith,
Maciej Urbanowicz, Dorothy Straight, Esther Caulfield, Eleanor Pulham,
George Chipp, Margaret Sproson

During Advent and Christmastime we are asked to pray for:

Migrants and Refugees,
Expectant Mothers.

Pope Leo asks us to join him in December in praying for:

Christians in areas of conflict.

Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation and hope.

ST FELIX WEEKLY PARISH COLLECTION COUNTERS	
Sunday 21st December	Team 1 ABRAHAM and ANOTHER
Sunday 28th December	Team 2 SUE and DAVE
<i>Please swap with another counter if you are unable to count on your week given on the rota. Thank you</i>	

READERS and EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS			
DATE	1 st READING	2 nd READING	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS
Saturday 20 December	ASIN	ASWIN	MURRY
Sunday 21 December	MARITA	JENNA	Sign – up sheet in narthex
Wednesday 24 December Midnight Mass	LINDA	ALICE	Sign – up sheet in narthex
Thursday 25 December Christmas Day			Sign – up sheet in narthex
Saturday 27 th December	VIOLET	KAREN	ANNE
Sunday 28 th December	ASWIN	ASIN	Sign-up sheet In narthex

Items for the newsletter should be sent to
stfelixhaverhill@rcdea.org.uk
by 12 noon on THURSDAY for inclusion in the next newsletter

NEED HELP DURING the ON-GOING COST of LIVING CRISIS?

Please speak to Fr. John or you can contact



Get in touch. Our friendly team of advisers are on hand to help you, so please do get in touch:

0800 009 6710

info@reachhaverhill.org.uk

Contact hours: Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.



With every donation, REACH is helping people break the cycle of hardship.

Generational poverty can trap people for years, but your support ensures REACH can offer long-term guidance, advice, and care.

Donations upto Christmas Day could be doubled by matched funding from generous supporters up to £10,000.

For more information and to donate follow this link:

ReachCP.org.uk/Christmas

CHILDREN'S LITURGY



DATE	LEADER	ADULT HELPERS	CHILD Nos.
21 st December	ANGELA WILSON	1. Christine White 2. ? 3. ?	12?
	<i>NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY DURING CHRISTMAS SEASON</i>		

Children's Liturgy is for children in Reception Class and Years 1, 2 and 3 so they can hear the Word of God adapted to their age group. Younger children and/or those with additional needs are welcome to attend with an adult. Children who have made their First Holy Communion should not attend Children's Liturgy but stay to hear the Liturgy of the Word in church.

We are always looking for more adult helpers. If you would like to assist us please speak to Fr. John or Angela Wilson.

Thank you. Angela Wilson.

THERE IS STILL TIME TO CHOOSE YOUR FAVOURITE CHRISTMAS CAROLS

There will be a sheet in the narthex for your suggestions for Christmas Carols to be sung over Christmas and the Christmas season. We may not be able to sing all of them but please write your favourite carols on the sheet provided and we will do our best to sing as many of them as possible.

Thank you.

A 'THANK YOU' from CAFOD

Jane Crone, Community Participation Coordinator - CAFOD in East Anglia and Brentwood, writes to us:

'Many thanks for your support of CAFOD in your parish this year.
I am pleased to share with you that the total donations to date
from St Felix's parish during 2025 are £1,218.
(This excludes individual donations sent directly to CAFOD)'

Discover how Caritas is responding to conflict in Ukraine.



Henry Wilson Smith CAFOD Ukraine Emergency Programme Officer will be talking about his work.

On: Saturday 17 January 2026

Time: Coffee from 10.30am, talk starting at 10.45am, finishing at noon.

At: St George's Parish Hall, Sprowston Rd, Norwich NR3 4HZ

Mass in the church at 10am, plenty of parking

All welcome

This event has been jointly organised by Caritas East Anglia and CAFOD in East Anglia.



**REFRESHMENTS
after 10 a.m. Mass
SUNDAY 4th JANUARY.**

Enjoy a cuppa and a chat



OUR EPIPHANY GIFTS for REACH.

During Advent and Christmas, and coming up to the Feast of the Epiphany of the Lord (January 6th), we will again make a collection of personal care items to donate to REACH.

Please buy one or two items during the coming weeks of Advent and Christmas. Keep your personal care gifts at home and bring them to church on the Second Sunday of Christmas - Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th January - so that everyone's gifts can be collected together as our Epiphany Gift to be donated to REACH.



Items required for:

Men's personal care eg. razor, shaving cream/gel, deodorant

Women's personal care eg. deodorant, moisturiser,

make-up remover

Bathing/showering eg. shower gel, body wash, soap, flannel

Dental/oral care eg tooth brush, tooth paste, mouthwash

Hair care eg shampoo, conditioner, hair brush, comb

Baby/infant care eg. body wash, shampoo, moisturiser, nappies

[NB: NO baby milk or food]

Thank you

PARISH FINANCES

Collection for the weekend 13th/14th December 2025

Standing Orders: £421.00

Collection: £557.02

Total: £978.02

£245.01 for the Diocesan Dependent Priests' Fund

Forthcoming Special and Second Collections

CHRISTMAS OFFERING TO THE CLERGY

The collections taken during our Christmas Masses

on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

are the annual Christmas Offering to our clergy.

PAX CHRISTI – PEACE SUNDAY 17th/18th JANUARY 2026

Peace Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday 18th January.

The Bishops' Conference encourages us to use the day to reflect on the Pope's message for the World Day of Peace on the 1st January.

Pope Leo's theme for his message is

'Peace be with you all: towards an 'unarmed and disarming' peace'.

On Peace Sunday, we will be taking a collection to support Pax Christi's work which includes promoting nonviolence as a way of resolving conflict, advocacy and campaigning for peace and peace education in schools.

Thank you for your continued generosity to our parish community.

Dona Card Machine Payments

Just a reminder that you can make the following donations to our Parish via our Dona Card Machine in the narthex: **Sunday Collection, Second Collections, CAFOD, 100 Club, Flowers, Candles, Mass Offerings, Donations.**

Thank you

ST FELIX MASSES & MASS INTENTIONS

[Masses celebrated in church are also live-streamed]

The link for our Live-Streamed Masses via our YouTube channel is:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCEHq3Ww93rfGfMGzXS25A2w/>

[Sunday readings – Year A, Weekday readings Year II]

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday 20 th December:	6.30 p.m. Mass	<i>People of the Parish</i>
Sunday 21 st December:	10.00 a.m. Mass	<i>Deceased members of family</i>
Tuesday 23 rd December:	NO MASS TODAY	
Wednesday 24 th December:	5.00 p.m. Children's Mass for Christmas 9.30 p.m. Christmas Carols 10.00 p.m. THE NATIVITY of the LORD	<i>People of the Parish</i>
Thursday 25 th December:	10.00 a.m. MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY	<i>Peace on Earth</i>
Friday 26 th December:	NO MASS TODAY	

FEAST of the HOLY FAMILY of JESUS. MARY and JOSEPH

Saturday 27 th December:	6.30 p.m. Mass	<i>People of the Parish</i>
Sunday 28 th December:	10.00 a.m. Mass	<i>Patrick Behan RIP</i>

NB

**NO Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions
on Saturday 27th December**

**If you need to speak with myself or Deacon Huw,
please call me on 01440 702156 or
Deacon Huw on 07399 163718.**

**Wishing you and your families every blessing and prayers
Fr John and Deacon Huw**