



**PARISH OF ST. FELIX
HAVERHILL**

THE BAPTISM of the LORD

Sunday 8th January 2023

[Parish Mass book page 118]

Psalter – Week 1

ST. FELIX CHURCH, PRINCESS WAY, HAVERHILL, CB9 9BP
Presbytery - 3 Wentworth Terrace, Haverhill, CB9 9BP

**Parish Priest: Fr. JOHN WARRINGTON: Tel: 01440 702156 (Parish
Office)**

Tel: 01440 704142 (Presbytery)

Email: john.warrington@rcdea.org.uk

Deacon: Rev. HUW WILLIAMS:

Tel: 07399 163718

Email: huw.williams@rcdea.org.uk

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. A. Dodds

CHURCH CLEANING TEAMS:

Saturday 14th January – Jili Jijo, Stella Melvin, Diony Jose, & Bindhu Roy

Sat. 21st January – Alan Kent, Michael Bradshaw, Ann O’Flanagan & Helen Burns

SUNDAY WELCOMERS/STEWARDS:

Sunday 8th January – Baiju and Sonia Varghese & Ian Blythe

Sunday 15th January - Jose Family & Ron Hefford

PASTORAL LETTER FROM BISHOP PETER
FOR THE FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD 2023

In the Acts of the Apostles we hear St. Peter delivering a descriptive outline of the Lord's public ministry that began on the banks of the River Jordan. From Nazareth in Galilee, Jesus went down into Judaea and was there anointed with the Holy Spirit and with power. The revelation unfolds and we begin to rejoice that the Lord has come into our midst to cure our ills, to liberate us from the power of evil.

Today's feast of The Lord's Baptism brings our Christmas Season to its completion and provides a transition into a new contemplation of the public ministry of Jesus. During these past weeks we have witnessed afresh the Nativity of Christ and contemplated anew the years of his nurturing. Within the fabric of our history, Mary and Joseph taught the art of human speech to the Divine Word, taught the Son of the Eternal Father how to walk upon the Earth that he had fashioned at the dawn of time. The Blessed Virgin and her beloved and honourable husband themselves then had to learn how to follow their child. We must accompany Mary and Joseph and learn the same lesson.

With Christ we must journey from infancy to maturity. On today's feast we must begin again the great pilgrimage of accompanying Jesus into the desert of isolation and temptation. Jesus is forever making his way into the midst of our desolation and speaks of the reassurance promised in the writings of the prophet Isaiah: "I come not to break the crushed reed, nor quench the wavering flame."

When Jesus emerged from his immersion in the River Jordan he beheld the Holy Spirit like a dove come down upon him and heard the voice of his Heavenly Father saying, "This is my Son, the Beloved; my favour rests on him." In the Beloved Son, all the baptised come to enjoy God's favour by adoption. By faith we are empowered to behold the Holy Spirit at work in our lives, privileged to hear the voice of the Father in the depth of our being. Heaven is revealed and the whole Earth is addressed. Power is entrusted to us and privilege bestowed upon us for a purpose. In our own baptism we are called, taken by the hand, formed as disciples, appointed to become a light for the nations.

It was providentially fortuitous that my appointment as Bishop of East Anglia was announced on the feast of St. John XXIII, the date last October which marked the sixtieth anniversary of the opening of the Second Vatican Council. As this year progresses, we will continue to

pray and prepare in anticipation of the forthcoming Synod. All the baptised are being called to entrust themselves to the Light of the World. My chosen episcopal motto is 'Credite in lucem' (Believe in the Light). In John's Gospel we are told: 'Believe in the light and you will become children of the light.' Our own baptismal candles drew their light from the Paschal Candle, symbolising the Risen Christ. As we prepare for the challenges of the coming year, let us be refreshed in the full glory of faith, inspired through the wide vision of hope and empowered by the endurance of charity.

I am so looking forward to visiting the entire diocesan family over the coming months. Please pray that the Angels will accompany me as I make my way through the narrow highways and unlit byways! Let us pray for a blessing upon all our parishes and religious communities. Let us pray that the Prince of Peace will reign supreme across the face of the Earth.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

+ Peter

(The Right Reverend Peter G. Collins. Bishop of East Anglia)



Bishop Peter Collins of East Anglia

has much pleasure in inviting you

to a

Farewell & Thanksgiving Mass for Bishop Alan Hopes

at 11:30 am at the Cathedral of St John the Baptist,

Norwich on Tuesday 24th January 2023

If you would like to attend, please let Fr. John know by
Sunday 8th January.

CHRISTMAS SEASON AT ST FELIX

Thank you and every blessing for the New Year

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to prepare our Church for the Christmas Season, and for your prayers, cards, gifts and generous Christmas Offering of £997.50.

This Saturday evening, 7th January, we welcome Fr. Dick White who will celebrate Mass with us as Fr. John has a 'non-urgent' medical appointment at Addenbrookes.

Sat. 7th/Sun 8th January 2023 **Feast of the Baptism of the Lord**

This marks the end of the Christmas Season. We will celebrate and renew our Baptismal promises together at our usual weekend Masses on
Saturday at 6.30 p.m. and Sunday at 10.00 a.m.

PLEASE KEEP PRAYING FOR PEACE IN UKRAINE

Lord God,

We pray for the on-going conflict in Ukraine.

Our hearts cry out for mercy for those in danger and in fear.

We pray for the bombs to stop, for the bullets to cease.

We pray for peace to reign.

We pray for the politicians, especially Putin to stop. Just stop.

To seek the way of peace rather than the path of violence.

We pray for peace to reign.

We pray for world leaders to know wisdom, to love justice,
to open their hearts and their borders
to all those fleeing from bloodshed.

We pray for peace to reign.

Above all we pray for the people of Ukraine.

Protect them, keep them safe, make them strong,

Give them courage and give them hope.

We pray, almighty God, for Your peace to reign.

Amen.

[Dr. Justin Thacker, Christian Aid]



**CHILDREN'S LITURGY SESSIONS WILL RECOMMENCE
THIS SUNDAY - 8TH JANUARY 2023.**

C R A F T G R O U P
THURSDAY 12TH JANUARY
1.45 P.M.

Please bring some of your old Christmas cards for re-using



Please recycle/keep all that extra clean wrapping – paper, card and plastics – that we accumulate over the Christmas season.

'KEEP HAVERHILL RECYCLING' STALL will be on
**Haverhill Market on the second week-end of the month –
Friday & Saturday to collect what cannot go in the 'blue bins'.**

CELEBRATING THE SKILL OF ST. FELIX FLOWER ARRANGERS
FOR ADVENT and CHRISTMAS TIME



Flower arranging team



Advent wreath



Font display



Flower arrangements in the church



HYMNS

The Baptism of the Lord – 08.01.2023

94 – On Jordan's Bank

407 – Baptised in Water

406 – O Praise Ye the Lord

Altar Servers Annual Renewal of Commitment is traditionally celebrated on St Stephen's Day (Boxing Day) but we have moved this event to next weekend, **Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th January at both our Sunday Masses.**

We pray for our Altar Servers and thank them for their dedication and service.

All Altar Servers are invited to serve at either Mass next weekend and renew their Commitment to service in our Parish community during Mass.

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 all people who have requested prayers through our 'Intentions Book'
- Please remember in your prayers members of our Parish who are housebound or being cared for in our local care and nursing homes.
- Pray for people who are lonely, or separated from family and friends
- Pray for peace in our world, especially in Ukraine, and for wise and just decisions from world leaders.
- Pray for all those people and environments severely affected by climate change. Pray that national leaders will work together responsibly and lead their nations in reducing 'greenhouse gases'.
- Pray for people whose income is insufficient to meet their needs, especially those who are our local neighbours. Remember the work of 'REACH' in your prayers.
- 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 pupils and staff of St. Felix School and all the people of our parish.

Pray for the repose of the soul of Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI and for all we know and love who have died, and for those who grieve.

Remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Joseph Bonett, Manuel Teles, Joan Fennessy, Peggy Magill,
Maureen Chinn, Mary McClellan, Thomas Glancy, Pauline Minns.

During Ordinary Time, up to Lent, we are asked to pray for:

Peace on Earth, Christian Unity, Openness to the Word of God, Victims of Trafficking, The Sick and Those Who Care for Them, Unemployed People.

In January, **Pope Francis** asks us to pray with him for **Educators**. We pray that educators may be credible witnesses, teaching fraternity rather than competition and helping the youngest and most vulnerable above all.

PEACE SUNDAY 2023

Next Sunday, 15 January, is PEACE SUNDAY and this year the message from Pope Francis tells us: 'No one can be saved alone. Combatting Covid-19 together, embarking together on paths of peace'. He asks us: 'What did we learn from the pandemic? What new paths should we follow to cast off the shackles of our old habits, to be better prepared, to dare new things? What signs of life and hope can we see, to help us move forward and try to make our world a better place?' A vaccine has been found for Covid-19, says the Holy Father, but we still need to tackle the virus of war, and of inequality, and this can only be done together.

In this country we have an active Catholic peace movement in Pax Christi, which aims at working together to promote peace through parishes, schools and social media. Their website suggests ways we can all become better peacemakers. There are activities for families to do at home, including a peace liturgy for young children. <https://paxchristi.org.uk/peace-sunday-2023> Pax Christi needs our support to keep going. If you'd like to make a donation, small or large, here is the link: <https://tinyurl.com/yxfcw67x> or make a donation in church, there will be a basket on the font for your donations. Thank you.

Pope Francis Prayer for Peace Sunday 2023

*God, our Creator and Redeemer,
May we see the sorrow of war in the
eyes of those who suffer and have
known only violence in their lives.*

*Give us a voice for those who have
no voice and are not heard; those
who know that there is no tomorrow
in war, and that the violence of
weapons destroys both the beauty of
creation and the joy of life.*

*That way, with your help, will we
become true instruments of your peace.*

Amen

(adapted from Pope Francis' Address for the
World Day of Prayer for Peace, Assisi, 2016)

*This prayer will be available on a Pax Christi prayer card for you to take
next weekend.*

ANYONE IN NEED OF HELP IN THE CURRENT COST OF LIVING CRISIS?

If you are aware of anyone who is, or will be, in serious need of help during the current and ongoing cost of living crisis, please speak to Fr. John or you can contact 'Reach'



Need help. Don't wait. Get in touch.
Our friendly team of advisers are here, on hand to help you,
so please do get in touch:

01440 712950

info@reachhaverhill.org.uk

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

[Reach Haverhill: Get Support](#)

St Felix Christmas Crafts raised

£250.00

for REACH Community Projects.

Thank you very much for your support

☺ **NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS...**

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT G4, INC



Will you
please
pick up
all your
clothes?!

**2023 DIOCESAN YEAR BOOK NOW AVAILABLE
in the Narthex - £2.50 each**

The latest edition of the Diocesan Newspaper is also available in the narthex – FREE!

PARISH FINANCES

COLLECTIONS/WEEKLY OFFERING & DONATIONS:

Collections for the weekend of

31st December 2022/1st January 2023:

Standing orders:	£296.00
Collection:	£327.10
Total:	£623.10

Thank you for your generosity to our parish community

PASTORAL VISITING

If you are aware of someone who might benefit from a pastoral visit or someone who cannot get to church and might like to receive Holy Communion at home, please speak to Fr. John.

Thank you.

**SACRAMENT of
RECONCILIATION**

***Saturday evening
from
5.45 p.m. to 6.15
p.m.***

... or at another time
by request to Fr John.

OUR PRAYER INTENTIONS BOOK

Please feel free to enter any intentions in this book in the narthex, and these will be offered at all Masses.

[Please write 'YES' beside your intention if you wish the intention to reach more people by being put in the Parish Newsletter, which also appears on the Parish website]

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 1]

FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

Saturday 7th January : Mass 6.30 p.m. *People of the Parish*

Sunday 8th January: Mass 10.00 a.m. *John Shepherd RIP*

First Week of the Year

Monday 9th January: Indian Mass 5.30 p.m.

Wednesday 11th January: Mass 10.00 a.m. *Private Int.*

Thursday 12th January: Mass 10.00 a.m. *Private Int.*

Friday 13th January: Mass 10.00 a.m. *Stella & Joe Mesquita RIP*

SECOND SUNDAY in ORDINARY TIME [Peace Sunday]

Saturday 14th January Mass 6.30 p.m. *Derek Cutler RIP*

Sunday 15th January Mass 10.00 a.m. *People of the Parish*
Filipino Mass p.m.

Items for the newsletter should be sent to

stfelixnewsletter@gmail.com

by 12 noon on THURSDAY for inclusion in the next newsletter

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

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