

PARISH OF ST. FELIX, HAVERHILL

THIRD SUNDAY of ADVENT Gaudete Sunday

14th December 2025

Psalter - Week 3

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: <u>www.stfelixchurch.org.uk</u>

*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

Saturday 20th December – Sherly Jose, Molly Shibu, Anu Anto Tuesday 23rd December – Christmas Clean – Volunteers please! Saturday 27th December – Jili Jijo, Diony Jose, Bindhu Roy

SUNDAY WELCOMERS/STEWARDS

Sunday 14th December – Buendia Family Sunday 21st December – Jose Family & Ron White Dear Friends,

In this season of the Church, the challenge of patience is upon us and we can get frustrated. This is true on many occasions when we are required to wait, as we do in Advent. This weekend we try to put aside our impatience and celebrate the joy of expectation: the Lord IS coming - soon!

This weekend, as we celebrate Gaudete Sunday, we have Joy in Anticipation - Isaiah speaks of the desert blooming and the coming of God to save His people, which brings hope and joy; Joy in Preparing - preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ and preparing the way; Joy in Sharing - Just as Mary rejoiced and shared her joy with Elizabeth, we are called to share the good news of Christ's coming with others. The message of joy is not meant to be kept to ourselves but shared with the world.

Gaudete Sunday is a time to rejoice and reflect on the joy that comes from our faith. As we light the pink candle on the Advent wreath in the church, let us embrace the hope and joy of the season, preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. This Sunday reminds us that even in our waiting, we can find joy in God's promises and presence among us.

Spread the joy!

Dcn Huw 🙂

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

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS DONATIONS



If you would like to make a donation for the Christmas flowers at St. Felix, envelopes will be 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

NOVEMBER 100 CLUB WINNERS



First prize £150 - COLETTE HILLS [4] Second prize £100 - RAY BANHAM [77]

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

"This Advent I will allow your transparent joy to fill my heart, to let it course through the hurry and scurry of my activities and slow me down so that I enjoy the gift of being alive. I will remember the happiness associated with your birth and the enduring teachings you gave to our world. I pray with confidence for your joy to continue to be birthed within me and to be shared with those who gather this Christmas".

From Joyce Rupp, 'Return to the Root, reflections on the inner life', 2021 pg. 226

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS Catalogue 2025 available in the narthex.

Full range of gifts available online: https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/collections/all



Last week to get gifts by express delivery for Christmas.

Order via website & choose 'Print' or 'eCard' version to receive gifts instantly.

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:
Carmello Pace, Max Burgess, Christopher Waters, Brian Ward,
David Davis, Edward Fletcher, Mark Staples

<u>During Advent and Christmastime we are asked to pray for:</u>
Migrants and Refugees,
Expectant Mothers.

<u>Pope Leo asks us to join him in December in praying for:</u> 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.

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN......



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

ST FELIX WEEKLY PARISH COLLECTION COUNTERS			
Sunday 14 th December	Team 6 ABRAHAM and ANOTHER		
Sunday 21st December	Team 1 CAROL and DAVE/BINOY		
Please swap with another counter if you are unable to count on your week given on the rota. Thank you			

READERS and EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS					
DATE	1 st READING	2 nd READING	EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS		
Saturday 13 December	VIOLET	LINDA	ANGELA		
Sunday 14 December	SALLY	ALICE	Sign – up sheet in narthex		
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		

HYMNS for SUNDAY 14th DECEMBER



105 – Lift Up Your Heads, You Mighty Gates.

880 – Tell Out My Soul

107 - The King of Glory

768 - Our God Reigns

Next choir practice
Tuesday 16th December, 7.00 p.m.

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.



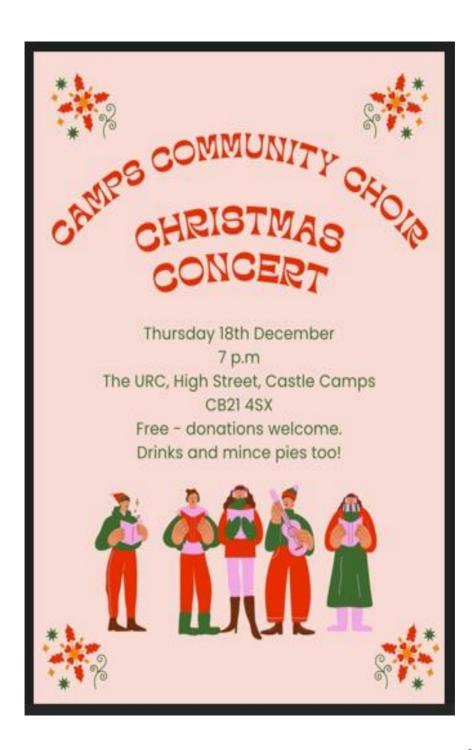
With every donation, REACH is helping people break the cycle of hardship.

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

Donations made today until Christmas Day could be doubled by matched funding from generous sponsors 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.
14 th December	CHRISTINE WHITE	1. ? 2. ? 3.	?

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.

ADVENT AT ST FELIX

CHOIR PRACTICES

On Tuesday evenings of Advent at 7 p.m. in church our choir will be practicing the hymns and music for Advent and Christmas. If you would like to join our choir and learn and sing the music of Advent and Christmas you are very welcome to come along.

CHOOSE YOUR FAVOURITE CHRISTMAS CAROLS

During Advent 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.

CHRISTMAS AT ST FELIX

CHRISTMAS EVE - Wednesday 24th December

Children's Mass for Christmas – 5.00 p.m.

Midnight Mass – 10.00 p.m. Preceded by Carols – 9.30 p.m.



CHRISTMAS DAY Thursday 25th December Mass for Christmas Day 10.00 a.m.

[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.

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

11.00 a.m. MASS for PEACE followed by a 'BRING AND SHARE' LUNCH.

FEAST of the EPIPHANY Tuesday 6th January 2026

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



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 6th/7th December 2025

Standing Orders: £421.00 Collection: £523.81 Total: £944.81

£137.78 for candles

Second Collections

This weekend 13th/14th December - Diocesan Dependent Priests' Fund

A collection will be taken for this fund which supports our retired priests, those who are ill and those no longer active in ministry. Please keep them all in your prayers and give thanks for their years of ministry in our diocese.

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

Items for the newsletter should be sent to stfelixhaverhill@rcdea.org.uk

by 12 noon on THURSDAY for inclusion in the next newsletter
PLEASE NOTE NEW E.MAIL ADDRESS

PLEASE NOTE:

There will be NO 10 a.m. weekday Masses on Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th December as Fr John is at Clare Priory for his monthly Ministry to Priests meeting.

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]

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - Gaudete Sunday

Saturday 13th December: 6.30 p.m. Mass Joao (John) De Gouveia RIP

Sunday 14th December: 10.00 a.m. Mass *People of the Parish*

THIRD WEEK of ADVENT:

Tuesday 16th December: NO MASS TODAY

Wednesday 17th December: NO MASS TODAY

Thursday 18th December: 10.00 a.m. Mass Joao (John) De Gouveia RIP

Friday 19th December: 10.00 a.m. Mass Rafael INT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Saturday 20th December: 6.30 p.m. Mass *People of the Parish*

Sunday 21st December: 10.00 a.m. Mass Deceased members of

family

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT AND CONFESSIONS

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions on Saturday evenings from 5.45 – 6.15 p.m.

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