



# NEWSLETTER

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT  
20<sup>th</sup> / 21<sup>st</sup> FEBRUARY 2021**

**Catholic Church of St Mary Magdalen**  
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Parish Priest: Fr Gladstone Liddle  
Secretary: Ursula Campbell

**The Parish Office is closed to the public, please contact by telephone or email as above.**

*Since we have now the live streaming option to access this go online to:-*

<https://www.churchservices.tv/whetstone>

*& click on the play button.*

*Offers to be in church as a Steward for Saturday and Sunday Masses would be much appreciated. Please email the parish office.*

*Masses at 6pm Saturday and 11am Sunday will be conducted under restrictions. Masks must be worn, social distancing observed and if possible places booked for the weekend Masses by logging on to:*

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/whetstone/events>

We have worked hard to ensure that our church is a safe environment and thank all those involved in fulfilling that. The new directives do allow public worship to continue. The Bishops however advise that in the interests of people's safety, including your priest who is in the 'over 70' category, it has been necessary to reduce the number of public Masses.

In the light of this, the church will be closed and daily Mass at 9.30am will be live streamed.

Communal public worship at Mass will continue at **6PM SATURDAY** and **11AM SUNDAY**.

The Bishops reiterate that the removal of the Sunday obligation means that nobody should feel guilty if they do not attend Mass, and urge all to pray at home for the end of the spread of the virus.

Confession to be arranged by appointment.

## **Confessions**

By appointment.

## **Mass times (Public)**

Saturday: 6.00pm,  
Sunday: 11.00am,  
4.00pm (in Polish)



Weekdays:  
Mass 9.30am

## **Opening times for Private Prayer:**

Saturday and Sunday  
10am - 12 Noon

**Download the NHS COVID-19 app today**

The free NHS COVID-19 app is a vital part of the NHS Test and Trace service in England, and the NHS Wales Test, Trace, Protect service.



## **LENT 2021**

*Hopefully as we journey through Lent and restrictions or Tiers change, please God for the better, we may be able to open the church for private prayer and public Masses during the week. Much of that will depend on the directives about the need for stewards to be present during opening times.*

*Meanwhile, today the first Sunday of Lent for those who attend the public Masses the booklet which was produced two years ago based on our Stations of the Cross will be available (free or donation) for anyone to take home to pray the devotion. The devotion will be live streamed at 6pm Fridays from 26<sup>th</sup> February (not 5<sup>th</sup> March because of Polish 1<sup>st</sup> Friday Devotions), 12<sup>th</sup> March, 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. The church will be open at those times for public attendance.*

Lent Booklets for children - there is a limited number of Day-By-Day booklets for Junior and Infant children. Please collect one at the Church Porch on Saturday evening or Sunday morning.

**Children's Liturgy – a note for parents of young children** - it has not been possible to celebrate Children's Liturgy at Sunday Masses for a long time and whilst we have the option to watch the live streaming, young children may be missing out on the participation. We are pleased to say that Children's Liturgy will be posted on the parish Facebook page in the form of a pre-recorded PowerPoint presentation every weekend. Please do publicise it and give feedback.

Parents can also find lots of children's liturgy materials on the internet. Take a look at the CAFOD website <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-liturgy> where you will find prayers and resources for families who aren't able to attend church in person at the moment.

Sunday Liturgy worksheets may be found at <http://www.sdc.me.uk/sundayliturgy/>

Mission Together (Red Box) has children and family resources at [Liturgical Resources - Mission Together](#)

Collect a children's Lent Day-by-Day booklet as you arrive for Mass.

These are but a few of the many resources to be found online which are intended for all ages. Do take a look and explore what is on offer for your child's Faith formation.

### **Vaccine Statement from Vatican and Bishops' Conference**

In September 2020 the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales issued a statement [COVID-19 and Vaccination](#) (24<sup>th</sup> September 2020). In the light of the recent breakthrough in vaccine development.

Catholics may in good conscience receive any of these vaccines for the good of others and themselves. In good conscience, one may refuse a particular vaccine but continue to have a duty to protect others from infection.

The statement can be found via: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/bishops-issue-updated-statement-on-covid-19-and-vaccination/>

**Church Website** is at present inaccessible. It is hoped to get this up and running very soon to keep people informed of future developments, regularity of services etc. In the meantime information can be found via the Diocesan website:-

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/whetstone>

### **Parish Finances**

This ongoing situation is having a considerable impact on the parish finances. Work has recently finished on the Hall kitchen etc, which was planned and began before the first lockdown. The bills for that have had to be honoured and paid (£50,000). We have been grateful to all those who have contributed during this period by Bankers Orders, and also those who have handed in contributions for the Sunday's missed.

In these unsettling times, the method of giving to the parish is invaluable and reassuring. You will find attached to this newsletter a form to set up such Standing Order if you are able and bless you if you can.

### **St Mary Magdalen's Church Whetstone on Facebook**

To keep parishioners more connected during these odd times, we have created a new Facebook page - 'St Mary Magdalen's Church Whetstone' - where we can share important updates about parish life and our faith in general.

### **Preparation for the Sacraments in 2021**

Names are being taken for those who wish their child/children to be prepared for First Confession, First Holy Communion and Confirmation in 2021. Although the courses have begun, it is not too late to enrol your child. Please contact Winnie Brady at [winniebrady@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:winniebrady@rcdow.org.uk) or send a message to 07702 094650 requesting an Enrolment Form. For anyone who has already registered and not heard back from me, please phone me as soon as possible. Thank you.

### **Pay Car Park**

Free Parking for Mass goers is:- Saturday 5.30pm-7.30pm and on Sunday 8.30am-5.30pm.

**Please be aware that outside of these times, a penalty will be issued – and no appeal through the parish under the terms of the contract.**

Holy Days of Obligation during the week are not included except Christmas Eve and Day and Good Friday.

**Hospital Admissions** often the religious status of a person admitted to hospital is overlooked on admission. Please make sure that Chase Farm & Barnet hospital is told that the patient is a Catholic.

As there is at present no Chaplain. Please inform the staff nurse on the ward a patient is Catholic. Soon we hope a new Chaplain will be appointed.

**PRAY for those who are sick.** We also pray for our long-term sick, the housebound, and those in residential care and in local hospices and hospitals and **the Faithful Departed** Beryl Miranda, Martha McGowan, Angelina Giasullo.

**Frances Brooks**, wife of the late Michael Brooks died peacefully in Suffolk on Saturday 13th February after a long illness.

She was an active member of parish for many years. Her funeral will be at St Felix Catholic Church Felixstowe Suffolk on 26th February 2021 at 11 am Covid 19 restrictions apply.

Boxing Club	} Suspended until
Mother's Prayers	