



# NEWSLETTER

**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER  
17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> APRIL 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. Plans are being made to reopen the office to callers soon.**

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

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

& click on the play button.

*At all Masses 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.*

## Priest Training Fund

Next Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday, the day we pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood. The annual collection for the Priest Training Fund will take place next weekend. This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently 42 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 18 of whom are for our own Diocese, and two men are studying in Rome, also for our Diocese. Last year two men who studied at Allen Hall and one who studied in Rome ordained to the priesthood to serve as our future priests. This fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your generous donation helps ensure we can support these men who are called to be like Christ the Good Shepherd. Donation leaflets are available in the back of the church. Please take one home, read the information, and bring it back next weekend with your donation. Please continue to pray for vocations and for our priests. You can donate online anytime at [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations)

## Holy Week and Easter

*The ceremonies of Holy Week and Easter were at last celebrated publicly and although with some adaptation, worthily. For all the Liturgies and Masses the church was full to its designated capacity. We had a fuller compliment of altar servers and music. All told, it was a big step in the right direction.*

*Many thanks must go to all involved and also the stewards at the door who did a sterling job under these new conditions.*

## 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.



## The Forty Hours Devotion

If all goes to plan with easing of restrictions, we should be able to restore this devotion this year. It will begin at 8am on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May – Ascension Day – and continue until noon on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> May.

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 8am – 8pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and 8am – Noon on Sunday. Lists will be available soon to sign to be in church during these times for prayer, and there may need to be stewards on the door.

## 2021 A Year of St Joseph

Pope Francis asks the Church to dedicate this year to meditate on the place of St Joseph in our faith and life. It forms part of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Proclamation of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church.



**Boxes of Offertory Envelopes 2021/2** can now be collected at Mass this weekend.

### **Parish Finances**

For everyone, this has been a difficult 12 months both domestically and commercially. It has had an impact on our parish finances too.

We have just completed the Annual Financial Report, submitted to the Diocese. A few basic figures show the impact of lockdown etc.

Between 2019 and 2020 income dropped as follows:-

Envelopes                  47,000 → 28,000

Loose plate                22,000 → 12,000

Car Park Rent 64,000 → 21,000

Overall                    250,000 → 171,000

Income from Bankers Orders have not decreased so dramatically, and those who contribute in that way owe our gratitude.

Gift Aid has also been an invaluable help at this time, with thanks to all who as Tax payers have signed up to this.

If anyone in the past has Gift Aided and now no longer pays British Tax, would you kindly inform the Parish Office for our bookkeeper to adjust the records. Also, please inform us of any change of address – and also any new telephone number for the parish registers.

**Children's Liturgy** is posted each weekend on the parish Facebook page in the form of a PowerPoint presentation – do take time to watch it with your young children. There are lots of Children's Liturgy materials on the internet, eg the CAFOD website at <https://cafod.org.uk/Education/Children-s-Liturgy> - also take a look at catholicicing.com for Faith activities for young families.

**Sacramental Groups** – please pray for the children and young people, their families and the catechists in the First Confession and Holy Communion group and in the Confirmation group as they prepare for the sacraments with at-home lessons and online working.

We hope to arrange Confirmation in the mid-Summer, June/July when a Bishop is available.

**Youth Leader Course – Rise Up** - for any practising Catholic aged 15 (Year 11) to 21 who lives, works or studies in the Diocese of Westminster. Taking place from **September to December 2021**, You will be coached to give a 15-minute talk to an audience of your choice at the end of the project having chosen a subject matter you are passionate about. There is an opportunity to achieve a nationally recognised qualification, a Level 1 Certificate in Exploring Youth Work, through Need2Succeed (our training partner for *Rise Up*). Contact [dowym.com/voices/rise-up-youth-project-launching-december](http://dowym.com/voices/rise-up-youth-project-launching-december)

### **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.

### **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 the housebound, and those in residential care and in local hospices and hospitals and **the Faithful Departed**, Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.

**Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Holy Matrimony, via live-stream from Westminster Cathedral, on Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> May 2021 at 3.00pm**

The Cardinal will be celebrating a live-streamed Mass for all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2021. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy/parish office the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number if no email), and these details will be sent to those organizing this celebration. An Order of Service can be downloaded from the Cathedral website before the event – [www.westminstercathedral.org.uk](http://www.westminstercathedral.org.uk).

### **SANCTUARY LAMPS**

The Sanctuary Lamps are lit this week for:

Mrs Wickwar



If you would like to have a loved one's ar or thanksgiving commemorated in this way the 7 day lights are on sale in the Repository (£5) along with the label for the name of the person remembered and the date when the lamp should be placed in the Sanctuary. Please bring the lamp and label to the Sacristy.