



NEWSLETTER

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
8th / 9th MAY 2021

Catholic Church of St Mary Magdalen
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Website: www.stmarymagdalens.com
Email: whetstone@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Priest: Fr Gladstone Liddle
Secretary: Ursula Campbell

The Parish Office is now open

The office will be open from 9am – 12pm Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday. For the time being, special distance, face masks etc must be observed. Outside these hours contact the office by phone or email.

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

I would like to thank everyone who contributed to the Priest Training Fund collection last weekend. The response of prayer for vocations, love and concern for the clergy, and for the current seminarians, was heart-warming. If you still wish to make your donation, you will find envelopes at the back of the church or you can even donate online through the Diocese's website. The formation of priests is of top priority, as it is our future. May God Bless you for your generosity.

The amount collected in our parish was £454.08.

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 13th May – Ascension Day – and continue until noon on Sunday 16th May.

The Blessed Sacrament will be exposed from 8am – 8pm on Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and 8am – Noon on Sunday. Lists to sign to be in church during these times for prayer are in the porch.

In light of the recent letter from the Bishops, we ought to focus our prayer intentions during this 40 hours of prayer:-

- 1. For those who have suffered, died or been bereaved during this pandemic.*
- 2. For all who have worked to relieve suffering, hardship and isolation, especially in the health workers.*
- 3. For all who are fearful of returning to church and Mass, who have grown used to the habit of non-attendance or whose practice of the faith has become less important.*

Mass times

Saturday: 6.00pm,
Sunday: 9.00am,
11.00am,
4.00pm (in Polish)

Weekdays:

Mass 9.30am



Confessions

Saturday 10 – 10.30am
4.45 – 5.45pm

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.



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 150th Anniversary of the Proclamation of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church.



CAFOD

As coronavirus brings devastation across India, CAFOD is working with experienced local Church agency, Caritas India, to provide vital support to poor and marginalised communities. Donations to CAFOD's Coronavirus Appeal will help Caritas India distribute PPE kits to frontline health workers, promote COVID & vaccine awareness campaigns, and set up safely run isolation & quarantine centres. You can donate online here: cafod.org.uk/give. Please keep praying for the people of India and all those affected by the pandemic.

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.

Sacramental preparation for summer 2022 for children attending non-Catholic Schools – please contact Winnie Brady on 07702 094650 for details of preparation materials and to enrol your child ahead of next year's courses for First Sacraments and Confirmation.

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 recognized qualification, a Level1 Certificate in Exploring Youth work, through Need2Succeed (our training partner for Rise Up).

Contact 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 goes 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**.

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

The Cardinal will be celebrating a live-streamed Mass for all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (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.

CAFOD

The item in the Palm Sunday newsletter caught my eye which said that 2021 is a critical year as world leaders decide how we rebuild from the pandemic. It invited attendance to an online meeting with CAFOD to discuss how we can meet our MP as a parish group to try to encourage their support on the issues that have been identified. The information they shared about the ones they have prioritized as needing addressing was really good, as were the tips on how to hold a meeting with an MP (if they are agreeable). I don't know if anyone else from our parish attended the zoom, but I could forward the link of the recording of the CAFOD event if you'd like to learn more. I'm keen to pursue the idea of a meeting if anyone else is interested - so if you are contact me on 0208 368 5238 - Elsie Lyons.

Boxing Club

Mother's Prayers



Suspended until

further notice