



NEWSLETTER

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
23rd / 24th OCTOBER 2021

Catholic Church of St Mary Magdalen
Athenaeum Road N20 9AE Tel: 020 8445 0838
Website: www.stmarymagdalens.com
Email: whetstone@rcdow.org.uk
Parish Priest: Fr Gladstone Liddle
Secretary: Ursula Campbell ~ 9-12am, Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri

Live streaming access online:-

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

& click on the play button.

It is the individual's choice to wear masks, social distancing observed and if possible, places booked for the weekend Masses by logging on to:

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

Please also, if you are able to log in using the NHS app – available on the notice board in the church porch.

We have worked hard to ensure that our church is a safe environment and thank all those involved in fulfilling that.

November Devotion of the Holy Souls

Through the month of November, we particularly keep in our prayers those who have died. It is an important reminder that our relationship with them continues after they have gone to the Lord. Prayer and the offering of the Sacrifice of the Mass are spiritual gifts to our loved ones. We continue to cherish their memory and pray them onto heaven through the forgiveness of their sins, their final purification before the total joy of being with the saints.

During the month prayers will be said daily in the church and Masses offered. If you would like people to be included in these prayers there are envelopes etc at the church door. Please return to the Sacristy or Presbytery by the end of October.

New to the Parish

If over the last year or two you have moved into or joined the parish, we invite you to come along next Sunday 31st October at 12 noon in the hall.

Advent: - The Great Return

On Sunday 3rd October in a Pastoral Letter to the Diocese the Cardinal referred to the experience of the past 2 years as having seriously and profoundly disrupted parish life, calling for a refreshing of life in the Church.

The Season of Advent begins on Sunday 28th November. Advent firstly centres on the Return of Christ on the "Last Day" – His second coming.

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.



Then we move on to celebrate the preparations in Israel for His first coming and birth at Christmas.

For many years now, we have celebrated the start of the other greater period of preparation – Lent – with a party, carnival. In a similar way we are going this year to mark the start of Advent with a Parish celebration / party / get together. All are invited to come along to the Parish Hall on Saturday 27th November from midday until 4pm. There will be a barbeque, an outdoor marque, just in case the weather is not too good, and so that we can come together again as a parish community in a social way.

From that weekend, the Bishops of England and Wales have asked all Catholics to return to regular attendance of Sunday Mass. It has been a long time (2 years) without the regular rhythm in many Catholic lives. Other habits and activities may have crept in, replacing worship at Mass and being together with the people of God. Catholics are called by the Lord to be "Social" beings – the Body of Christ. Church – Ecclesia in Greek – means being "called to be together" with Him and one another, centred on the Eucharist. There is an ancient saying "The Church makes the Eucharist; the Eucharist makes the Church".

Advent – the Coming of Christ – is a great time to draw us back together again as brothers and sisters in Christ as we prepare again to celebrate His Birth.

We encourage you to accept this invitation for 27th November and hope you will be able to join us.

And while on the theme of returning, we have the joy of hoping that Freddie, the pony / "donkey", could well be with us on the return visit at the Christmas Vigil Nativity.

Friday Weekday Mass

At the recent Parish Council meeting it was proposed and accepted that from January the Mass on Friday will be at 12.30pm, beginning on Friday 7th January. If a Holy Day of Obligation falls on a Friday the Mass times will remain as 9.30am and 7pm.

Altar Servers

If you are interested in joining the team of servers and have made your First Holy Communion, you will find a form in the porch to fill in and return to Fr Gladstone, or the Sacristy or Presbytery.

We hope to begin training sessions quite soon.

Pray for Catchuman Ho Jee Man in his final weeks of preparation for baptism.

Small Community Faith-sharing resource "With a Father's Love" For personal or group use, providing a prayer-filled resource, for the closing weeks of the Year of Saint Joseph'. Cost £3. The booklets have now arrived and are available to be picked up after Mass this weekend.

Sacramental preparation for summer 2022 - Enrolment will close on 31st October - latecomers after this date will be asked to join the course in September 2022 - contact Winnie Brady at winniebrady@rcdow.org.uk or text 07702 094650 with your email address. Courses for this coming year began on Friday 17th / Sat 18th September

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.

Children's Liturgy

Since the resumption of Sunday morning Liturgies, Children's Liturgy has been both well attended and appreciated by parents with young children. So much so that it has been decided to celebrate Children's Liturgy during the Saturday (vigil) 6pm Mass. This is initially for a trial period until Christmas, in order to gauge interest. However, the hope is that things will continue into the New Year if all goes well.

As ever, there is a need for help with the Liturgy - please, don't be shy - YOUR talents and skills are needed! Contact Winnie Brady 07702 094650 if you'd like to help, please.

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** Lea Zucconi, Tony Lafferty, Ross Crawford, Barbara Oldham & Maureen Hayes.

Westminster Youth Ministry is holding an online Resonate evening on **28th October**, with the amazing Fr Kelvin who will be speaking to us about the **Joy of Friendship** topic! Please email youth@rcdow.org.uk if you wish to join. See <https://dowym.com/events/resonate-3/> for more details

A message from CAFOD: Thank you for supporting our Climate Crisis Appeal for our recent Family Fast Day. Every donation helps us in our work and is gratefully received. cafod.org.uk/climatecrisis Please pray for the success of the upcoming UN climate talks in Glasgow, COP26, from 31 October to 12 November. There are prayer cards at the back of church; please do take one and pray that that world leaders will put the needs of marginalised communities around the world, those most affected by climate change, right at the heart of these climate talks. For more information see cafod.org.uk/COP26 May the Holy Spirit inspire all political leaders at COP26 and instill in them the courage and gentleness to implement fairer solutions for the most vulnerable.

Ross Crawford, parishioner with his wife Betty for many years, has died. His funeral will be held at St Philip's Church, Gravel Hill, on Thursday, 28 October, at 12 midday.

Finchley Catholic High school Sixth Form Open Evening will take place on Thursday 11th November from 5.30 – 7.30pm. See noticeboard for more details.

Donate to Afghan Refugee Appeal

The Barnet Refugee Welcome Board (BRWB) who helped settle 50 Syrian refugees in Barnet over the past 5 years are now actively helping Afghani refugees who have arrived in UK and are waiting in 'Bridging Hotels' for local Councils to secure suitable housing. (If you have a 2-3 bed property in Barnet available for Afghani family to rent at LHA rates, secured by Barnet Council, we would LOVE to hear from you by email to reservepower@hotmail.com).

Most Afghanis arrived with only the summer clothes they stood up in. We are now urgently appealing for decent quality donations of following items (sizes: men / women / youths / children). If you are able to donate please phone the collection point to 'book in' your delivery to avoid finding the building unattended.

COATS & JACKETS deliver to FPS, 54 Hutton Grove, Finchley N12 8DR (0208 446 4063 – Pauline)

SHOES & TRAINERS deliver to FRS, Room 410, 184 Ballards Lane N3 2NB (07523 529219 – Anni)

TOILETRIES deliver to Quakers Meeting House, 56-58 Alexandra Grove, N12 8HG

soap shampoo, toothbrush, toothpaste, flannel etc. (07538 499 340 - Sarah)

Don't just feel helpless remembering the horrific scenes at Kabul airport, do something practical and helpful by donating surplus items needed by refugees living in our midst. Please do NOT bring assorted donations, we do not have capacity to sort and store, bring only what we specifically ask for above. We will ask for donations of other needed items later or cash donation to: https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/brwb_afghan Charity # 1132666

Elsie Lyons - 020 8368 5238

Boxing Club	}	Suspended until
Mother's Prayers		further notice