



Newsletter

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

13th / 14th APRIL 2024

Catholic Church of St Mary Magdalen

Athenaeum Road N20 9AE Tel: 020 8445 0838

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

Email: whetstone@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr Ben Woodley

Email: benwoodley@rcdow.org.uk

Secretary: Ursula Campbell ~ 9-12am, Mon, Tues, Wed & Fri

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TURN OFF YOUR MOBILE PHONE DURING MASS, THANK YOU

Mass times

Saturday: 6.00pm,
Sunday: 9.00am,
11.00am,
1.30pm (in Polish),
4.00pm (in Polish)

Weekdays:

Mass Mon – Thurs

& Sat 9.30am

Fri 12.30pm

Rosary: after weekday &
Sat 9.30am Masses

Adoration & Benediction

Saturday 4.45pm- 5.45pm

Confessions

Saturday 10.15 – 11.00am
4.45 – 5.40pm



Response: Lift up the light of your face on us, O Lord.

Mass Book Page No 262

Live streaming access online:-

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

& click on the play button.



Communion

Please lead from the **front** when coming to receive the Eucharist.

It may take a little time for us all to remember this change. So, please stay seated if there is a queue forming and you find it difficult to stand for periods.

"He then opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'So you see how it is written that the Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead'. On this the Third Sunday of Easter we are presented again with the **centrality**

of the Resurrection in the Christian Faith. The Resurrection pours eternal life, hope, and light into creation, do we truly seek to live in the Spirit of the Resurrection? We see, also, how the Resurrection is not a mere physical miracle, like Lazarus' being raised, but its full power resides in the destruction of the shame, guilt, and punishment due to sin; Saint John the Baptist is utterly perfect in his assessment, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (Jn 1: 29). The link between the victory of the Resurrection over sin is found in all three readings this Sunday.

In the Gospel, Jesus specifically mentions His rising on the third day and how this historical fact is alluded to in the Scriptures. Let us explore some of the possible places in the Old Testament which our Lord could have selected to teach how His Resurrection was prophesied after three days.

One reference leads us to consider Abraham and Isaac. As they ascend Mount Moriah, which you recall was the same mount where Jerusalem will be built (2 Chron 3:1) and where Jesus will be crucified, Genesis says "on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place afar off", for it is on the this third day that Abraham sees the place where his son will rise from his bondage on the sacrificial altar; where Isaac will be delivered from death. This episode from Genesis is so rich in meaning: the ram that is sacrificed has its head caught in thorns, in a thicket; Jesus' Sacred Head was caught in thorns, the crown of thorns, the final Lamb of God.

Another leads us to consider Jonah. In referring to rising on the third day, Jesus had previously referred to Jonah (Mt 12:39-40 & 16:4). Jonah died in the belly of the fish, descending to Sheol which is the place for the dead. We read from Jonah, "out of the belly of Sheol I cried, yet thou didst bring up my life from the Pit". After being vomited out of the belly of the fish, the Lord tells Jonah to arise, the Hebrew word is kum, as when Jesus tells Jairus' daughter to arise from the dead, "Talitha cumi". As Jonah arose from the dead after three days so the Lord Jesus arose from the dead on the third day.

And the Prophet Hosea. In Chapter six we read, "after two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him" (Hos 6:2). This reference refers to Israel being raised to a new life in the very mode of the Lord Himself. The Lord rose, body and soul, on the third day and He will bring into His presence all who choose to live in His forgiveness and life: 'Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life; he who believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and whoever lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?"' (Jn 11:25-26). Martha believes this, do we?

In these three texts, taken from the Old Testament, we see hints that point to Jesus being raised on the third day. Do you know others? Please do let me know. Again, though, what is **central** is that the Resurrection of Jesus is eternally tied to His dying for our sin and rising to offer us a share in His eternal life, given through the work of the Holy Spirit. We Christians are given His risen life in the Sacraments, how utterly incredible. Are we filling our homes, our workplaces, our hidden lives, our re-creation with this living and joyful truth? Are we living lives which sing of overflowing gratitude?

Fr Ben

Regina Caeli

- INSTEAD OF THE "HAIL MARY" DURING BIDDING PRAYERS THROUGH EASTER TIME



Re - gi - na cae - li lae - ta - re, al - le - lu - ia:

QUEEN OF HEAVEN RE JOICE



Qui - a quem me - ru - is - ti por - ta - re, al - le - lu - ia;

FOR HE WHOM YOU WORTHILY CARRIED



Re - sur - re - xit si - cut dix - it, al - le - lu - ia:

HAS RISEN EVEN AS HE SAID



O - ra - pro - no - bis De - um, al - le - lu - ia.

PRAY FOR US TO GOD

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 49 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 13 of whom are from our own Diocese. We also have one seminarian in Valladolid and one at the Beda, presently on pastoral placement in Ruislip. There are also two on a propaedeutic year at Redemptoris Mater. Last year 3 deacons were ordained for Westminster Diocese. The Priest Training 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 envelopes 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 use the QR code to make your donation online or visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity

Lunchtime party for Senior Citizens

Thank you to all who came and helped at the lunchtime party last weekend, and for your generous donations.

Easter Offering Envelopes are available at the back of the church. This is your Easter gift to the parish and is not taxed by the Diocese, so if you are going away please do use it. Thank you for your kindness, thoughtfulness and generosity throughout the year.

Planned Giving Envelopes 2024/2025 for existing users are available for collection in the Repository, and parish office when it is open. If you would like to have a set of planned giving envelopes for the new tax year, please let the parish office know. However, standing orders are the easiest way to contribute to the parish. Both planned giving envelopes and standing orders can allow your contributions to be Gift Aided. This means that the parish can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give. Details can be found at:

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/whetstone/wp-content/uploads/sites/80/2022/08/WHETS20.pdf> or

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/whetstone/donate/other-ways-to-give/>

Thank you for your incredible generosity whatever way you give.

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2024

If you can, please show your support for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal. All funds raised go towards projects across our Diocese. Each year, the Diocese uses donations made to support the work of our services, such as Marriage & Family Life; Youth Ministry, and Education. Funds are also used to support the work of Caritas Westminster, who work for and with some of the most vulnerable people in our Diocese. His Eminence, Cardinal Nichols, has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. So, please take a donation envelope today, for more information. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity.

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/jpc or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

Refreshments after 9.00am Mass

Please pop into the Parish Hall for tea, coffee and biscuits after 9.00 am Mass every Sunday, starting this Sunday. If you would like to help out and be put on the rota, please contact Anna Franchi on 07713 631389.

Easter-time Booklets for Children and Adults are available for collection in the Church porch and adjacent to the Font. Please leave a donation for the Adult booklets.

Pre-Sacramental Classes for Children who attend non-Catholic Schools will begin on Saturday, 20th April at midday in the Parish Hall. Names to Winnie Brady at winniebrady@rcdow.org.uk to register for your child.

(It is important to note that the Diocese of Westminster now asks for an extended period of preparation for the Sacraments for **all** who attend a non-Catholic school.)

Baptism

Parents wishing to have their child/children baptised are asked, in the first instance, to contact Fr Ben, or to speak to Winnie Brady, for details of the forthcoming Baptism preparation course, which is due to begin in the next few weeks. Regular attendance at Sunday Mass is a pre-requisite prior to preparation for and celebration of the Sacrament.

Parish Hall

Our Parish Hall is available for hire.

Book it for exercise or tutoring classes, children's parties, celebrations or meetings. Services can include hourly or all-day bookings with kitchen facilities. Please contact the Parish Secretary on 020 8445 0838 for details.

PRAY for those who are sick especially Deborah Longford-Ross, Luciana Maestranzi, Patricia Rutt, Nora Prior, Elsie & Paddy Lyons and Peter Carney. We also pray for the housebound, and those in residential care and in local hospices and hospitals and the Faithful Departed especially Peter Jackman, Bridget Gavigan & Lydia Thielamay.

Pay Car Park

Free Parking for Mass goers is:- **Saturday 5.30pm-7.30pm and on Sunday 8.30am-5.30pm**, we must adhere to them, even by a few minutes!

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

Hospital Admissions The religious status of patients admitted to hospital can be overlooked or not registered. Please make sure that this information is registered with the ward staff.

The **SVP** are distributing **over 10,000 Vinnie Packs** containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.20 per pack? Donations can be sent to **Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ** with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West **sort code 60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237**. Thank you so much for your support

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony - Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 25th May at 2:30pm.

The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass 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 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

Lourdes Pilgrimage 19th- 26th July 2024

Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols is now open via the application form on <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173. Options to travel by plane, train or coach are available and there are many volunteering opportunities for those wishing to serve.

All applications to join this year's pilgrimage need to be submitted by Tuesday 30th April.