



Newsletter

**PENTECOST SUNDAY
18TH / 19TH MAY 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 Book Page No 290

Mass times

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

Live streaming access online:-

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

& click on the play button.

Weekdays:

Mass Mon – Thurs

& Sat 9.30am

Fri 12.30pm

Rosary: after weekday &
Sat 9.30am Masses



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.

Adoration & Benediction

Saturday 4.45pm- 5.45pm

Confessions

Saturday 10.15 – 11.00am
4.45 – 5.40pm

Like Christmas and Easter, Pentecost once had an Octave, when every day, until the following Sunday, the daily Mass would be of the Solemnity of Pentecost. This former practice reveals the utterly necessary and pivotal role that the Holy Spirit exercises in the history of salvation and hence in our lives. From the opening words of the Holy Bible in Genesis the Holy Spirit is mentioned hovering over creation which was about to receive Light and order. The teaching point here is that the

Holy Spirit is the divine Person Who brings Life, the Love between Father and Son; the Creed names Him, "the Lord, the giver of life", He brings complete order. The Psalm response for both the Vigil Mass and the Mass during the Day is, "send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth" (Ps 103:30).

The first reading from the Vigil Mass is from Genesis, it is the story of man deciding to build for themselves, "a town and a tower with its top reaching heaven. Let us make a name for ourselves, so that we may not be scattered about the whole earth" (Gen 11:4), this tower came to be known as Babel, for the Lord confused their language and so they could not build successfully. Note how earlier in Genesis, 1:28, the Lord had commissioned Adam and Eve to, "be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth", but here we see that man has chosen not to fill the earth but to puff themselves up in their own achievements, in their own name, become proud. The Lord, Who longs for us to walk with Him, puts an end to man's proud projects, waiting until the fullness of time when He will send the Spirit Who will write His law on our hearts, Who will, "renew the face of the earth", Who will bring different languages together and they will understand each other in Him.

The first reading from the Mass during the Day is taken from the Day of Pentecost. In this historical event, the Holy Spirit comes down upon the Apostles and they speak to the large array of different nations gathered together in Jerusalem each in their own tongues, despite the Apostles not previously knowing these languages. This is a great miracle. Many hearts and minds are opened by this miracle to hear the great works of God, which culminated in the Ascension of the Lord Jesus Christ. If we wish to build a tower that will reach to heaven, it can only be done in the power of the Spirit, in the Life which He breathes into us, the Life of Jesus, the God man.

And now we reach the zenith of the Holy Spirit's mission: to bring us into the life of God, through Jesus Christ. From the moment when man and woman are banished from the Garden of Eden, for they might disobey yet again and eat from the tree of Life and thus remain for all eternity estranged from God in sin, the Lord has constantly been preparing His people to receive the Good News of the eternal Son, the eternal Word, born in our flesh from the Blessed Ever-Virgin Mary: Jesus - fully God and fully man. In the Gospel for the Vigil Mass Jesus is prophesying the moment when water will flow from His sacred pierced side, the sacrificed Lamb of God - this water made holy by the Spirit, is offered to us in holy Baptism. In the Gospel during the Day, Jesus bequeaths the Spirit of peace upon the Apostles, for only in Him have heaven and earth been reconciled. Jesus also breathes the Spirit upon them to forgive sins in His name, for, again, He is the living reconciliation between God and creation. The Holy Spirit alone brings life from heaven, made possible by the crucified and risen Saviour, Jesus. Every gift we receive, every call to pray and ask for forgiveness is the work of the Lord, the giver of life, the Holy Spirit. As the Holy Spirit overshadowed the Blessed Ever-Virgin Mary at the Incarnation, may He, too, hover over us with His love, power, and renew each of us.

Regina Caeli

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

Fr Ben

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

Please Note on **Thursday 23rd May Mass** will be at **9.00am.**

New Mandatory Lectionary

From Advent 2024, we will have a new mandatory lectionary, which has been approved by our Bishops' Conference. This means that the readings we hear proclaimed at Holy Mass will have a different translation from the one to which we have all become accustomed. In preparing for this change, we will need to purchase a large quantity of liturgical books: four volumes for the Ambo, four smaller study volumes for everyday use, a new processional book of the Gospel, and people's Holy Mass books. In time, when amounts become clearer, it would be a worthy cause for us to consider how we might each donate, according to our means, to this necessary and sacred work. Thank you for your consideration, God bless you. Fr Ben.

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.

CAFOD Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal

Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal at cafod.org.uk/ipc 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 Please email 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. 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 Sebastian Carney, 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.

St Michael's Catholic Grammar School Secondary Transfer Entrance tests take place in September. Applications have to be completed by **2nd July 2024**. Full details of open day and admission process <https://www.stmichaels.barnet.sch.uk/home/admissions/admissions-2025-26/>

Please email Fr Ben if you need a Certificate of Catholic Practice. The form states that the child and their family are a practicing Catholic family. The definition of 'practicing Catholic' is that the family attend Mass each week and that they attend Mass on Holy Days of Obligation.

Staff vacancies at St Michael's Catholic Grammar school can be found at:

<https://www.st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk/home/school/staff-vacancies-and-train-with-us/>

Finchley Catholic High are holding a Secondary Transfer Evening on **Tuesday 10th September** from 5pm -7.30pm Headteacher talks will be at 5pm and 7pm.

Film – A Journey to Lourdes

Mary Immaculate & St Gregory the Great parish will be showing the film 'A Journey to Lourdes' with an introduction by His Eminence Cardinal George Basil Hume OSB on **Thursday 23rd May** after 10am Mass in the JP11 Room. All welcome, proceeds for the Youth SVP Pilgrimage Fund.