



# Newsletter

THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

24<sup>TH</sup> / 25<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2024

Catholic Church of St Mary Magdalen

Athenaeum Road N20 9AE Tel: 020 8445 0838

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

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Parish Priest: Fr Ben Woodley

Email: [benwoodley@rcdow.org.uk](mailto: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 83**

## 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

Over the past two Sundays we have had the great joy of seeing our children, our own flesh and blood, receive Holy Communion. Their created bodies and souls have received the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of the eternal Son in heaven. Before this holy, great, and sacred moment, every child made their

first Confession. The Sacrament of Confession with regards to being prepared to receive the Body and Blood of Jesus in Holy Communion is strongly to be recommended and essential at times, particularly when we consider Saint Paul's teaching in his letter to the Corinthians, "whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of profaning the body and blood of the Lord", (1 Cor 11:27).

This Sunday we will rejoice in the gift of another Sacrament: the Sacrament of Confirmation. At the Baptism of our children, the parents and Godparent(s) made promises to the Lord that they would bring their children up in the Faith, by example, practice, and teaching. The weekly attendance at Mass is central and is of divine command. In the Ten Commandments we are commanded to keep the weekly Sabbath holy (Ex 20:8-11); Jesus Himself would have observed this Commandment – Jesus, Who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, (Jn 14:6). In instituting the New Eternal Covenant at the Last Supper, Jesus commanded us to do this in memory of Him, and every Sunday is the Day of Resurrection when we come to Church full of expectation and the gift of Faith which we have nurtured during the joy and trials of the preceding week.

When our young children reach the age of First Holy Communion, they will have seen by example the importance of going to Mass, the heavenly joy and beauty which is at the heart of the Faith, even when life can and will challenge us. There will be times when obedience to the Lord and God's saving and loving Commandments will need to be consciously chosen over some of our desires and hobbies, particularly hobbies which can take place during the Vigil and Sunday Masses. This living example will lead the growing young adult to freely choose the Sacrament of Confirmation. For in this Sacrament they make a public act of declaration that they wish to observe the teachings and Commandments of the Lord as a Catholic adult. They choose this for they have given greater and greater time to the Holy Spirit, Who is calling them to enter into a relationship with Father and the Son, Whose love and friendship is, indeed, treasure in heaven.

If, for whatever reason, there have been times when we have fallen away from the privilege of practising the Faith, when we have chosen different paths, let us still remember the unchanging divine importance of following the Commandments. Moses, in the first reading from Deuteronomy, and Jesus in Saint Matthew's Gospel teach us that we are to follow the Commandments. To receive the Holy Eucharist, to partake of Holy Communion, does require us to follow Jesus' Way, His Commandments. He is the Word, He is the Shepherd, He is Lord. The Sacrament of Confession is the Lord's open heart waiting to hear each of us say truly say sorry, and to receive His grace, which alone makes us worthy to receive Him in Holy Communion. The Catholic life, which is the Christian life in its fullest manifestation, is an invitation to enter Love. God, Who is love, heals, forgives, strengthens, embraces, tests, teaches, adores each one of us, but like any true friendship or demanding hobby, we must commit. The joys and rewards are out of this world. There is nothing greater in all eternity than being a Catholic, let us pick up our cross, which is really the tree of life, and walk.

Fr Ben

## **First Communion and Confirmation**

*We are in the period of celebrating several sacraments. Two weeks ago, we began a period of Sundays at the 11am Mass when young people received the Lord Jesus in Holy Communion for the first time. This weekend we welcome Bishop John Sherrington, as our candidates receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. Next Sunday, Corpus Christi, the children who made their first Confession and received First Holy Communion will gather in thanksgiving and in procession.*

In 2 weeks' time there will be a **Mary's Meals Recycling Box** in the church for you to put the following unwanted items into. Please only donate what's on this list - anything else may incur a charge.

**Jewellery & watches:** In any material even if damaged or broken

**Electronics\*** Mobile phones/iPads/Tablets/  
Sat-Navs/MP3 players/Games  
consoles

**Cameras:** Old film/Digital/Video

Currently Mary's Meals feeds over 2.4 million young children one good meal every day in their place of education - by giving Mary's Meals the above items you can help feed the next hungry child.

\* Please remove all data from mobiles/ipads etc

### **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.

**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](https://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.

**Pre-Sacramental Classes for Children who attend non-Catholic Schools** Please email the Presbytery at [whetstone@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:whetstone@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.)

**Friends of the Holy Land** would like to thank all parishioners for the church collection of £2,115.31, for Christians in the Holy Land. Your donation will help us to support the most vulnerable at this very challenging time. Please continue to pray for the Holy Land and a peaceful resolution.

### **Baptism**

Parents wishing to have their child/children baptised are asked, in the first instance, to contact Fr Ben. 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, Peter Carney and Winnie Brady. 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.