

Presbytery

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Parish Clergy

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Parish Office

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ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

SEPTEMBER—MONTH OF
THE SORROWFUL MOTHER

03 SEPTEMBER 2017

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A

Mass Times

Monday—Thursday: 9:30am

Friday: 9:30am,
6:30pm

Saturday: 9:30am, 6:30pm (Vigil
Mass of Sunday)

Sunday: 9:00am, 10:30am,
12:00 noon, 6:30pm

Sinhalese Mass

Last Sunday of the month: 4:30pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Weekdays: One hour before
morning Mass

Saturday: 8:30pm—9:30am
5:30pm—6:15pm

First Friday: 7:00pm—8:00pm

Confessions

Saturday: 10:00am—10:30am
5:30pm—6:15pm

And Then There Was One

This week, there is one name under “Parish Clergy.” From the newsletters and yearbook of 2011 (when I arrived here six long years ago), while the Mass attendance and collection are the same as today, there were also Fr Rohitha, Fr Kieran and Deacon Michael. How things change. Hopefully this is temporary although two cardinals and the High Commissioner have so far failed to iron out the visa difficulties Fr Daya’s intended replacement is experiencing. Please pray for him as he is getting extremely frustrated.

However, could we cope if it stayed like this? Indeed, if and when he gets here, the Sinhalese-speaking Sri Lankan chaplain's responsibilities have grown so much that he is away a great deal. Thus we might think like a parishioner who asked why, with a church seating 400 and a Mass attendance of 1100, there are five Masses to fulfil the Sunday obligation? In most parts of the country outside London one priest runs two or three churches between 5 and 15 miles apart and has one Mass in each on a Sunday—he literally drops in to dispense the Sacraments. We are greatly blessed to have clergy in the capital from overseas to maintain our taken-for-granted schedule and they are missionaries to us now that indigenous vocations are not being encouraged. But even those communities, like the Divine Word and Montfort Missionaries in our parish, have reduced in number and our pool of supply priests is heavily reliant on those long-retired.

In the great words of Douglas Adams, this can be viewed as an SEP—someone else’s problem—and this is particularly true if we are not suited, for whatever reason, to the priesthood. But there are all sorts of things that anyone can do. Before the summer, many new people volunteered to help with cleaning the church, washing the altar linen, welcoming, counting the collection, making tea and coffee, looking after the garden and so on. Over the holidays, with people away, this became a bit hit and miss. Did you volunteer? Did you collect your rota? Have you lost it? Do you have the contact details of other people to swap with when you can’t make it on your day? Is it still possible for you to help in this way every couple of months? Do you need to ask us to take your name off the list? God bless you for offering in the first place. And there is always room for more volunteers in those and new areas such as an evening Mass sacristy team.

Whitesnake sang “Here I go again on my own”, and I’m fine with that. But if we all moved God and His Church slightly up our list of priorities for each day it would mean two things. Firstly, the tasks for which many of you are far more suitably qualified than me could be done better. More importantly, I could do more of the things for which I was ordained and for which the Cardinal sent me here to you in the first place. *Fr Kevin*

Those who have died recently: Margaret Lyons, Anne Maria Hewitt, Joaquina Muteca

Those who are sick: John Burke, Nina Smith

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: John Guckian, Andy & Kitty Costello

Those Baptised: Anaiyah-Rose Bailey, Senon Anthony Kuranage Perera, Nathan Mevan Fernando
Mihindukulasooriya

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £1,468.48 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much for your generosity.

Counting the Collection . If you can spare a couple of hours every six weeks, please talk to Father Kevin. We need to replace two members of one team. Full training will be given.

Parish Database has been deleted. As such, *everyone* should complete a new parish registration form. Forms can be found in the racks as you enter the side porch and on each pillar at the back of the church. Completed forms should be handed to the parish office or posted through the door of the presbytery.

Roman Catholic Secondary School and Sixth Form Applications. On 9, 10, 12, and 23 October 2017 Fr Kevin will be available to sign the Certificate of Catholic Practice for those who attend Mass here every week and have done so for some years. Newer parishioners should bring a letter from their previous parish. Please telephone the parish office this week between 10:00am and 2:00pm, Tuesday to Thursday, to make an appointment.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will not take place before Mass on Wednesday mornings until further notice. We apologise for any inconvenience this might cause.

Parish Council meets this Thursday. Parishioners are warmly invited to submit items for discussion via the parish office.

Stitch Amazingly Sewing Workshop. Would you like to learn how to be creative with fabrics and a sewing machine or are you even a budding fashion designer? Why not take that first step and join the *Stitch Amazingly* sewing workshops here at St Mary Magdalen's? Sessions will be recommencing on Saturdays from 23 September until 28 October 2017, 11:00am to 1:00pm. There is a 10% discount for new students who sign up by 16 September via email only at info@stitchamazingly.co.uk. To book for sessions please visit the website www.stitchamazingly.co.uk or telephone Glenda Brady on 07739 707 564.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham, led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols and the auxiliary bishops, takes place on Saturday 7 October 2017. We have booked a coach which will leave the church at 7:00am and arrive back about 8:00pm. Cost is £20 per person. If you would like to go, please hand in at the parish office for *each* pilgrim 1.) their name, 2.) their contact details, 3.) the contact details for a next-of-kin, and 4.) the full fare. Seats will be allocated as the applications and monies come in but if the cost is prohibitive do have a word with Father Kevin as funding is available to ensure no-one is excluded.

Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: For You my soul is thirsting, O Lord my God.
 Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our mind, so that we can see what hope His call holds for us. Alleluia!

Diocesan News

Lord, Teach Us to Pray takes place on Fridays from 8—29 September, 7:00pm—8:30pm, facilitated by MSJC team members, at the Mount Street Jesuit Centre, 114 Mount Street, W1K 3AH. On each evening of this short course participants will be introduced to and guided through a way of praying that they will then be able to make their own – deepening their own relationship with God. For full details please visit the website at pathwaysto-god.org or telephone 020 7495 1673.

Romero, El Salvador and Harvest Fast Day nMeetings this September. "We plant the seeds that one day will grow." You are invited to join *CAFOD* on either Saturday 9 September in Lambeth or Saturday 16 September at Oakwood for an inspiring meeting. Both meetings will include first hand accounts of our work in El Salvador by Clare Dixon from our Latin America team. Clare has been playing a major part in *CAFOD's* work to keep up work begun in Blessed Oscar Romero's time to ensure that the voice of the poor and persecuted is not silenced in El Salvador. Both meetings will commence at 10:00am. For further information or to book email westminster@cafod.org.uk or telephone 020 8449 6970.

Beginning Experience. There is a healing weekend for men and women who find themselves single again following separation, divorce or the death of a partner taking place from 6—8 October 2017 at the Emmaus Centre, West Wickham, Kent. For further details please telephone Freda 01322 838 415 or Sandra 01293 783 965 or John on 01992 642 443 or email at johnbrother-ton@hotmail.co.uk

New Foundation Degree for Catholics working in Healthcare and those seeking to be Chaplains. Starting in October, St Mary's University Twickenham is pleased to offer a new foundation degree in Healthcare Ethics, Theology and Care. This is a part-time two year programme for those seeking to be hospital chaplains and for people working in healthcare settings from care homes to hospices and hospitals. Lectures and seminars take place at St Mary's one evening a week and additional lectures and resources are available online. If you are interested in applying or finding out more please contact matthew.james@stmarys.ac.uk.

Parish Diary

Wednesday	8:00pm	Pioneers—Annexe
Thursday	7:15pm	Padre Pio Group—Annexe
Thursday	8:00pm	Parish Pastoral Council—Presbytery
Friday	7:00pm	Knights of St Columba—Annexe
Saturday	3:00pm—5:00pm	'The Feast London' - a Catholic prayer meeting of the Light of Jesus Family— Annexe