

Presbytery

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ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH SEPTEMBER - MONTH OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER YEAR B

27 SEPTEMBER 2015

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Star in an Average—Priced Car

My last parish was directly under the final approach to RAF Northolt which afforded me some spectacular views of various aircraft such as the Battle of Britain Memorial Flight and the Queen's Flight. One of the most memorable (and noisy) was three massive United States' Air Force transport planes coming in before the arrival of President Obama some years ago. Their cargo was the presidential motorcade one of which famously was grounded atop a speed hump in Whitehall. How refreshing then to see Pope Francis in a Fiat 500 wedged between enormous Secret Service armoured four-wheel drive vehicles. But of course, the media merely picks up these images and doesn't relay a lot of what the Holy Father says. With that in mind, here is a snippet from his address to the Bishops of the United States to which we should all pay heed:

"I encourage you, then, to confront the challenging issues of our time. Ever present within each of these issues is life as gift and responsibility. The future freedom and dignity of our societies depends on how we face these challenges.

"The innocent victim of abortion, children who die of hunger or from bombings, immigrants who drown in the search for a better tomorrow, the elderly or the sick who are considered a burden, the victims of terrorism, wars, violence and drug trafficking, the environment devastated by man's predatory relationship with nature – at stake in all of this is the gift of God, of which we are noble stewards but not masters. It is wrong, then, to look the other way or to remain silent. No less important is the Gospel of the Family, which in the World Meeting of Families in Philadelphia I will emphatically proclaim together with you and the entire Church.

"These essential aspects of the Church's mission belong to the core of what we have received from the Lord. It is our duty to preserve and communicate them, even when the tenor of the times becomes resistant and even hostile to that message (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 34-39). I urge you to offer this witness, with the means and creativity born of love, and with the humility of truth. It needs to be preached and proclaimed to those without, but also to find room in people's hearts and in the conscience of society. To this end, it is important that the Church...also be a humble home, a family fire which attracts men and women through the attractive light and warmth of love."

And so I ask you to consider signing up to work with the agencies of the Bishops Conference of England and Wales who will assist the government in the resettlement of refugee families in our land or *SPUC*. Full details are on the back page and may each of us do our part—however average or small—to make our humble home in the Church attractive with the light and warmth of our love to those who are most in need. *Fr Kevin*

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: 8:30am—9:30am
5:30pm—6:15pm

First Friday 7:00pm—8:00pm

Confessions

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

Those who are sick: Josephine Nylon, John Sheedy, Anthony Butler, Jack Rodrigues

Those who have died recently: Gary Smith

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Agnes Harrison

Those Baptised : Amelia Bonnick, Finnley Mikolay Chapman

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £1,922.56 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much and may God bless you for your generosity.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Rotas. New rotas are now available for collection from the rack in the sacristy.

Ashford Place. The monthly collection of non perishable food stuffs only, for Ashford Place, takes place this weekend.

Secondary School Priest's Reference Forms. Please telephone the Parish Office next week, Tuesday to Friday, between 10:00am and 2:00pm to arrange an appointment.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day is Friday, 2 October 2015. Your support and donations to CAFOD this Harvest Fast Day will enable our partners to work with people across the world to have access to tools and training, and empower them to become self-sufficient despite living in the most difficult of conditions. Additionally, your donations this Fast Day will be used to fund our partners work in Europe and the Middle East to support those affected by the refugee crisis. Please collect a Fast Day envelope and prayer card at Mass, and consider fasting and praying in solidarity this Friday. Please return the Fast Day envelope with your donation and place in next weekend's collection. Thank you.

Stitch Amazingly Sewing Workshop. Are you someone who would like to learn 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 *Stitch Amazingly's* sewing workshops at St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Church in Willesden Green. Places are limited. New sessions will be running on Tuesdays from 20 October until 24 November 2015 at 7:00pm to 8:30pm and Saturdays from 31 October until 5 December 2015 at 2.30pm to 4:00pm. If you would like to know more, please contact Glenda Brady on 07739 707 564 or visit the website at info@glendaluke.co.uk Please also see the poster at the back of the church.

The Church of The Transfiguration has organised a coach trip to France on 28 November 2015. An invitation is extended to the parishioners of St Mary Magdalen Parish to join. There are 15 places available which would be allocated on a first come first served basis. The cost is £43 per person travelling via the *Euro Tunnel*. The Coach will leave from The Church of The Transfiguration at 4:50am and return to The Transfiguration at 9:00pm. A valid visa to enter Britain or a valid EU passport is required before boarding the coach. For full details of the trip and for bookings please contact Bertha on 07748 727 629 or email bertha.joseph5@gmail.com.

Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart.

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth. Alleluia!

Funeral Notices

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late John Francis Guckian of Churchill Road will take place on Tuesday 29 September 2015 at 11:00am followed by burial at Willesden New Cemetery at 12:30pm

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late Mary Teresa 'Maimie' Hall, formerly of Chambers Lane, will take place on Thursday 1 October 2015 at 11:00am followed by burial at Kensal Green Cemetery at 12:30pm

May they rest in peace

Diocesan News

Caritas Westminster refugee crisis. Following the announcement that the UK will accept 20,000 Syrian refugees over the next five years, Caritas Westminster are coordinating assistance for refugees in line with Cardinal Nichols' and Archbishop Smith's pledge to work with the government. Although the government is developing a framework for supporting the arrival of Syrian refugees, as a Church we need to be prepared to welcome vulnerable and newly arrived people into our communities in the form of practical support for refugees. These services will include, but are not limited to: help with languages, including interpreting and ESOL (English as a second language teaching); legal advice; medical services; befriending; basic necessities such as clothing, shoes, toiletries, food parcels, toys etc. Could any potential volunteers please record their details on the spread sheet on the table at the back of the church today? Once we know the kind of assistance the parish is able to provide, Caritas will be able to develop an effective strategy which makes use of the resources available. Caritas will regularly update their website at www.rcdow.org.uk/caritas with developments and their response to the crisis. In the meantime, we would ask you to continue to monitor the refugee crisis in the news, and to pray for the safety and security of people caught up in the flight from Syria and all global conflicts.

The Society for the Protection of unborn Children needs volunteers help with labelling and packing letters at their office in Kennington. Lunch provided and fares reimbursed. Please contact Elizabeth Foody on 020 7091 7091 or lizfoody@spuc.org.uk.

Parish Diary

Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group meeting in the Annexe
Tuesday	7:00pm-8:30pm	<i>Stitch Amazingly</i> sewing workshop in the Annexe
Wednesday	5:00pm-6:00pm	Post—Confirmation Group for girls meeting in the Annexe
Saturday	1:00pm-2:00pm	Children's Play and Prayer Group in the Annexe
Saturday	2:30pm-4:00pm	<i>Stitch Amazingly</i> sewing workshop in the Annexe