

## Presbytery

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## Parish Clergy

Father Kevin Jordan  
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Seminarian Tim Mangatal  
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## Parish Office

[willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk)



## ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

OCTOBER—MONTH OF  
THE HOLY ROSARY  
22 OCTOBER 2017

29TH 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: 8:30am—9:30am  
5:30pm—6:15pm

First Friday: 7:00pm—8:00pm

## Confessions

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

## *What actually belongs to Caesar?*

One of the most memorable quotes of Jesus can be found in today's Gospel— "Render therefore to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God, the things that are God's."

Jesus offers a disarmingly pragmatic response to a rather contentious political dilemma. What then can we learn from Jesus' quick-witted reply?

If we re-read the quote, we would soon arrive at the stark and radical response Jesus actually offers to the Pharisees, Herodian's and indeed ourselves.

When we start from the premise that God created the heavens and the earth, we can conclude almost immediately that in fact nothing actually belongs to Caesar, on the contrary, everything belongs to God.

As St. Paul reminds us in his letter to the Colossians "For in Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him." (Col 1:16)

If we were to approach this passage from a legal standpoint as opposed to divine hierarchy, we can appreciate that it was a lawful requirement for the Emperor's subjects to pay what is 'due' to him, in other words 'tax' which many of us, I am sure, simply cannot wait to pay!

However, even from an argument of good governance, the apostle Paul reminds us in his letter to the Romans "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God." (Rom 13:1)

We therefore can conclude, both from an argument of divine authority and from a legal perspective that nothing actually belongs to Caesar.

If our faith, as it stands equates to simply paying God his 'due' then our faith becomes nothing but a tick box exercise. This is not faith at all, but rather an arduous and superficial time-waster.

Jesus reminds us that God desires not just a 'part' of us but indeed 'all' of us, for He created, loves, and sent His only Son to redeem us in the sure hope that we would return to Him.

*Seminarian Tim*

**Those who have died recently:** Norah Govender

**Those who are sick:** Martin Dolan, Joe Regan

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Alice Minogue, Santana & Queteria

Mascascharenhs, Ann & Tom Hennessy, Mary Carroll McMenemy, Frances Delaney, Rose Glanton, James Martin

## Parish News

**Collection.** Last week's collection was £2,248.52 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much for your generosity.

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

**The Family of the late Margaret 'Ita' O'Neill** would like to thank most sincerely all those who have given them support, expressed their sympathy and sent Mass cards. A Mass will be offered for your intentions on Sunday 21 January 2018 at 12 noon.

**Altar Linen Rota.** A new rota is now available for collection from the rack in the Sacristy.

**Gardening Rota.** A new rota is now available for collection from the rack in the Sacristy.

**Cleaning Rota.** The latest cleaning rota has been amended. Would all cleaners please pick up a revised rota from the rack in the Sacristy. Apologies for any inconvenience this may cause.

**Tea and coffee.** You are welcome in the Annexe after the 9:00am and 10:30am Masses when we will be serving drinks.

**Mass Leaflets.** Please return these—they're running out again!

**Solemnity of All Saints.** Wednesday 1 November 2017 is the Solemnity of All Saints, a Holiday of Obligation when we must attend Mass - not to do so is the same as missing Mass on a Sunday, a mortal sin. There will be Mass at 9:30am as usual and also at 7:00pm when the wonderful Byron Consort from Harrow School (under the direction of Philip Evans who played the organ for the Cardinal's visit in 2014) will sing. The poster at the back of the church gives details of the music for the Mass. Do put this date in your diaries as a magnificent way to celebrate all those unknown to us who have been found worthy of a place in the Kingdom of Heaven and ask their prayers to help gain for us the same reward.

**All Souls' Day** will be celebrated on Thursday 2 November 2017 with Masses at 9:30am and 6:30pm. During November four Masses a week will be said for the Holy Souls. Please write the names of your deceased relatives and friends on one of the sheets which can be found on the table at the back of the church, place the sheet in the envelope provided along with any offering you might like to make, and post it through the inner presbytery letterbox or give it to one of the clergy.

**St Mary Magdalen Parish Special Needs Group** will be holding a 'Race Night' on Saturday 11 November 2017 at the Willesden Working Men's Club, Villiers Road commencing at 7:00pm. All monies raised from the evening will be used to pay for a Christmas lunch and gifts for people in and around the parish with learning disabilities. All are welcome to this wonderful event including children.

**Bethany Bereavement Group Mass** for all those whose funerals have taken place in the parish, particularly in the past year, will be celebrated at 7:30pm on Friday 17 November 2017. All are welcome to come and offer the greatest prayer we have—the Mass—for their deceased loved ones.

## Diocesan News

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the passing of the Abortion Act.** On Friday 27 October there will also be a Prayer Vigil in the Cathedral in the form of a Holy Hour immediately following the 5:30pm Mass, which will be celebrated by Bishop John Sherrington. This marks the 50th Anniversary of the Abortion Act 1967 passing through Parliament. Please note the date and join in the Church's prayer for the unborn and for those who have undergone abortions during these years.

**Love Heals Body Mind and Spirit Team** welcome you to come to a one day Retreat of quiet Reflection on Saturday 28 October 2017 at 11:00am—5:00pm at the Catholic Church of our Lady of Assumption and St Gregory, Warwick Street, Piccadilly, W1F 9JR. For further information please either email at loveheals-bodymindspirit@gmail.com or telephone Eileen or David Brum on 020 8542 2476. Please also see the poster at the back of the church for full details of the programme.

**The Privilege of Proclaiming the Word.** A study evening for parish readers and anyone else interested takes place on Thursday 16 November 2017, 7:00pm—8:30pm at Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, SW1P 1QN. The facilitator is Sr Karen Marguerite d'Artois OP. Registration is required. Email via living-faith@rcdow.org.uk and indicate your name and the date of the event. If you do not have access to the Internet, please leave a voice message on 020 7931 6078. Suggested donation £4 per talk. Please see the poster at the back of the church.

**This is My Body.** A study evening for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and anyone interested takes place on Thursday 23 November 2017, 7:00pm—8:30pm at Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, SW1P 1QN. The facilitators are Sr Anne Walsh OP and Sr Karen Marguerite d'Artois OP. Registration is required. Email via livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk and indicate your name and the date of the event. If you do not have an access to the Internet, leave a voice message on 020 7931 6078. Suggested donation £4 per talk. Please see the poster at the back of the church.

## Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: Give the Lord glory and power.

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

## Parish Diary

Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group—Annexe
Thursday	7:15pm	SVP-Annexe
Saturday	3:00pm—5:00pm	'The Feast London' - a Catholic prayer meeting of the Light of Jesus Family— Annexe