

Presbytery

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ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

OCTOBER - MONTH OF
THE HOLY ROSARY
YEAR B

18 OCTOBER 2015

29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

CPD

During the week the three Year 3 classes St Mary's Magdalen's school came to our morning Mass, and as October is the month of the Most Holy Rosary, and each child received a rosary which was blessed by Fr Daya. Fr Daya engaged them in dialogue and taught them a simple prayer to say each morning with the first 4 steps they take after getting out of bed; with each of the four steps they were to say the four word prayer 'Jesus I love you'. He told them that they should carry the rosary in their pockets and at night put it under their pillow. It is always a great delight to hear children's questions. One child asked about what would happen if the tooth fairy took his rosary during the night and another a similar question but involving a leprechaun. Children have such simple faith and are trusting believing all that is told to them.

And that brings me to the title of this editorial. The medical and military professions love abbreviations and CPD stands for 'Continuing Professional Development' which I am sure many at work are now required to do to make sure that they keep up to date with new developments in their field of work. But how often do we do CPD of our faith? How many of us received their last teaching about the faith at their first Holy Communion or Confirmation preparation courses? Yes we hear the weekly sermons, but is that enough? At our baptism and specifically at our confirmation we were commissioned to go out and bring others to Christ. One of the four ending dialogues which can be used at Mass is 'Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord' to which all answer 'Thanks be to God'. But how confident are we in telling others about our faith?

It is only in the last few decades that we have encountered an aggressive anti-religious atheism with books like 'The God delusion'. Only last week I heard a piece on the radio about Muslim culture and how denying your faith would mean you were ostracised by your family, and yet a young lady said that it was by reading Richard Dawkins 'The God delusion' that she realized that there was no God, but despite revealing this on national radio had still not revealed her lapse from her faith to her family.

Atheists do ask difficult questions: 'If there is a loving God why is there so much evil in the world?' Starting tomorrow (Monday 19th) we will be running a 6 week DVD series by Fr (now bishop) Robert Barron addressing these very questions and presenting explanations from the rich tradition of our faith on our understanding of God and hopefully give us some confidence in talking to people who do have these genuine questions about the God we believe in. Sadly their idea of God, and very likely ours too, is very different from the Church's understanding of God. All are invited. Mondays starting at 7:00pm.

Deacon Michael

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 Niland, John Thornton

Those who have died recently: Usha Patel, Stafford Kisito Isaacs

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Antonio Joao Fernandes, Anna Hennessy, Thomas Hennessy, Alice Minogue, Mary Stenhouse, Michael Clifford

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £1,940.42 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much for your generosity.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day Collection which took place on the weekend of the 3/4 October 2015 has raised £531.30 to date. Thank you for your kind donations.

The Family of the late John Guckian wishes to thank all the kind people who expressed their sympathy, sent Mass cards, flowers and called to the house following the loss of John. A special thank you to Fr Kevin, and to John Gallagher who played the organ at the funeral service. A Mass will be offered for your intentions.

The Family of the late Patricia Thomas would like to thank all those who expressed their sympathy and sent Mass cards and flowers following the death of their Mother. Please keep the family in your prayers.

Annual Pioneer Rally takes place this weekend, Sunday 18 October 2015 commencing with Mass at St Agnes Church, 35 Cricklewood Lane, NW2 1HR, at 3:00pm, followed by a social and buffet. Admission is £10. For enquiries and tickets please telephone 020 8459 6952.

Magdala the parish magazine will be on sale after all Masses this weekend. Articles include Fr Prasad's farewell, and 'What should we do with ashes after cremation'? There are also photos from our schools summer fairs, including Fr Kevin in the stocks!

Adult Faith Formation program—'The Mystery of God'. We will be running a 6 week DVD and discussion course starting on Monday 19 October 2015 at 7:00pm in the Annexe. Atheism is on the rise and people like Richard Dawkins and Christopher Hitchens vigorously attack belief in God as irrational, or worse, dangerous through books such as 'The God Delusion' and 'God Is Not Great'. How should we respond? The DVD series will present a clear yet sophisticated understanding of what we mean by "God". Who is God? And why does he matter? We will not only learn the answers ourselves, but discover how to share them with others - especially those who no longer believe. There is an optional study guide accompanying this program (cost \$25 – about £16), and if you wish to buy this please give your name to Deacon Michael. Full details of the series and a sample lesson from the study guide can be found on our parish website at rcdow.org.uk/parish/willesdengreen under the 'Events' menu.

Nursery, Infant, Primary and Secondary School, Priest's

Reference Forms. Please telephone the Parish Office, Tuesday to Friday, 10:00am and 2:00pm, to arrange an appointment.

St Mary Magdalen's Wednesday Club 'Bring and Buy' sale will take place on Wednesday 21 October 2015, 1:30pm to 3:00pm in order to raise funds. There will also be a raffle and refreshments. The club is held at Kings Hall, Harlesden Road NW10. All are welcome.

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

Funeral Notice

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late Stafford Kisito Isaacs of Wendouer Road will take place on Friday 23 October 2015 at 11:00am followed by cremation at Golders Green Crematorium East Chapel at 12:30pm

May he rest in peace

Diocesan News

Catholic film nights will be taking place at the Church of The Transfiguration, 1 Wrentham Avenue, Kensal Rise NW10 3HT. The first film night will be on Friday 30 October at 7:30pm. Over the year they will be showing a range of Christian films and documentaries suitable for those who are aged 15 and over. Films are free so you can just turn up on the night. Seats are limited and on a first come, first served basis. For further information please email nalininathan@rcdow.org.uk.

Music Scholarship. Teenagers with a love for music are encouraged to apply for a 2016 Music Scholarship with Westminster Youth Ministry. This is the second year of the excellent scholarship programme. More details and an application form can be found at <http://dowym.com> youth@rcdow.org.uk. Applications by 4 December 2015.

Youth Mass. There is to be a Youth Mass at St Aloysius Parish, Centre for Youth Ministry, Euston on 11 December 2015, starting at 7:00pm. Teenagers and young adults from across the diocese are invited to join the celebration as we enter the Year of Mercy. Mass will be followed by some social time and food. Please join. For more information please visit <http://dowym.com>

Parish Diary

Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group meeting / 'The Mystery of God' DVD course in
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
Thursday	7:15pm	<i>St Vincent De Paul</i> meeting in the Annexe
Saturday	2:30pm-4:00pm	<i>Stitch Amazingly</i> sewing workshop in the Annexe

Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord; no one can come to the Father except through me. Alleluia!