

Presbytery

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**ST MARY MAGDALEN
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
DECEMBER —MONTH OF
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
10 DECEMBER 2017
2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
YEAR B

Come, let us adore

In his post-synodal exhortation on the Eucharist *Sacramentum Caritatis* Pope Benedict XVI underlines the inseparable link between our Eucharistic faith and our Christian mission. The Holy Father calls for us to contemplate the inherent mystery and power of the Eucharist, where as we know and believe, Christ is truly present: body, blood, soul and divinity.

The Eucharist is rightly declared by the Magisterium as the source and summit of the Church's life and mission. Indeed we, the faithful, are the Body of Christ - the Church, therefore this should be a reality in our lives. The more we strive to be a Eucharistic people, the deeper we enter into the mystery of God and His infinite love for us.

Next September, the Bishops Conference of England and Wales will host the National Eucharistic Congress in Liverpool. If you are struggling to recall when the last one was held, allow me to put your mind at rest, for it was in 1908.

In between the International Eucharistic Congress, the last of which was held in the Philippines in 2016 and the next of which will be held in Budapest 2020, the Holy Father invites local Churches to host their own national Eucharistic Congresses.

Adoremus from the Latin means 'let us adore' is the name given for next year's Congress and its mission is to "create a special opportunity to reflect on the centrality of the Eucharist in the life of the Church."

The Congress will take place over three days Friday-Sunday with the main event on Saturday. The weekend will be comprised of talks from keynote speakers incl. Bishop Robert Barron, discussions re: effective ways of promoting Eucharistic Adoration in parishes and schools, Mass and Processions of the Blessed Sacrament.

Every diocese in England and Wales will take part and Cardinal Nichols encourages the faithful to attend, however there are limited spaces.

Our parish has been allocated seven delegates to represent the community here. They will participate in the Congress and be commissioned and sent out with a mission of disseminating what they have learnt and discussed to the parish and be tasked with making known, Christ especially present in the Blessed Sacrament, to all people.

Courage, O Christian, come let us adore!

There is nothing so great as the Eucharist. If God had something more precious, He would have given it to us. – St. Jean-Marie Vianney Seminarian Tim

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 have died recently: Willy Foley, Bill Foley, Patrick McGreal, Agnes McAleenan, Jimmy Fitzpatrick

Those who are sick: Sandra Ferreira

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Vivienne Mangan, Benny Kilcoyne, Sr Gabriel Hogan, Michael Lynch, Agnes & Anthony McDermott, Agnello Fernandes, Noel Coleman

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £1,975.92 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much for your generosity.

Thank you from Ashford Place. "I would like to say a very sincere thank you for the food which you collect and deliver to us every month. This food makes a huge difference to the lives of those who are homeless and disadvantaged. We are deeply grateful for your generosity especially in these difficult times. Your kindness is much appreciated by all at Ashford Place". Danny Maher CEO Ashford Place.

Advent and Christmas and New Year 2018 Mass time leaflets are now available in the racks at the back of the church or in the porch. Please take a leaflet home with you.

Christmas Rotas. Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and readers should indicate their availability on the lists at the back of the church today. Servers should check with their parents and then indicate their availability on the list in the sacristy. Thank you for your ministry throughout the year.

National Eucharistic Congress 2018. Next September the Bishops Conference of England and Wales will be hosting the National Eucharistic Congress in Liverpool. If you are interested in going and would like to know more about its history and what the three-day congress will entail then please come to the meeting on Tuesday 12 December 2017 at 8:00pm in the Annexe.

Sidney Sussex College Choir, Cambridge will be singing during an Advent Holy Hour of readings and music in our church after 6:30pm Mass on Saturday 16 December 2017. This is a wonderful opportunity to spend time in prayer before the Lord in preparation for His coming. A priest will also be available to hear confessions during that time.

Children's Nativity Play. This will take place as part of the Parish Carol Concert on Sunday 17 December 2017 at 3:30pm. We are looking for as many children as possible to take part in this wonderful event and all are welcome. We also need parents/carers to help prepare the children for the play. Next rehearsal will take place in the church on Friday 15 December at 4:00pm. Please leave your details with the Parish Office if you can assist.

Convent of Jesus and Mary Language College Christmas Concert. The governors, staff and talented students of the Convent of Jesus and Mary Language College, Crownhill Road NW10 4EP would love to welcome the community to their Christmas Concert on Tuesday 19 December 2017 at 7:00pm. Please telephone the school office to let them know you will be coming on 020 8965 2986. We look forward to hearing your best singing voices and sharing the talents of our wonderful girls. Please see the poster at the back of the church.

Repository. Advent calendars, Advent candles, wreaths, cribs, Christmas cards, Mass bouquets, Christmas story books, Church art calendars, Westminster Year Book 2018, a wide selection of cards to suit all occasions and many other religious items are on sale now in the Repository. The Repository is open before and after all Sunday Masses, including the Saturday Vigil.

Funeral Notices

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late William Foley of Harlesden Gardens will take place on Friday 15 December 2017 at 11:00am followed by repatriation to Ireland.

May he rest in peace

Diocesan News

The Life of a Swiss Guard: A Private View. Westminster Cathedral is hosting an exhibition on the life of the Swiss Guards with images, uniforms and artefacts providing an insight into the life and vocation of the men who guard the Holy Father. The exhibition runs until 13 December in the chapels of St Patrick and St Andrew. Admission is free. Please see the poster at the back of the church.

The Future of Catholic Education. Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard. The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it; now we need you to tell them not to U-turn on their promise to Catholics. Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/> or type 'Catholic Education' in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.

The Art of Dying Well invites individuals to post pictures or memories of loved ones who are dying or who have already died, or of others who come to mind who may have no one to pray for them, on their Instagram or Twitter accounts (@artofdyingwell). By tagging @ArtofDyingWell with #RememberThem, the photos and names of these individuals will be shared with five convents and abbeys who will remember and pray for them. For more information, please visit the Art of Dying Well website www.artofdyingwell.org.

Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight, and all mankind can see the salvation of God. Alleluia!

Parish Diary

Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group—Annexe
Tuesday	8:00pm	National Eucharistic Congress meeting—Annexe
Saturday	3:00pm—5:00pm	'The Feast London' - a Catholic prayer meeting of the Light of Jesus Family— Annexe