

Presbytery

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Parish Clergy

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Parish Office

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ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

NOVEMBER —MONTH OF
THE HOLY SOULS

12 NOVEMBER 2017

32ND 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

Topping and Tailing

As I wrote last week, today we have the collection for the Sick and Retired Priest's Fund. But as you saw last week, there didn't seem to be anything particularly sick about the clergy who celebrated the Masses here. This begs the question, what is the fund for?

These days parishes are regularly audited on financial and administrative procedures. This is a far cry from just a few years before I was ordained when the parish priest would dig into the Christmas and Easter collections and hand a wad of notes to his assistants. Quaint as this may sound it had a major drawback for the future—incomplete National Insurance contributions. Thus, when a priest steps down from active ministry at 75 he may not get a full pension and the fund tops up his pension to provide enough for him to live on. Moreover, very few have somewhere to live and this needs to be provided for be it in a presbytery or a flat or even some sort of supported living as most older men have never had to fend for themselves because they entered the seminary at a young age and lived "institutionally" all their lives. And as time goes on, these places need to be made accessible or in some cases more intensive care provided.

In all these areas the Diocese works closely with social aid agencies, the NHS and local councils to get the maximum help available—but that isn't always enough and after a lifetime of service these priests deserve peace-of-mind in their old age. And that accommodation also needs to provide access to chapels or parishes and fellow clergy so that these men might continue to live as priests to the best of their availability. In short, the Cardinal and his assistant bishops and the Diocese of Westminster are committed to ensuring that no retired or sick priest is out there on his own—and it all costs.

So please place the envelope you took home last week in the collection today. Or bring it with you next week if you forgot it. Or take one from the end of the bench. And if you are a tax-payer tick off and complete the *Gift Aid* form which will add 25 pence to every pound you give at no cost to you. You can even fill out a standing order form to make an ongoing contribution having been so inspired by these priests in recent weeks.

That's the tail—now the head. The joyful fathers you have met would be enjoying their retirement more if we had another diocesan priest here as in the past. But there simply aren't the numbers to go round these days. Thus, we must pray for vocations—not "out there" but from within our community, within our families. These men have been there for us, now we must be there for them—financially and to sustain their legacy. *Fr Kevin*

Those who have died recently: Patrick P. O'Sullivan, Marcelina Faria, Paddy Scanlon

Those who are sick: Joe Regan, Tim Ryan, Josephine Niland, Peter Corcoran, Patrick Roddy, Mary Hopkins

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Michael Scanlon, Richard Joe Tierney, Mary Ann Quinn,

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £2,096.15 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much for your generosity.

Sick and Retired Priests Collection 2017. Today's second collection is in support of the Sick and Retired Priests' Fund of the Diocese of Westminster. This Fund ensures our elderly and sick priests are financially supported in their senior years after a lifetime of service. Our priests baptised us, counselled us in times of sorrow and worry, and celebrated with us in times of joy. Since we have received so much from their generosity, it is now our turn to assist them in their old age. The fund ensures that their housing, medical, convalescence, companionship and spiritual support needs are met. Please be generous. Most priests retire with modest means. In later years their ability to live independently can be adversely impacted because of their declining health, mobility or frailty. There are donation leaflets available in the pews and at the back of the Church. Please use this leaflet to Gift Aid your donation. You can even use it to set up an ongoing donation to this fund. You can also donate online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity.

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

Remembrance. Poppies are on sale in the repository—wear yours with pride. The proceeds go to the Royal British Legion.

Remembrance Sunday, 12 November 2017. The 12 noon Mass will be a Solemn Requiem for the Fallen.

Newsletter/Order of Mass leaflet. Please take your newsletter home with you after Mass and share it with family and friends. Order of Mass leaflets should be returned to the racks either at the back of the church or in the side porch. Thank you.

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

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.

St Mary Magdalen Training Day for Altar Servers 2017 takes place on Saturday 18 November at 4:00pm and Saturday 25 November at 11:00am. All servers are encouraged to attend one session. If however you are unable to come please speak with our Seminarian, Tim. All servers should please sign up for their chosen date on the list which is on the noticeboard in the Sacristy.

Is The Lord Calling? Canon Stuart Wilson and his team will be at St Mary Magdalen Church, on Sunday 19 November 2017. Mass will be celebrated at 6:30pm at which one of the Seminarists will speak. If you are interested in the whole topic of Vocation there will be a meeting after Mass in the Annexe where you can learn more. If you have any questions beforehand then please call

Canon Stuart on 020 7349 5620.

Requiem Mass St Mary's Chapel, Kensal Green. Father Kevin will be celebrating a Requiem Mass on 25 November 2017 at 12 noon at St Mary's Chapel, Kensal Green for all the loved ones of parishioners who are buried there, in Kensal Rise Cemetery and in the West London Crematorium Gardens.

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

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.

Diocesan News

World Day of the Poor – Sunday 19th November. In his message for the first 'World Day of the Poor', to be celebrated on 19 November this year, Pope Francis asks all of us, whatever our means or background, to unite in love, in acts of service to one another and in genuine encounter. Pope Francis hopes the day can "become a powerful appeal to our consciences as believers, allowing us to grow in the conviction that sharing with the poor enables us to understand the deepest truth of the Gospel". Please see the poster at the back of the church.

CAFOD Memorial Mass. You are warmly invited to the CAFOD Memorial Mass, in memory of all our supporters and volunteers, at the Church of Christ the King, 29 Bramley Road, Oakwood, London N14 4HE at 11:00am on Wednesday 22 November 2017. If you would like someone to be included in our book of remembrance, please send us their name by calling CAFOD Westminster on 020 8449 6970 or emailing westminster@cafod.org.uk.

Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: For my soul is thirsting, O God, my God

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming. Alleluia!

Parish Diary

Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group—Annexe
Wednesday	7:30pm	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting—Annexe
Saturday	3:00pm—5:00pm	'The Feast London' - a Catholic prayer meeting of the Light of Jesus Family— Annexe