

Presbytery

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**ST MARY MAGDALEN
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
MAY—MONTH OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
7 MAY 2017
4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
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

Totus Tuus

My mum was upset with the first hymn when I was ordained a priest—*Dear Lord and Father of Mankind*. When I asked, “Why?” she said, “The second line is, ‘forgive our foolish ways.’ What sort of message does that give out?” She had a point...

But my choice was more to do with the last line which speaks of the Lord’s “still small voice of calm” heard above all “the heats of our desires.” And that was the truth that had led me to that moment. Mine was not a St Paul-on-the-road-to-Damascus call to the priesthood but the constant, gentle nudging of God in that direction despite my determined efforts to block it out in pursuit of a successful veterinary career. In the end, I went to the seminary to “get it out of my system.” 24 years on...well, here I am, happy.

Becoming a priest obviously changes your relationship with your friends (especially your mates) but also your family. Bishop Nichols (as he was then) told me after the event that as my dad handed over the vestment he whispered, “He’s all yours now, my Lord.” It was a profound and moving understanding of the priestly ministry. Moreover, when I once expressed guilt for not giving my parents grandchildren, they pointed to those they had from the wider family they’d accumulated over the years and that I had given them quite enough parishioners to worry about and pray for. Too true, you poor souls!

On this Good Shepherd Sunday, when we pray particularly for vocations to the priesthood in our own diocese, I reflect on the many blessings I have received in the places I was sent to serve God’s people: where the Catholic world meets at our Cathedral; in the suburbs of Enfield and Harrow; in the social and ethnic mix that is Willesden Green; among the sick and dying in Chase Farm and Northwick Park Hospitals; with the pupils and staff of Catholic schools and Harrow School; in all sorts of situations with the brave men and women of the British Army. It has all been an immense joy and a privilege.

Yes, a priest, but also a brother at weddings, an uncle at Baptisms, a nephew at funerals. And two events stand out: on 8 April 2010, mum banged her fists on the bed clothes with every “I do” as she renewed her Baptismal promises—a few hours later she died. On 12 July 2016, I snuck in to see dad outside of visiting hours and gave him the last rites. As I left he said, “Thank you, son.” Those were his last words to me alone. As my parents loved to say, “Your priest is somebody else’s son and brother. Could yours be someone else’s priest?” It has been—it is—a constant wonder and joy. Share it. *Fr Kevin*

Those who have died recently: Patrick Walshe, Anthony O’Donnell, DF Gomez Decano

Those who are sick: Ray Sweeney, David Kane, Myrtle Bannis, Ned Lynch

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Douglas & Annie Doran, Philip McGovern, Leonora Matthews, James Mullahy, Mary Gorman, Dymphna Lynch

Those Baptised: Saffire Arria Ann Johnson Thomas

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £1,882.71 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much for your generosity.

Apology. Last Tuesday, 2 May, a glitch deleted new emails on the parish server. Please resend your message if you got no reply.

Mary's Meals will be at our church this Sunday to collect all your unwanted clothing/bedding (no duvets or pillows). Please bring all your bags before 12 noon. Please ensure all clothing/bedding is put into tied black sacks—four full sacks will feed a child one good nutritious meal every school day for a whole year!

Priests' Training Fund Collection – Good Shepherd Sunday.

Today's second collection is for the Priests' Training Fund. The fund helps pay for the training of seminarians (we currently have 39), the education of priests for special ministries, and ongoing enrichment to strengthen priests. Your gift helps to ensure we can provide training for these men responding to Christ's call to dedicate their lives to serving the Church. Please be as generous as you can. Please also pray for vocations and take home a prayer card. If you do not have a donation leaflet, there are some available at the back of the church. You can also donate online anytime at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations.

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

May Procession at the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden. Join the pilgrims at the London Shrine of Our Lady, praying for the capital and our Diocese, as we walk through the streets of NW10 on Sunday 14 May at 3:30pm. Preacher, Abbot Hugh Allan, O.Praem.

Morning of Recollection for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy

Communion and Readers. Abbot Hugh Allen, O.Praem will give a morning of recollection for those involved in these ministries on Saturday 3 June at the Church of the Transfiguration, Kensal Rise. The day will begin at 11:00am with tea and coffee, followed by a talk at 11:30am, packed lunch at 12:15pm, and a further talk at 12:45pm. The day will end at around 1:30pm.

Deacon Michael will be Ordained to the Sacred Priesthood at 10:30am on Saturday 24 June at Westminster Cathedral. Many parishioners have already enquired about a gift for him. Having been a Deacon for several years, Michael says that he does not need anything in the way of books, vestments or other items associated with liturgies. However, like many priests, he has mentioned that he would like to have his own chalice—this is an extremely personal thing. Therefore we suggest that any parishioners who would like to get him something contribute towards a collection so that he can buy a chalice of his own choosing. It will then be a gift in whole or in part from the community which greatly encouraged his vocation, and be used at his first Mass here at 12 noon on Sunday 25 June to which we hope you will all come. Indeed, we will be remembered in a particular way at every Mass Michael celebrates with it just as Fr Kevin thinks of his family whenever he uses the chalice they bought for him. Donations should be placed in an envelope marked, "Deacon Michael's Collection" and handed to one of the priests or the parish administrator. Thank you.

Funeral Notice

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late Patrick "Paddy" John Walshe, formerly of Buxton Road, will take place on Monday 8 May 2017 at 11:00am followed by cremation at West London Crematorium at 12:45pm

May he rest in peace

Diocesan News

Good Counsel Network. This year sees the 50th anniversary of abortion being legalised in Great Britain. Over 8 million babies' lives have been taken since 1967. We all need to make some extra sacrifice this year, so please attend the "March for Life" in Birmingham on Saturday 20 May 2017. Going to Birmingham may involve a sacrifice for those who live some distance away, but the day is a great witness to our society and is also both informative and encouraging. If you don't attend the March in the 50th Anniversary year of abortion in England and Wales, when *are* you going to make the effort to do so? Three English bishops will be attending the March – come and support their witness. For coaches from London and elsewhere please visit the website at www.goodcounselnetwork.com or telephone 020 7723 1740.

'Hour of Prayer for Vocations' on Saturday May 27 2017 from 4:15pm—5:15pm at The Little Sisters of the Poor, St. Anne's Home, 77 Manor Road, London N16 5BL. All are welcome. Please see the poster at the back of the church.

Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord; I know My own sheep and My own know me. Alleluia!

Parish Diary

Monday	5:30pm—6:30pm	First Holy Communion class at St Mary Magdalen's Junior School
Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group—Annexe
Tuesday	7:00pm-8:30pm	<i>Stitch Amazingly</i> sewing workshop—Annexe
Thursday	7:15pm	SVP—Annexe
Friday	7:00pm	<i>Knights of St Columba</i> —Annexe
Saturday	11:00am—12:30pm	<i>Stitch Amazingly</i> sewing workshop—Annexe
Saturday	3:00pm—5:00pm	"The Feast London" - a Catholic prayer meeting of the Light of Jesus Family— Annexe