

Presbytery

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ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MARCH—MONTH OF
ST JOSEPH

26 MARCH 2017

4TH SUNDAY OF LENT
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

The Cardinal Writes...

Wednesday's attacks in Westminster have shocked us all. The kind of violence we have seen all too often in other places has again brought horror and killing to this city.

I know you will [pray], especially for those who have lost their lives and those who have lost one they love. Pray for Aysha Frade, killed by the car on Westminster Bridge. Her two children attend St Mary of the Angels Primary School. Pray for them and for their father. And please remember the young French students who have been injured. We remember too all who have been injured, and those who care for them. We pray in particular as well for Keith Palmer, the police officer who died, and for his family, thanking God that so many show such brave dedication to keeping our society safe.

Let our voice be one of prayer, of compassionate solidarity, and of calm. All who believe in God, Creator and Father of every person, will echo this voice, for faith in God is not a problem to be solved, but a strength and a foundation on which to depend.

...on Mother's Day

It will be difficult—almost impossible—today for Aysha's children and her husband; for Keith Palmer's family; for the families of all the people killed and injured in the attack at Westminster. And as the Cardinal asks us to do, we keep them all in our prayers.

Whoever carried out this atrocity was obviously filled with anger and, in the words of Pope Saint John Paul II, decided not "to choose good, the most sublime use of human freedom [which is] in a real sense to make the choice between life and death."

In this vein, Pope Francis said recently that if everyone learned forgiveness there would be no wars. While such conflicts may seem far from our sphere of influence he went on, "These big wars...these massacres of people, of children, how much hatred! It is the same hatred you have in your heart for this person, that person, that relative, your mother-in-law. It's bigger, but it's the same hatred." Prayer, he concluded, is an antidote for this: "Prayer is powerful. Prayer defeats evil. Prayer brings peace."

Whatever else we do for our mothers today let us pray for them. And if you are blessed enough to still have your mother, pray with her for all those mothers whose hearts are broken by the pain of loss today, just as the heart of Our Blessed Mother was pierced by a sword at her son's death. Happy Mother's Day and God bless all our mums. *Fr Kevin*

Those who have died recently: Peggy Delaney, Fr Jim Fanning, John O'Riordan, Aysha Frade, Keith Palmer, Kurt Cochran, Leslie Rhodes

Those who are sick: Carmel Whelan, Carmel Hollowed

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Oliver Fay, Thomas Egan

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £1,953.38 (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.

Lenten Alms. Just a friendly reminder that our Lenten Alms focus this year is for the benefit of the Cardinal's Appeal which helps fund outreach programmes in evangelisation of youth; marriage and family life; and our role in helping to create a more civil society. Pick up a leaflet envelope at the back of church, read and pray for its aims, and if you choose to do so, please give in the Lenten spirit of sacrifice. Please place your envelope in the collection or put the money in the box at the back of the church. Thank you for your generosity.

Planned Giving envelopes for the new tax year 2017/2018 for existing users are available for collection at the back of the church today. Please consider using envelopes or a standing order for your offertory donations, and *Gift Aid* your contribution which benefits the parish by 25p for every £1 you give at no extra cost to you. Please contact the parish office for more information. You can also pay using your mobile phone by texting PARISH WILLG to 70800 to donate £5 which will be added to your phone bill. Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

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

Parish Pilgrimage to Stonor (which is of great significance to Catholicism in England) takes place on Saturday 6 May 2017. The coach will depart from the church at 8:30am and return at approximately 6:00pm. Cost is £25. There are still some places left. You can book by calling Melissa on 07968 564 632 or Tom on 07947 620 271. Alternatively, please contact or visit the Parish Office, Tuesday to Friday, between 10:00am and 2:00pm.

First Holy Communion 2017. The children are ready now to make their First Confession. Parents can bring them to the church between 10:00am and 10:30am or 5:30pm and 6:00pm on a Saturday or can make a separate time that suits them better. Please come as a family—children will follow your example.

East Africa Crisis Appeal. In East Africa over 13 million people are facing starvation. Despite years of careful preparation, failing rains, extreme weather and violence have precipitated this disaster. Next Sunday we will have a collection to support *CAFOD* there and particularly those mothers with starving children.

Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

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

Acclamation: Praise to You, O Christ, King of Eternal Glory! I am the light of the world, says the Lord; anyone who follows me will have the light of life. Praise to You, O Christ, King of Eternal Glory!

Diocesan News

Pray as You Can led by Rosey Feuell, on Monday evenings 6:00pm—8:00pm with refreshments available from 5:45pm. Dates are 27 March, 3 April, 5, 12, 19 and 26 June. Cost £120. The course is designed for practising or trained spiritual directors, those exploring this ministry and those working in, say, pastoral care, therapy and listening situations where one may "advise" others on prayer. For information please visit <http://spiritualitycentre.org>.

Week of Guided Prayer takes place from Sunday 2 April—Friday 7 April with Stephen Hoyland and team at the Mount Street Jesuit Centre, 114 Mount Street, W1K 3AH. Website: pathwaysto-god.org; telephone number 020 7495 1673. The core elements of the week are prayer for half-an-hour each day, reviewing how that prayer time went, and meetings with your prayer guide for a maximum of five times. Introductory and closing meetings top and tail the week with helpful suggestions for how to best live this week. Interested? Email admin@mountstreet.info.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes, Lisieux, Paris, Nevers, Rocamadour by luxury coach from 27 May until 3 June. Cost £679, including all excursions. For further information please call Mrs Mozzi on 020 8472 0943 or 07859 027 301.

Love Heals Body Mind & Spirit seven day Retreat to Mem Soares Castelo De Vide Retreat House, Portugal from Thursday 29 June 2017 until Wednesday 5 July 2017. Cost will be £595.00, to include return scheduled flights with TAP Portugal (London Heathrow—Lisbon), return coach transfers from airport to retreat, full board six nights (three meals a day) and a one day excursion to Fatima, plus excursions to the nearby historical local town and market of Castelo De Vide; the Blessed Chapel of Our Lady of Penha, Castelo De Vide; the lakes situated in the National Park; and on the last day a to Lisbon to St Anthony's birthplace and the cathedral. Full Catholic spiritual programme. For more information email: lovehealsbodymindspirit@gmail.com or telephone David/Eileen on 0208 542 2476 or see the poster at the back of the church.

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	Confirmation class at St Mary Magdalen's Junior School
Tuesday	7:00pm—8:30pm	<i>Stitch Amazingly</i> sewing workshop—Annexe
Friday	7:00pm	Stations of the Cross—Church
Saturday	11:00am—1:00pm	<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