

Presbytery

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Parish Clergy

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ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

FEBRUARY - MONTH OF
THE HOLY FAMILY

12 FEBRUARY 2017

6TH 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

The Things Money Can't Buy

As you saw last week, our financial position is more secure than it has been for many years, so thank you once again and may God bless you for your generosity .

But now that we have a church that has been restored (almost completely) to its original design, it requires maintenance and the only qualification for this is generosity with your time. I refer, for example, to joining the wonderful but diminishing number who, week by week, clean our beautiful church. And, while the grounds are now so much more welcoming than before, they will require tending as the weather improves. Again, this won't involve vast knowledge and while I will be limited to using the lawnmower inherited from my dad, I am sure there are people out there with greener fingers.

We also have delightful but very few welcomers and helpers for tea and coffee, an ideal ministry for families to exercise together. Our gallant team of collectors —without whom our finances would be nowhere—could do with a wider pool of volunteers on which to draw. During Mass, the poor people at 6:30pm 9:00am last week had to listen to me throughout as there were no readers. Again, this fantastic group of people is getting smaller as parishioners move or can no longer commit to a particular Mass. And as far as the wider community goes, our St Vincent de Paul Society and Special Needs Group do incredible work but it is limited by the number of volunteers they have.

I know that for many people getting to Mass each Sunday is a miracle and it is good to see that we are not only maintaining our Mass attendance but exceeding that of previous years. But the more cleaners, gardeners, welcomers, tea and coffee makers, collectors, readers, SVP and Special Needs Group members we have on our rotas would reduce the frequency with which people exercise these ministries and allow for swapping with others rather than cancellation of events altogether. If you are inspired by the Holy Spirit to help in any of these areas, please seize the moment and talk to me after Mass.

Pope Saint John Paul II wrote, "The eyes of faith see marvellous things today—countless lay people, women and men, engaged in all sorts of work and activities. They are mostly unknown and unnoticed, tireless labourers in the vineyard, who go on steadily, through God's grace. These are the people, at once humble and great, who are building God's Kingdom in our time" (*Christifidelis Laici 17*) Indeed you are, and money cannot buy the tremendous love you have for your church building and the parish community. So thank you for all you do and thank you, in anticipation, for whatever you will do. *Fr Kevin*

Those who have died recently: Sandra Gunn, Sonny Moriarty

Those who are sick: Noreen Kelly, Giuseppe Rapacioli, Catherine Delsol, Mrs Ellington, Joyce Thomas, Ethel Cuff, Muriel Charles, Mary Mills, Mary Cahill, Josephine Niland

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: McGerty Family, Peggy Corboy, Cecilia & James Lindford, Siobhan Clifford, Pat Butler, Adriano Fernandes, Patrick Coogan, Oliver Simon, Mrs Doyle, Robert Kennedy, Lucita Benoit

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £2,077.81 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much for your generosity.

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.

Tea and coffee. You are welcome in the Annexe after the 9:00am and 10:30am Masses when we will be serving drinks. Do take this opportunity to meet your fellow parishioners.

Stitch Amazingly Sewing Workshop. Are you someone who would like to learn to be creative with fabrics and a sewing machine or are you even a budding fashion designer? Why not take that first step and join the *Stitch Amazingly* sewing workshops at St Mary Magdalen's Catholic Church in Willesden Green? Sessions will be recommencing on Tuesdays from 28 February until 4 April 2017, 7:00pm to 8:30pm, and Saturdays from 4 March until 8 April 2017, 11:00am to 1:00pm. If you would like to book for sessions (for which places are limited), please visit the website at www.stitchamazingly.co.uk or telephone Glenda Brady on 07739 707 564. Alternatively please email info@stitchamazingly.

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 (depending on traffic). The full itinerary and cost with booking details will be available next weekend.

Text Giving. A new way to support St Mary Magdalen's is now available from the Diocese through text giving on your mobile phone. Just text PARISH WILLG to 70800 to donate £5 which will be added to your phone bill automatically. This is an easy way to make offerings or to top-up your regular giving or to give if you're visiting. No more searching your pocket or purse for loose coins either. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Parish Newsletter. Any notices for the weekly Sunday newsletter should be given to the Parish Office by Thursday noon. Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Parish Diary

Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group—Annexe
Saturday	3:00pm—5:00pm	"The Feast London" - a Catholic prayer meeting of the Light of Jesus Family in the Annexe

Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: They are happy who follow God's law!
 Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, Your servant is listening: You have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

Diocesan News

Caritas Westminster will be holding an event on Wednesday 22 February, to raise awareness of human trafficking in the local community. Come along to find out more about the signs to look out for and what you can do to help. The event will take place from 7:00pm—9:00pm, at St Mark's church, Kensal Rise. Please email RSVP to caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk or search the website at www.eventbrite.co.uk for 'Human Trafficking Awareness Evening'.

Niland Conference Centre Events. 'Scripture from Scratch—Praying Your Way to Easter with John's Gospel,' is on alternative Thursdays 23 February—6 April at 7:00pm for 7:30pm—9:00pm with Sr Anne Walsh OP. Suggested donation £5 per session. Also, 'Christian Mindfulness II: Putting it into Practice' takes place on Saturday 25 February at 9:30am for 10:00am—3:00pm. Mindfulness is useful for nurturing well-being and growth, and has deep Christian roots. Fr Michael Heap MAfr will lead practical exercises for integrating mindfulness into daily life and deepening our relationship with God. Please bring a packed lunch. Suggested donation £14. Both events take place at the Niland Centre, Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath WD23 4EE. Please email bookings-finance@nilandcentre.co.uk, or telephone 020 8950 4000. Registration suggested but not essential. Please see the posters at the back of the church.

Day Retreat (including Adoration) at St. Rose's, 160 Anson Road, Cricklewood in preparation for Lent on Saturday 25 February from 11:00am until 4:30pm. All are welcome.

'Hour of Prayer for Vocations' on Saturday 25 February from 4:15pm—5:15pm at The Little Sisters of the Poor, St. Anne's Home, 77 Manor Road, London N16 5BL, telephone 020 8826 2500. All are welcome for either part or all of the day.

The Mass for bereaved parents will take place at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday, 11 March at 2:30pm. It is a time to remember, to pray, to give thanks, and to entrust deceased children to the Lord. All are welcome to attend. Please see the poster at the back of the church.

Cardinal's Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony takes place on Saturday 3 June at 3:00pm. The Cardinal will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2017. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give the following details to the parish office: husband and wife's name, wedding date, address, email or telephone number by 24 March.

7th Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. You are invited to join the 7th Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land led by Bishop John Sherrington from 31 October to 7 November 2017. Price is (full board) £1535 pp sharing, £370 single room supplement. Please telephone Gill at Tangney Tours 01732 886 666 or Elizabeth Uwalaka (Pilgrimage Administrator) on 020 7798 9173 for information and booking forms. Please also see the poster at the back of the church.