

Presbytery

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Parish Clergy

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Parish Office

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ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MARCH—MONTH OF

ST JOSEPH

4 March 2018

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT

YEAR B

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

Stations of the Cross

Friday: after 6:30pm Mass

Baby, It's Cold Outside

As the “Beast from the East” bites, how timely that next week Andrew from *The Passage* (a charity begun by Cardinal Hume which helps over 3000 homeless people each year) will give some reality to our Lenten Alms. Initially, the Hospitality Team provides breakfast and lunch, showers, laundry and activity groups for the homeless who come to them. But in 2012 more than 80% of the people who came through the doors were prevented from ending up on the street as a result of *The Passage's* intervention. How?

Well, alongside meeting immediate needs, every client is assessed to direct them to specialist services and to create a clear action plan with them. This includes services for rough sleepers and insecurely-housed clients such as those in hostels, B&B's or “sofa-surfing”. This can also involve members of the health team who are experienced in mental health issues, substance misuse and podiatry, as well as the GP and nurse.

To get housing started, there is Passage House providing 40 rapid-access safe spaces. Then there is longer-term studio accommodation for up to 16 homeless people, often the entrenched homeless with long and complex histories, in Montfort House. For all these individuals and others there is housing advice, referral to housing trusts, and advocating on the clients' behalf so they can get statutory housing provision. And when permanent accommodation is found, local *Home for Good* volunteers facilitate full integration into the community. Thus, in 2015 the team found permanent accommodation for 234 clients and provided 162 more with ongoing tenancy sustainment support.

There is also an employment, training and welfare rights team. They help first with benefit claims to stabilise a person's life. Then the individual's potential is mapped and any issues preventing a return to employment are addressed before a mentor enables them to find appropriate work often with *Land Securities*, or through City of Westminster College and *Jobcentre Plus*. In 2016 the team helped 124 homeless people into work.

There is also an outreach team which seeks out rough sleepers who don't approach *The Passage* themselves. In 2015 they ensured 650 people spent only one night on the streets and 88 entrenched rough sleepers were helped to move off the streets.

You will be contributing to much more than a cup of tea and a sandwich when you bring some of your Lenten Alms for *The Passage* next week. To help even more, please use the *Giftaid* envelopes available which will cost you nothing but gain them an extra 25%.

And if you're still not convinced, just remember that it really is cold outside. *Fr Kevin*

Those who have died recently: Michael O'Gorman, Fatima Frash, Joseph Connery

Those who are sick: Valerie Crain, Agnes Trimble, Bridget Connell, Steven Barnard, Francis Maguire, Maria Phelan

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Phyllis & Tom Attridge, Jose Francisco Fernandes, Myles Costello, Sheila Scanlon, May & Ronnie McClay

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £1,775.44 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much for your generosity.

CAFOD Lent Fast Day 2018. Our parish has raised £1,291.19 to date to help end hunger and poverty around the world. This has been doubled by the UK Government, meaning a total of £2,582.38 has been raised so more of our brothers and sisters can live lives free from hunger. Thank you for fasting in solidarity with them, and please keep our neediest brothers and sisters in your prayers throughout Lent.

Lenten Alms. A few weeks ago you may have heard the Cardinal's Pastoral Letter in which he spoke of the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal in support of key areas of work in our Diocese. The Cardinal's Lenten Appeal was set up in 2015 to fund the innovative work of Catholic parishes, schools and charities working within the Diocese, contributing to three fundamental mission areas of the Church: Marriage and Family Life – enriching and supporting marriages, the essential building block of society and the Church; Youth and Evangelisation – supporting young people, the future of the Church, as they grow in their relationship with God and deepen their Catholic faith; and the Church's Social Outreach within Civil Society – putting our faith into action through projects that serve the poor, the lonely and the marginalised, especially at a time of greater division and inequality in society. These mission areas embody how we live out the Gospel and put our Catholic values into action – in service to others through practical programmes. Please take a Cardinal's Lenten Appeal donation leaflet as you leave Mass today. During Lent, and in the spirit of sacrifice, sharing and almsgiving, please consider designating your Lenten sacrifice to the Cardinal's Appeal. Please place your envelope in the weekly collection or place money in the box at the back of the church. Thank you.

First Holy Communion 2018. Could all parents/guardians please check the list on the table at the back of the church today to confirm that their First Holy Communion date and spelling of their child's name is correct. Thank you.

Annual Financial Return . The document we send to the Diocese has been summarised to show the significant changes in income/ expenditure for 2017 and is available in the newsletter racks. The Parish Benchmark—which compares us with other similarly sized parishes—is on display in the Annexe. Fr Kevin would be happy to answer any questions you might have about either document. On your behalf, he thanks the Finance Committee and the Parish Administrator for another year of sound management of your incredible generosity—under budget again! God bless you all.

Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: You, Lord, have the message of eternal life.
 Acclamation: Praise to You, O Christ, King of eternal glory!
 I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord, whoever believes in Me will never die.
 Praise to You, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

Funeral Notices

The Reception of the late Patrick Joseph Roddy of Faith Court will take place on Monday 5 March 2018 at 7:00pm and the Requiem Mass will take place on Tuesday 6 March 2018 at 11:30am followed by burial at Paddington Old Cemetery at 1:00pm

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late Harry Uzoka of Old Oak Road will take place on Friday 9 March 2018 at 12:30pm followed by burial at St Mary's Cemetery at 2:00pm

May they rest in peace

Diocesan News

Catechesis on Liturgy of the Word with Children takes place on Saturday 17 March from 10:00am—1:00pm at Our Lady Refuge of Sinners & St Catherine of Sienna, 177 Bow Road, Bow E3 2SG. Please see Fr Kevin if you can help restart this important ministry in our parish.

National Catholic Men's Pilgrimage to Walsingham takes place on Sunday 22 April 2018, 10:30am—5:30pm, the first annual pilgrimage for Catholic men. Meet, talk and share the faith with other men; listen to speakers, celebrate confession and Mass; pray for families and for the country; process to the old Abbey grounds for Benediction. We welcome lay and religious, single and married, young and old, fathers and sons. *"When England returns to Walsingham, Our Lady will return to England"* said Pope Leo XIII in 1887. This is a partnership between the Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady and Catholic Man UK so for more information please visit the website at www.catholicman.co.uk.

8th Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land takes place from 21—29 November 2018. The Pilgrimage will be led by Bishop John Wilson and the cost is £1,549 per person. Please see the poster at the back of the church for more information.

Volunteer for CAFOD. CAFOD is looking for volunteers to promote its work in parishes and schools. Please email tsheen@cafod.org.uk for further details.

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
Thursday	7:15pm	SVP—Annexe
Friday	7:00pm	Stations of the Cross—Church
Friday	7:00pm	Knights of <i>St Columba</i> —Annexe
Saturday	3:00pm— 5:00pm	"The Feast London" - a Catholic prayer meeting of the Light of Jesus Family in the Annexe