

Presbytery

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Parish Clergy

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**ST MARY MAGDALEN
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
MAY—MONTH OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY
13 May 2018
7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
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

Scratching the surface

Eight years ago this September marks the time I started my studies at St. Mary's University, Twickenham.

Early on in the course, one of my lecturers, now Professor in Theology at St. Mary's – Stephen Bullivant, asked the class “How many denominations do you think there are in Christianity?” At the time I only knew of a handful of denominations such as Baptist, Methodist and the Church of England to name but a few and so my educated guess was around a dozen. Not one student from my class of about seventy seemed to know the answer- I was baffled!

Professor Bullivant eventually put us all out of our misery and uttered this preposterous figure, so ludicrous was this number that I thought he was taking all of us for a ride and/or trying to test how gullible these prospective theologians were. The official answer then was around 30,000; though I imagine this number has increased over the last eight years. It is virtually impossible to ascertain the exact figure especially when new churches are being founded even as you read this. In today's gospel Christ prays that His disciples may be one like He and the Father are one- how apt, when at present the Church seems to be in disarray.

Ecumenism for many is a starting point, however I do not think this will ever suffice. Dialogue is great but words must eventually translate into action. It is all well and good for Church leaders of various denominations to meet, shake hands, embrace and take a selfie but until two parties agree to act, what is the point? I spoke to a senior student at Allen Hall about this and he suggested that unity does not necessarily mean conformity – I appreciate his point but I fundamentally disagree. As I understand it, to be one as Christ calls us, is to be one in heart and mind with the Father. If we are of and in the same mind as God, then surely we subscribe to His teachings and commands (not suggestions) of His Only begotten Son. We know that Christ entrusted His flock to Peter (John 21:15-17) and that Jesus gave the keys of the Kingdom of Heaven to Peter and the power to bind and loose on earth as in heaven (Matthew 16:19). In closing, to be one in God is to be Catholic; to be Catholic is to have the mind of Christ; having the mind of Christ allows us to be receptive to and subscribe to His Word; to subscribe to His Word enables us to follow His teachings and commands; in doing so we bear witness to the One the Father has sent, the Christ, and thus we become One in God the Father, together with His Son in the unity of their Holy Spirit.

Seminarian Tim

Those who have died recently: Trevor Torres, Josephine Niland

Those who are sick: Valerie Crain, Stewart Samaden, Ann McGuinness, Ethan

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Douglas & Annie Doran, Mary Sullivan, Helena McGivern, Mollie, Jeremiah & Patrick Moriarty, Peter McMenemy, John McMenemy, Mary Ferguson Carroll, Chu Chin Ooie, Maria Martinelli, Mary Gorman, Dymphna Lynch, Ned Lynch

Those Baptised: Thea Shannara Wickramapala

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £1,618.48 (excluding standing orders). Standing orders for April amounted to £1,650.00. Thank you very much for your generosity.

Mary's Meals. Gerrard Mc Mahon, London Fundraising Coordinator of *Mary's Meals* is delighted to advise that last Sunday the parish managed to give 880kg of unwanted clothes. There were also cash donations of £601.32, making a total contribution of £1,094.12. *Mary's Meals* is extremely grateful for your support. The amount raised will feed 78 children who will not only get fed one good, nutritious meal every school day for a whole year, but they will get an education too.

Tea and coffee. You are welcome in the Annexe after the 9:00am and 10:30am Masses when we will be serving drinks. Tea and coffee is served on a monthly basis so do take this opportunity to meet your fellow parishioners.

First Holy Communion 2018. Please go to the following link: <https://5661602.tifmember.com/v/photos/21563fxk/C289628804?ppp=0> to view the First Holy Communion pictures. If you require further information please contact Simon Drake via email simondrake1967@gmail.com by visiting the website www.simondrakephotography.co.uk or Facebook www.facebook.com/simondrakephotography or by telephone on 020 8384 0629 or mobile 07858 519 771.

St Mary Magdalen's PTA Race Night takes place on Saturday 26 May 2018 at the Willesden Working Men's Club, 202 Villiers Road, NW2 5PU. The first race begins at 7:30pm. All are welcome for a fun evening, including children.

Forty Hours of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. As you know there will be a Eucharistic Congress in Liverpool in September and the bishops have asked us to deepen our understanding of and devotion to Christ truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. We already have an enviable tradition of Exposition, Adoration and Benediction here but will be adding to it in the lead up to the feast of *Corpus Christi*. Starting on Wednesday 30 May and continuing until evening Mass on Saturday 2 June we will have the Forty Hours—literally 40 hours of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Two people (or parish groups or classes from our schools) need to sign up to watch and pray for each hour during the day. And at 7:00pm each weekday there will be devotions, a sermon and Benediction. A sign up form is available on the table at the back of the church.

Feast of Corpus Christi. On Sunday 3 June 2018 on the feast of *Corpus Christi* at the 12 noon Mass, we invite all parishioners especially the children who have made their First Holy Communion this year to come in their outfits and join our procession with the parishioners of Our Lady of Willesden and Kensal Rise Parishes through the streets to the Transfiguration.

St Mary Magdalen's Wednesday Club is organising a seaside trip to Walton on the Naze, Essex on Thursday 21 June 2018. Walton is a traditional and vibrant Victorian town with original features. It has a fine sandy beach, a beautiful promenade, and the second longest pier in Great Britain. It also has the Market Millennium

Square with shops and cafes. The coach will pick you up from St Mary Magdalen's church at 9:00am and return at 6:30pm. Cost is £20 per adult and £12 for children under 15. Please book asap as there are limited seats available. To book and for more information please contact Gillian Horrell on 020 8830 2840.

Pilgrimage to Malta. Our parish will be following in the footsteps of St. Paul on pilgrimage from 9—13 October 2018 to Malta. For more information please take a copy of the leaflet from the back of the church. Closing date has been extended to: Friday 25 May 2018.

Funeral Notice

The Reception of the late Josephine Niland of Chapter Road will take place on Thursday 17 May 2018 at 7:00pm and the Requiem Mass will take place on Friday 18 May 2018 at 1:00pm followed by burial at St Mary's Catholic Cemetery, Kensal Green at 2:30pm

May she rest in peace

Diocesan News

115th Annual May Procession at the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden takes place today Sunday 13 May 2018 beginning at the Shrine, 1 Nicoll Rd, NW10 9AX, at 3:30pm. The Homilist is Fr Mark Walker, Diocesan Youth Chaplain. For further details please see the poster at the back of the church.

The Sistine Chapel Choir, Holy Father's personal choir, performs a sacred choral music concert from the repertoire they sing in the Vatican on Saturday 26 May 2018 at 8:00pm in Westminster Cathedral. The concert will last an hour, and is free of charge (no tickets required). Experience this world-famous choir singing in the beautiful setting of Westminster Cathedral. All are welcome.

Pioneer Total Abstinence Association—London Region Mass and Social takes place on Sunday 3 June 2018 at 3:00pm at St Agnes Parish Church, Cricklewood NW2 1HR, followed by a buffet, music and dance in the Cricklewood Parish Centre. All Pioneers and friends are welcome to attend. Admission £10.

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: The Lord has set His sway in heaven.

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I will not leave your orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you, and your hearts will be full of joy. Alleluia!