

Presbytery

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Parish Clergy

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Parish Office

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ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

SEPTEMBER—MONTH OF
THE SORROWFUL MOTHER

30 SEPTEMBER 2018

26TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
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

Monday—Friday:
One hour before
morning Mass

Saturday: 8:30am—9:30am
5:30pm—6:15pm

First Friday (Holy Hour):
7:00pm—8:00pm

Confessions

Saturday: 10:00am—10:30am
5:30pm—6:15pm

Greetings

My name is Robert Smialek and I'm a first-year seminarian at Allen Hall and it is with great enthusiasm I will be attending your parish for my Sunday pastoral placement. As I will be getting to know you all, I thought it would be helpful if I gave you a brief summary of myself and how I've come to answer my vocation to the priesthood.

I'm 32 and I was born and raised a Catholic back in Ireland and grew up in Dublin. As you may have already suspected my surname is not Irish, it is Polish, passed on from my grandfather when he came to Ireland after the war. Growing up in my house rugby was the number one sport and I'm an avid supporter of Leinster so I hope there are some rugby enthusiasts amongst you! In 2008 I qualified as a Civil Engineer and for the last ten years that's the work I've been committed to. After a brief stint in Ireland I emigrated to Australia for two years to work on a major civil project. Through various circumstances and forging of friendships the work I did out there led me from Civil Engineering into Marine Engineering. This new career path eventually brought me to the UK where I spent four years working as a Marine Engineer in Liverpool. Finally, at the behest of a colleague of mine I was eventually coaxed down to London where for the last three years I've been working on the Crossrail project.

It was during my time working abroad that I started to take a new look at my faith. Up to that point I had taken it for granted as I never sought to develop it beyond my earlier formation. Not knowing who to turn to I decided to read the life of the saints and I soon came across the life of St. Francis of Assisi. I was so inspired by his devotion to Our Lord that I picked up the Gospels and began to read them with a renewed zeal. Jesus soon came to be the centre of my life and I began to readily receive the Sacraments so that "I may not live with my own life but with the life of Christ who lives in me" (Gal 2:20). The call to the priesthood still came as surprise to me as I was quite content with life but in sensing the call to go further I couldn't resist. I knew from the moment I was called I would be walking a new path with the Lord.

I once heard a bishop describe the role of a priest as a person who acts as a bridge between people and God. I naturally like this description but I don't feel I would be limited to just a bridge as I have much experience in roads and tunnels as well, so by whatever means necessary, I hope to bring people to God!

I look forward to meeting you all. God Bless

Seminarian Robert Smialek

Those who are sick: Pat Joe Daly, Pierre Timon, Lorenzo Aureli, Mossie Joy, Frank McCarthy, Julia Egan, Kelly Rice, Margaret Ginty, Hugh Moyles

Those who have died recently: Frank Gormley, Asuncion Valeniguela, Coral Gouveia

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Agnes Harrison, Emilia Coia, Bridie Farrell, Patricia Thomas, Owen Murtagh, Bridget Kevane

Those Baptised: Dayshanea Louise Bennett

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £1,609.82 (excluding standing orders). Standing orders for August amounted to £1,564.00. Thank you very much for your generosity.

Good Shepherd Company will be visiting our parish this weekend to sell olive wood carvings from the Holy Land (Bethlehem) on behalf of its Christian families. The *Good Shepherd Company* is based in Nottingham and works alongside the *St. Vincent De Paul Society* for orphans and the elderly in the Holy Land. Their goal is to support and help the Christian families in the Holy Land to stay there and work—olive wood carving is one of the most important sources of income for them and 90% of the Christians rely on their sale. By selling their olive wood produce such as rosaries, crosses, cribs and religious statues here on their behalf, they help prevent Christians from leaving the country in search of better work opportunities. Indeed, a test survey from the bishops of Jerusalem has shown that there are only 41,000 Christians left in the area.

CAFOD Family Fast Day: Friday 5 October 2018. On Family Fast Day, *CAFOD* invites us to share in the abundance that God has given us. We are asked to fast, pray and give to help people like Longora, who lives in a remote village in Uganda. The area is so hot and dry that people used to struggle to get enough clean water to survive. Thanks to the generosity of parishioners in England and Wales, *CAFOD* has made sure Longora and her neighbours now have a reliable supply of clean, safe water. On Family Fast Day *CAFOD* invites us to eat simply – perhaps having a bowl of soup instead of a meal – and give the money we save to help people like Longora. Please collect your Fast Day envelope from the church this week and place it in next week's collection. Please also see the poster at the back of the church.

Roman Catholic Secondary School, Sixth Form, Nursery, Infant, and Primary School Applications. On 1, 4, 5, & 8 October 2018 (for secondary school and sixth form) and on 30 November, 6, 7, 10, 13 & 14 December 2018 (for nursery, infant and primary), Fr Kevin will be available to sign the Certificate of Catholic Practice. The bishops of England and Wales have decreed that he can only sign this for those who attend Mass here every week and have done so for at least five years. Newer/irregular parishioners should bring a letter from their previous/alternative parish. Please telephone the parish office between 10:00am and 2:00pm, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday, to make an appointment.

Accommodation. Please let Father Kevin know if you have any reasonable accommodation which you could let, as we are often approached by practicing Catholic families new to the UK looking for somewhere to live. And for some, this is a pressing need now!

APF—Mill Hill Mission. Could the person who kindly volunteered to be the new *APF* secretary, and gave their details to Fr Donie, please contact the parish office. Thank you.

London Ballycroy Reunion 47th Anniversary takes place on Saturday 13 October 2018 at 8:30pm at Quex Road's Mazenod Social Club, London NW6 4LS. For tickets please telephone either Martin on 07803 231 668 or Brid on 07852 167 318.

Funeral Notice

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late Frank Gormley of Villiers Road will take place on Monday 1 October 2018 at 6:00pm followed by repatriation to Ireland

May he rest in peace

Diocesan News

Newman Catholic College Open Evening takes place on 4 October 2018 from 4:00pm—7:00pm and Open Mornings from 9:15am—11:00am on 26 September and 3 & 9 October 2018. No appointment necessary. Private tours on request.

The Convent of Jesus and Mary Language College (CJM) are welcoming Year 5 and 6 students and their parents to an Open Evening on Thursday 11 October from 3:30pm—6:30pm and Open Mornings (by appointment) on 12, 16, 17 & 18 October at 9:30am and 11:00am. The Convent is a happy, thriving and successful school, rooted in Gospel values within a warm, supportive and nurturing community. It is now the only all girls' school in Brent. Working in partnership with St Mary's University as the first and only Catholic Research School and with *Steinway* pianos as the first state funded *Steinway* School, the girls' academic and creative education is supported and developed to a high level. Parents and girls currently in year 5 and 6 are strongly urged to visit.

Torchlit Procession in Honour of Our Lady of Willesden will take place on Sunday 14 October 2018 at 7:00pm from the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden, 1 Nicoll Road, London NW10 9AX. All are welcome. For more details please see the poster at the back of the church.

Parish Diary

Sunday	1:15pm— 2:15pm	<i>Oremus</i> —Annexe
Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group—Annexe
Wednesday	8:00pm	<i>Pioneers</i> —Annexe
Thursday	8:00pm	Padre Pio Group—Annexe
Saturday	3:00pm— 5:00pm	"The Feast London" —a Catholic prayer meeting of the Light of Jesus Family—Annexe

Readings at Mass

First Reading:	Numbers 11:25-9
Psalm Response:	The precepts of the Lord gladden the heart.
Second Reading:	James 5:1-6
Alleluia Verse:	Your word is truth, O Lord, consecrate us in the truth.
Gospel:	Mark 9:38—43.45.47-48