

Presbytery

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ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH NOVEMBER—MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

18 NOVEMBER 2018

33RD 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

Brexit Saints?

No, I have no desire to canonise any players in the current situation regarding our departure from the European Union. Mind you, it would be nice if a few people could bring the immense grace of God to bear on a seemingly intractable situation. Rather, this is a nod towards an often overlooked treasure in the new translation of the *Roman Missal* which was definitively introduced around the time I arrived here in 2011.

For among the many benefits of this new book, its specificity for the English Church means that it contains the proper prayers for the feasts of native saints who would otherwise be ignored because finding the prayers for their feasts required a pretty detailed knowledge of liturgical resources. And this weekend we mark three of them.

Friday is the feast of the bishop St Edmund of Abingdon who was born Edmund Rich (by name and nature) in 1180. He taught maths, philosophy and theology at Paris and Oxford. At the same time, despite his wealthy background, he lived an austere life and paid for the Lady Chapel at St Peter's in Oxford which now forms part of the college that still bears his name today. He also spent much time in prayer, often through the night, so that he regularly fell asleep during lectures, though presumably not his own...

He was ordained a priest, moved to Salisbury as treasurer and finally was appointed Archbishop of Canterbury in 1233. While he was adored by the people for his teaching preaching, study, prayer, self-sacrifice and devotion to others, he stood firm against King Henry III's interference with the governance of the Church and incurred his displeasure. On a journey to Rome to seek the backing of the Pope he died in 1240 in France and was declared a saint only six years later. Incidentally, his forearm lies in the chapel at St Edmund's College, Ware, the old site of Allen Hall seminary.

Saturday sees the feast of St Hugh of Lincoln who was a Carthusian monk appointed bishop of Lincoln in 1186. He never let go of the monastic rhythm saying to one nobleman urging him to hurry the Mass so he could meet the king, "We must do homage first to the King of kings. No secular employment can dispense us from what we owe to him." Saturday is also the feast of St Hilda, born to the King of Northumbria in 614. She became a nun in France until St Aidan asked her to become abbess of Hartlepool and Whitby. And get this—she trained five bishops and convened the Council of Whitby.

The Church is truly global, but let's not forget our home-grown saints and ask their prayers for our land and for its people that they may grow in holiness. *Fr Kevin*

Those who are sick: Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Pierre Timon, Lorenzo Aureli, Julia Egan, Nancy Dollery, Kathleen Forde, William O'Sullivan, Patrick Delaney

Those who have died recently: Pat Joe Daly, Maria De Ville

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Muriel & George Wilson, Bill Mawn, Sean Higgins, Queteria Da Silva, Augusto Pesqueira, Paul Etuka, Sheelagh Bailey

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £1,733.32 (excluding standing orders). Standing orders for October amounted to £1,665.00. Thank you very much for your generosity.

Sick and Retired Priests' collection. Thank you for your generosity to the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund collection last weekend, to date the parish has raised £1,785.53. It's not too late to make a donation if you wish. Envelopes are available in the back of the church, or by contacting the parish office. Please continue to pray for sick and retired priests. For more information, or to make a donation, visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. We are still waiting for the DBS clearances for our new ministers. In the meantime, Fr Kevin has four people who need Holy Communion brought to them every couple of weeks by an existing minister please. Ideally, it someone who could stop for a chat for a while as they're getting a bit tired of his late/early arrival and having to rush off pretty quickly. Please let Fr Kevin know if you can help.

World Day of the Poor Sunday 18 November— and Christmas Gifts for Prisoners' Children. Pope Francis has asked the entire Catholic community to mark World Day of the Poor on Sunday 18 November. The theme for this year is, 'this poor man cried and the Lord heard him'. This year *Caritas* Westminster is asking that you not only remember those in poverty in your prayers but reach out in practical ways. A specially designed prayer card can be found on the table at the back of the church. As a suggested parish initiative *Caritas* Westminster are working with charities who support prisoners and their families to provide Christmas gifts for prisoners' children, as if from the imprisoned parent. They are asking parishes and others if they would like to do this with people buying a gift costing £5-10 for a child which is then returned via the parish/*Caritas* to the charity. Where possible the gifts will then be given to the children by their parent at "family days" during December which are organised in the prison visitor centres by the chaplains. Other gifts will be posted, ideally with a gift tag and message from the parent. If you'd like to take part there is a list of children's names at the back of the church for whom we would like to purchase a gift at Christmas. Please sign your name against the child you wish to purchase a gift for. There is a poster at the back of the church which provides more information and also a poster which details a list of appropriate presents to purchase. Gifts would need to be bought and returned to the parish office by Friday 30 November 2018. Please contact Kathleen in the parish office if you have any questions on 020 8451 4677. Thank you.

Stitch Amazingly Sewing Workshop has a Christmas sewing club on Tuesdays. The next workshop is on 20 November and runs until 18 December from 7:00pm—8:30pm. Perhaps you might want to make some special gifts for loved ones and friends, or even a party outfit for yourself (or some little ones)? Everyone is welcome—the more the merrier! To book and for further details please telephone Glenda Brady on 07739 707 564 and please see the poster at the back of the church.

St Mary Magdalen's RC Junior School Christmas Fair takes place on Friday 30 November 2018 from 5:00pm until 8:00pm. There will be a BBQ and bar, cake sale and 'Bake Off', craft stall, carol singers, games, raffle, tombola and much more! We hope to see you all there. Raffle tickets will be on sale after all Masses this weekend and next weekend 24/25 November.

Ashford Place. The monthly collection of non perishable food stuffs only, for Ashford Place, takes place next weekend.

Nursery, Infant, and Primary School Applications. On 30 November, 6, 7, 10, 13 & 14 December 2018, 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 to make an appointment.

Repository. Advent calendars, Advent candles, wreaths, cribs, Christmas cards, Mass bouquets, Christmas story books, church art calendars, cribs, candles, a wide selection of cards to suit all occasions and many other items religious items are on sale now in the Repository. The Repository is open before and after all Sunday Masses, including the Saturday Vigil.

Diocesan News

'God Reaching Out'. Prepare spiritually for Advent and Christmas with a Day of Prayer & Reflection led by Sister Eileen Airey OP and Sister Teresa O'Donovan OP on Thursday 6 December at the Niland Conference Centre, Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath WD23 4EE. Registration is at 9:30am for a 10:00am start. There will be Holy Mass to close at 3:00pm. Please bring a packed lunch; refreshments provided. Suggested donation is £14. Please email nilandcentre@gmail.com to register.

Parish Diary

Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group—Annexe
Tuesday	7:00pm— 8:30pm	<i>Stitch Amazingly</i> —Annexe
Thursday	7:15pm	SVP—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:	Daniel 12:1—13
Psalm Response:	Preserve me, God, I take refuge in You.
Second Reading:	Hebrews 10:11—14. 18
Alleluia Verse:	Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming.
Gospel:	Mark 13:24—32