

Presbytery

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Parish Clergy

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Parish Office

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**ST MARY MAGDALEN
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
JANUARY —MONTH OF
THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS
6 JANUARY 2019
**THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
YEAR C**

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

The Four Last Things

Firstly, for all who aspire to be Banskys, chalk will be blessed today for you to ask God's blessing on your homes and those who live in it or visit it; to invite Christ to be your daily guest. Use it to mark the lintel of your front door (or the step) as follows: 20 + C + M + B + 19 while saying: *"The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and eighteen years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen."* CMB represents the names of the three Magi and is an acronym for *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless our home," the "+" sign represents the cross and 2019 the year.

Then offer this prayer: *"Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of Your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of Your love; and grant that we may manifest Your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of You; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen."* It is a great tool for evangelising your visitors!

Secondly, people have often commented that I brought back many of the "old ways" (exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, processions, etc., and even the blessing of chalk). These things were always there but fell into disuse: as Christ points out in the Gospel, the disciple brings out from his storehouse things new and old (Mt 13:52). This was all encouraged by the new translation of *The Roman Missal* which had just been introduced when I arrived. No doubt, in similar ways, Monsignor Reader will encourage your prayerful devotions and develop your spiritual lives so you become even better disciples of Christ, besieged as we all are "by so many uplifted voices, the general noise and uproar, in our seething and over-sensitized modern life" as Pope St Paul VI puts it.

Thirdly, there have been many other changes since 2011 because the Diocese asked every parish to follow the same procedures in the protection of children and vulnerable adults but also on financial and health and safety issues etc. These seemed frustrating but if we hadn't taken up the challenge of *Growing in Faith* for example, how restored, open and welcoming would our church be? Obedience to our bishop makes total sense.

Fourthly, thank you from Fr Sudham, Seminarian Robert and me to all who helped make our church so beautiful and the liturgies so prayerful over the past few weeks. Thanks too for all your kind gifts but also for your prayers and support in the past year. And from me, the last last thing is a personal thank you for allowing me the great privilege of being your parish priest for the past seven and a half years. You have given me so much—I hope that I have repaid each of you in some way. God bless you all. *Fr Kevin*

Those who have died recently: Fr Bob Barry, Patrick Normoyle

Those who are sick: Fr Agustin Paunon, Pierre Timon, Lorenzo Aureli, Julia Egan

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Louis Keleghan, John Wallace

Parish News

Thank you to everyone who spent so much time and effort making the church look so beautiful for our Christmas Masses and to all those who made them such prayerful yet joyful liturgies—there were lovely comments from visitors and passers-by alike. And may God bless you for your generosity—the collection on 23 December 2018 was £1,753.82.60, on 30 December 2018 it was £1,302.68, and your Christmas offering was £6,044.52 (all excluding standing orders).

Children's Liturgy of the Word. We now welcome all children from reception up to year six to join the Children's Liturgy of the Word at 10:30am Mass. Thank you very much to those who have already volunteered to run this but we would very much like more catechists. Please speak to Father Kevin or leave your details with Kathleen in the parish office if you are able to help.

Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion Rotas. New rotas are available to collect from the rack in the Sacristy.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation Catechists' (Teachers') Worksheets for sessions 2—5 have been emailed to you. Paper copies are available to collect today from the rack in the sacristy. Also, if you have not already done so, in line with the new data protection regulations which came into effect on 25 May 2018, please could all those serving as First Holy Communion and Confirmation catechists complete and sign the lists on the table in the sacristy. You can read our full privacy policy on rcdow.org.uk/diocese/privacy-policy.

Monsignor Roger Reader is delighted to have been appointed as your new parish priest. He will be here next weekend, 12/13 January 2019, and looks forward to meeting you and building the Kingdom of God with you in Willesden Green.

Fr Bob Barry RIP. Fr Bob's funeral Mass will take place at Ss Sebastian and Pancras, Hay Lane, Kingsbury Green NW9 0NG on Monday 14 January at 12 noon. Bishop John Sherrington will preside and Father Michael Kennedy will give the homily. The burial will follow at Hendon Cemetery. Refreshments will be available in the parish centre adjacent to the church after the funeral Mass. Fr Bob's mortal remains will come into the church on Sunday 13 January 2019 at 6:00pm when there will be a Requiem Mass (not the Mass of the Baptism of the Lord).

Crib Offering 2018. This Christmas our crib offering will be donated to the *Catholic Children's Society* to provide family support, emergency grants and mental health services for vulnerable children in our Diocese.

What happens if you go into hospital? In light of strict data protection rules it is essential that on entering hospital you indicate that your details or those of your relative are to be passed to the Roman Catholic chaplain. Also state that you or your relative would like the Roman Catholic chaplain to visit you. Chaplains visit the wards during the week and provide an on-call service in case of emergencies.

Newsletter/Order of Mass leaflet. Please take your newsletter home with you after Mass and share it with family and friends.

Diocesan News

The SVP are distributing 11,500 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless and those spending the principal part of their day on the streets. Each pack contains thermal gloves, two pairs of socks, wet wipes, a toothbrush, toothpaste, an information sheet and pen. Please consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £3.50 per pack. Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to SVP. Thank you so much for your support.

Catholic Singles is an organisation which helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18 years old) meet other single Catholics, either one to one or through social events. For further information visit www.catholicingles.org.uk or telephone 0161 941 3498.

New Year's Resolution - Volunteer for CAFOD in the Westminster Diocese. Do you have good public speaking skills and want to help us tackle poverty and injustice? *CAFOD* needs volunteers to speak on their behalf in parishes and/or schools in the Westminster Diocese about their work in the developing world. To find out more details, or to book a place on their next Volunteer Information Day in London on Saturday 19 January 2019 telephone *CAFOD* on 020 8449 6970 or email westminster@cafod.org.uk.

Annual Mass in Honour of Our Lady of Lourdes takes place on Saturday 9 February at 2:00pm in Westminster Cathedral. The Sacrament of the Sick will be administered during Mass. All are welcome to attend. A special invitation is extended to all who are sick or infirm, all hospital chaplains, doctors, nurses, healthcare assistants and all who work in healthcare. If you or someone you know plan to attend in a wheelchair, please let Kathleen in the parish office know by Sunday 27 January 2019.

Parish Diary

Monday	5:30pm— 6:30pm	First Holy Communion class at St Mary Magdalen's Junior School
Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group—Annexe
Thursday	7:15pm	SVP Group—Annexe
Friday	7:00pm	Knights of St Columba—Annexe
Saturday	3:00pm— 5:00pm	"The Feast London" - a Catholic prayer meeting of the Light of Jesus Family in the Annexe

Readings at Mass

The Epiphany of the Lord

First Reading: Isaiah 60:1—6

Psalm Response: All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.

Second Reading: Ephesians 3:2—3. 5—6

Alleluia Verse: We saw His star as it rose and have come to do the Lord homage.

Gospel: Matthew 2:1—12