



St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church Archdiocese of Southwark

61 North Worple Way, London, SW14 8PR Tel. 020 8876 1326 then follow options

Parish Priest: Fr Adrian Patrick McKenna-Whyte Parish Email: Mortlake@RCAOS.org.uk

Part-time Parish Administrator: Nicola Jones (Wed. to Fri. 10.30 am-4.00 pm)

Web stmarymags.org.uk Web rcsouthwark.co.uk Twitter [@MortlakeParish](https://twitter.com/MortlakeParish)

Parish School: www.st-marymagdalens.richmond.sch.uk Head teacher: Mr Martin Brannigan



ARCHDIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK CIO REGISTERED
INCORPORATED CHARITY NUMBER 1173050

Baptisms and Weddings by arrangement
Please see Fr Adrian after Mass to make an appointment for a preparation course.

Parish Office Open:

Wednesday to Friday 10.30 am to 3.30 pm

Our Cemetery is open daily from 9 am to 3 pm
365 days a year (except for emergency callouts).

21st December 2025 to 4th January 2026

Sunday Masses: 9.30 am and 11.00 am

Weekday Mass: the church opens at 9 00 am with Mass at 9.30 am, but please check below for details.

Please note the church is closed on Tuesday.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays from 9.00 am, ending with Benediction before 9.30 Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturdays from 9.30 am to 10.30 am and by request.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP WITH THE PARISH COLLECTION
Our weekly income was £617 [an average of the last 4 weeks] Thank you for your continued support of the Parish it is much appreciated. If you prefer to give online please help our 'Maintenance and Mission' fund by [clicking on this link](#) in the online version of the newsletter. To set up a regular donation for the Sunday collection or for our Building Together Fund please follow this link to the Parish forms on our website: www.stmarymags.org.uk/community

You can also give online through our [JustGiving](#) page, through www.stmarymags.org.uk or by using the QR codes in the church. Thank you for giving whatever you can, as it will be used as a great blessing for the continued support of the Church.

21st December: 4th Sunday in Advent: Mass Book p 90-93



Our Jesse Tree symbols for the last Sunday of Advent begin on Monday with the **Ember and Tongs** to represent how we too, like Isaiah, can be cleansed of our sins by the Lord and speak out his word to others; then **Jeremiah's Tears** representing his grief at how God's people had sinned and needed to turn back to the Lord. **Habakkuk's Watchtower** to symbolise our watchfulness in waiting upon the day of the Lord's coming; **Nehemiah's Wall** around Jerusalem symbolised God's holiness and protection. Sadly, we know the war between Hamas and the people of Israel has made the Holy Land and the Gaza strip places of grief and division, with the security wall around Jerusalem dividing the land. Let us to continue to pray for the innocent who suffer and the guilty who inflict suffering, so that people of peace will rise-up to bring an end to such dreadful violence. Scriptures over the next two days spoke to us of the Motherhood of Mary and her cousin Elizabeth. On Sunday we have two icons; at our family Mass, this symbol reminding us of how Elizabeth's husband, Zechariah used a **Writing Tablet**, to proclaim the name of John the Baptist and his role in preparing a Way for the Lord, and at our 11 am Mass we placed a **Scallop Shell** symbolising both John's baptism and our own Christian journey of pilgrimage as we await the Lord's return. Our symbol on Monday is the **Carpenter's Hammer** representing Joseph's profession and his unique role in the story of our salvation, the Nativity is represented on our Jesse Tree by the **White Candle** symbolising Christ as Light of the World, shown in the white candle of our Advent wreath, lit at our first Mass of Christmas with the manger that cradled the infant Jesus. Our final Jesse Tree symbol is the **Chi-Rho** monogram, a combination of the first two letters for the Greek word of Christos, Christ – the true Light that came into the world on the first Christmas Day.

OUR PARISH IS PART OF MORTLAKE DEANERY,
a partnership of nine churches working together locally.

The Mass times of our nearest sister churches:

Our Lady, Queen of Peace, East Sheen has Mass on
Saturday (Vigil): 6.00pm; Sunday: 8.30 and 10.30am and

St Osmund, Barnes has Mass on

Sunday: 8.30 and 10.30am and at 6.30pm.

As part of Mortlake Deanery St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church is a community brought together by God's love.

Our baptism calls us to respond to that love by following Christ and serving our neighbours. We strengthen our union with Christ and with the Catholic Church through the celebration of the Eucharist.

In service to God and our neighbours, we foster works that promote the spirit of the Gospel, especially focussing on issues of racial and social justice.

"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10

Liturgical Year A	Mass Details and Intentions		21 st December 2025 to 4 th January 2026
Date	Time	Feria or Feast Day	Intention
21st Dec. Sunday	9.30 am	4th Sunday in Advent	The Needs of our Parish Family
	11.00 am		Intention of the Montero Family
22 nd Dec. Monday	9.30 am	Feria of Advent	Intention of Dalia Skaburskaite
23 rd Dec. Tuesday	Closed	NB the church is closed	The Church and Office are closed today
24th Dec. Wednesday Christmas Eve	6.00 pm	1st Mass of Christmas	Robert Burke [Foundation Mass]
	12.00 pm	Midnight Mass	For the Intention of Fr Adrian and his family
25th Dec. Thursday Christmas Day	9.30 am	Nativity of the Lord	The Needs of our Parish Family
	11.00 am		Peace in the world especially Ukraine
26 th Dec. Friday	9.30 am	St Stephen	Stella Parker RIP
27 th Dec. Saturday	9.30 am	St John the Evangelist	For the Holy Souls

Please see overleaf for our Mass Intentions for the week of 28th December to 4th January 2026, thank you.

As each member of our Parish family draws together with family and friends at Christmas, let us remember in prayer all those who find this a time of difficulty and hardship, especially those in areas of conflict and war such as in Ukraine, Israel and Palestine. With my prayers for all those in need and especially for you and all your loved ones, God bless, Fr Adrian.



Can you donate a poinsettia to decorate our beautiful church? If your answer is yes, please bring it with you to Mass on Sunday. If you can't bring it to Mass, please come with it to the Presbytery on Sunday afternoon or, at any time on Monday or Tuesday morning.

Details of our Advent and Christmastide services are available from the table at the back of the church. On Christmas Eve at the 6 pm Mass we invite all children to dress up as their favourite Nativity characters, all would be welcome as:

Marys, Josephs, Magi, Shepherds, Angels or Innkeepers, however many we have

Please note the Parish Office is closed from 19th December to 7th January 2026 with emergency contact only

Liturgical Year A	Mass Details and Intentions		28 th December 2025 to 4 th January 2026
Date	Time	Feria or Feast Day	Intention
28th Dec. Sunday	9.30 am	Feast of the Holy Family	The Needs of our Parish Family
	11.00 am		Joseph Hellel RIP
29 th Dec. Monday	9.30 am	St Thomas of Canterbury	Barnard Parker RIP
30 th Dec. Tuesday	CLOSED	NB the church is closed	The Church and Office are closed today
31 st Dec. Wednesday	9.30 am	Feria of Christmas	For Dominic Bemrose
1 st Jan. Thursday	9.30 am	Mary, The Mother of God	For the Intention of Fr Adrian and his family
2 nd Jan. Friday	9.00 am	Rosary and Benediction	Prayers for Peace: The Glorious Mysteries
NB after Benediction	9.30 am	St Basil & St Gregory Nazianzen	For the health of Colin Fisher
3 rd Jan. Saturday	9-10.30am	Sacrament of Reconciliation	The church is open for prayer until 12pm today
4th Jan. Sunday	9.30 am	2nd Sunday of Christmas	For the Holy Souls
	11.00 am		The Needs of our Parish Family

Fr Adrian has asked that our **Sanctuary Candle Prayer Intention** this week be in remembrance of **"The Holy Souls"**.

Each sanctuary candle costs the Parish £5, but we are grateful to individuals and families who sponsor this, either by donating for any amount, or none if a donation isn't possible. If you would like to sponsor our 7-day candle please see Fr Adrian or complete one of the white Gift Aid envelopes with your contact details and stating the prayer intention you would like at each Mass for a particular week, thank you.

The Archdiocese of Southwark is delighted to announce that Bishop Richard Moth, currently Bishop of Arundel and Brighton, will be the next Archbishop of Westminster and congratulate him most warmly on the appointment. We give thanks for the ministry of Cardinal Vincent Nichols for his faithful service to our Church and pray for him as he begins his retirement.



A BIG THANK YOU for your support for the Parish 'Share & Care' Foodbank. With thanks as well to the Parish families who



donate to local Foodbanks via their supermarket. All your support is appreciated and helps local families in need. It would be a great blessing if families could please include one extra item in their shopping to bring on Sunday or during the week as a donation to help feed Parish and local families. Our Foodbank is urgently in need of ... dried pasta, rice, tinned tuna, tinned tomatoes, tinned soup or tinned vegetables. Also needed is washing powder, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, tea, coffee, jam and biscuits, thank you.

We continue our Parish Prayers for Peace for the People of Ukraine, the Middle East and for all areas of conflict:

Loving God, we pray for all victims of violence, for all those suffering or afraid, that you will be close to them and protect them. We pray for world leaders, for compassion, strength and wisdom to guide their choices. We pray for the world that in this moment of crisis, we may reach out in solidarity to our brothers and sisters in need, through Christ our Lord.

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Please pray for Parish Family and friends who are unwell:

The sick and house bound are very much at the heart of the church and support us in their prayers as we support them in our prayers at every Mass. Please remember all the sick of our Parish, those who care for them and those in any kind of need. Individual names of the sick can be emailed to Fr Adrian for inclusion at Mass. These prayer petitions will be offered at every Mass as Fr Adrian keeps the private list of names at the altar.

"Rejoice that your names are written in Heaven."

Luke 10:20

Mass Intention envelopes are available at the entrance and exit to the church if you would like to request a Mass for a family member or friend, for the Holy Souls or for a particular need.

Please pray for the repose of the souls of

Helena Towey, Tadeusz Kawa, Carol Hearn, Lucia Morretti Raymundo, Bertram Arbuthnot, George Allen, Vera Goldskhlager, Alice Devaney, Nicholas Hogan, Roy Knight, James Henna, Pauline Bugela, Baby Tommy Murphy, Joy Williamson and all those whose anniversaries occur near this time.

May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, Rest in Peace. Amen

The names of those who have died are taken from the Death Register, if you would like to include in prayer an individual whose funeral did not occur here, please list their name in an email to Fr Adrian. Please also state if you would like their name to be added to the Book of Remembrance and to the list above for our prayers of intercession at our Sunday Mass.