



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. 10.30-14.30)

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



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: Monday 10 am to 1 pm and Wednesday to Friday 10.30 am to 2.30 pm

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

18th to 25th December 2022

Sunday Masses: 9:30am, 11.00am & 6:30pm

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

Please note the church is closed on Tuesdays.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays from 9am, ending with Benediction before 9.30 Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)

Saturdays from 10 am and by request.

THE PARISH COLLECTION UP TO SUNDAY 11th December.

Our weekly income was £1109 [an average of the last 4 weeks]

We are all in such extreme circumstances, many with reduced incomes that it is a blessing to be able to receive any donation you are able to give.

Please Note: no one is asked to give a specific amount as it all depends on individual income.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT

We can receive donations via the following methods:

- Download a Standing order form
www.stmarymags.org.uk/community
- Online Banking using the Parish Bank details:
NatWest Richmond, Surrey (A) Branch
NAME: RCAS Mortlake
Account number: 20224311
Sort Code: 60-07-20

(Please quote your Gift Aid Number if you have one.)

- The Donation Button on our website's Homepage:
www.stmarymags.org.uk
- Gift Aid Envelopes or Cash can be deposited in the blue donation buckets at the exit of the Church.
- Contactless Cards can be used at the Payment Points located by the Calvary Statue & Sacristy

4th Sunday of Advent : Parish Mass Book p.90-93

Our Jesse Tree symbols this week began with Hezekiah's **Tent** to remind us of God's presence in difficult times, and 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.



Habakkuk's **Watchtower**, symbolised his waiting in watchfulness upon the day of the Lord's coming; the **Tears** of Jeremiah, represented his grief at how God's people had turned from the Lord with Nehemiah's **Wall** around Jerusalem standing for how it should be kept a holy place (a sad reference to the division in the Holy Land today and how the current wall around Jerusalem keeps people out). Next we have our first reference to the New Testament, with a **Scallop Shell** symbolising John's baptism and our own Christian journey of pilgrimage as we await the Lord's return. this Sunday's symbol of the White **Lily** symbolises the purity of Mary, the Handmaid of the Lord, and our hope in the dawn of life eternal.

The **Carpenter's Hammer** represents Joseph's profession and his unique role in the story of our salvation; followed by a symbol representing the **Motherhood** of Mary and her cousin Elizabeth. The next symbol represents how Elizabeth's husband, Zechariah, used a **Writing Tablet**, to proclaim the name of John the Baptist, followed by the **White Candle**, symbolizing Christ; the light of the world and reminding us of the white candle of our Advent wreath which will be lit at the celebration of the Nativity of our Lord. The Nativity is represented on our Jesse Tree by the **Manger** that cradled the infant Jesus and on Christmas Day we place the last of our symbols, 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. **As we draw nearer to Christmas let us remember in prayer all those who find this a time of difficulty and hardship, God bless, Fr Adrian.**

ON-GOING SUPPORT OF THE PARISH

Thank you for your continued support of the Parish, especially whilst we are unable to take basket collections in church as we used to. If you haven't yet signed up to contribute by Standing Order or online, then please help our 'Maintenance and Mission' fund by [clicking on this link](#) in the online version of the newsletter. **Thank you for giving what you can**, it will be a great blessing for the continued support of the church.

Liturgical Year A	Mass Details and Intentions		18 th to 25 th December 2022
Date	Time	Feria or Feast Day	Intention
18 th Dec. Sunday	9.30 am		Leo Nugent RIP [Anniversary of his Birthday]
	11.00 am	Fourth Sunday of Advent	For the Welfare of the Wood Family
	6.30 pm		The needs of our Parish Family
19 th Dec. Monday	9.30 am	Feria	Good Estate of José Bemrose
20 th Dec. Tuesday	Closed	NB the church is closed	The Church and Office are closed today
21 st Dec. Wednesday	9.30 am	Feria	For the Holy Souls
22 nd Dec. Thursday	9.30 am	Feria	Monica Jones RIP
23 rd Dec. Friday	9.00 am	Rosary and Benediction	Prayers for Ukraine: the Sorrowful Mysteries
NB after Benediction	9.30 am	Feria	For the Holy Souls
24 th Dec. Saturday	6.00 pm	First Mass of Christmas	Robert Burke [Foundation Mas]
Church opens 11pm	12.00 pm	Midnight Mass	The Doci Family Intentions
25 th Dec. Sunday	9.30 am	Nativity of the Lord	Baby Tommy Murphy RIP
	11.00 am		The intention of the Nemeth Family

Happy Christmas		26 th December 2022-1 st January 2023		Happy New Year	
Liturgical Year A		Mass Details and Intentions		26 th December to 1 st January 2023	
Date	Time	Feria or Feast Day	Intention		
26 th Dec. Monday	9.30 am	St Stephen	For our Parish Family		
27 th Dec. Tuesday	Closed	NB the church is closed	The Church and Office are closed today		
28 th Dec. Wednesday	9.30 am	The Holy Innocents	For the wellbeing of Eileen's Family		
29 th Dec. Thursday	9.00 am	St Thomas of Canterbury	For the welfare of Tish Deacon		
NB after Benediction	9.30 am	Rosary and Benediction	Prayers for Ukraine: the Luminous Mysteries		
30 th Dec. Friday	9.00 am	Holy Family	For the welfare of Clare Johnstone		
31 st Dec. Saturday	9.00 am	7 th Day of Christmas Octave	For the wellbeing of Carmel Scarlett		
1st Jan. Sunday	9.30 am		Thanksgiving for Intercession of the Saints		
	11.00 am	Mary, Holy Mother of God	For our Parish Family		
	6.30 pm		The Doci Family Intentions		

Can you help the Parish to celebrate Christmas this year? We do need volunteers please ...

If you can volunteer at all please email mortlake@RCAOS.org.uk to help us with the following

- To help our decorations in the Church we need donations of potted poinsettias. We would be grateful if you could bring a gift of your Christmas plant to Mass any day, from this weekend until Fri. 23rd, placing it in the box by the statue of Our Lady, thank you.
- On Fri. 23rd Dec. from 10.15am we need volunteers to help clean and decorate the church and our Christmas trees.



For details of our Advent and Christmastide services please click on this [LINK](#)

On Christmas Eve at the 6pm Mass we invite any children to dress up as their favourite Nativity characters, all would be welcome as Marys, Josephs, Magi, Shepherds, Angels or Inn-Keepers, however many we have.

Thank you to everyone who was able to give a donation to the Christmas Appeal by CentrePoint.



First Holy Communion News. Thank you to all parents who have returned the First Communion Application for their child. **NB: all forms must have been given into Fr Adrian by Friday 16th December for their child to continue with the programme.** All parents who have applied for their child will have received a schedule with full details of the Lesson Plans but, as a reminder we have the Mass of Enrolment for all candidates on Sunday 8th January. The time will be advised separately and their first session will be on 15th January 2023.

MISSIO NEWS ...THANK YOU to everybody who has taken a Red Box. Can all those with a Red Box please email the Parish Office at Mortlake@RCAOS.org.uk with your details to confirm that you have one of the boxes and for those who don't have email please write to the Parish Office to let us know that you have one. If anyone is interested in donating to Missio via the Red Boxes and doesn't have one please see Fr Adrian after Mass.



Please see the Caritas Social Action poster 'SJOG Homes for Ukraine' in the Church porch. We have had a number of families volunteer to help open their homes to Ukrainian refugees. If you would like to help please see the poster.

We continue our Parish Prayers for Peace for the People of Ukraine:

Loving God, we pray for the people of Ukraine, 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.

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

Bernard and Bwalya Chomba who died recently for Josephine Horrocks, Hanora Kent, Alice Warne, Ellen Hickey, Christopher Holland, Marguerite McKee, Helena Towey, Tadeusz Kawa, Carol Hearn, Bertram Arbuthnot, George Allen, Leo Nugent, Vera Goldskhlager, Alice Devaney 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



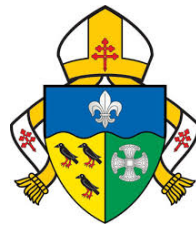
ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF SOUTHWARK – A REGISTERED CHARITY - Number 1173050

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A message from Fr Adrian:

"We are very blessed to have Fr Peter Andrews helping us whilst I have to be in hospital and convalesce a few months. Naturally, I hope to be back with you as soon as possible, but I can't honestly say when that will be, as it depends on how well the surgery goes. Fr Peter has already begun to celebrate Mass with me in the Parish so that he can become familiar with the Parish routine but, whilst all the sacramental work will continue as much as normal, there have to be a few changes and a call for extra volunteers to help Fr Peter and myself".

The first major change is that my last Sunday in the Parish for a number of weeks will be 8th January, with Fr Peter by himself at Mass from then on, as I will have to isolate and be at various appointments until the surgery the following week (God willing).

From 9 January, the weekly schedule will look like this:

- Monday: church open at 9:20, Mass at 9:30, church closed at 10:30. **The office is closed all day.**
- **Tuesday: the church and office are closed all day.**
- Wednesday: church open at 9:20, Mass at 9:30, church closed at 13:00, office open from 10:30 to 15:30.
- Thursday: church open at 9:20, Mass at 9:30, church closed at 13:00, office open from 10:30 to 15:30.
- Friday: church open at 9:20, Mass at 9:30, church closed at 13:00, office open from 10:30 to 15:30.
- **Saturday: the church and office are closed all day.**
- Sunday: church and hall open at 9am - volunteers are needed to help with this. Mass as usual at 9:30, 11:00 and 18:30.

The church is closed from 12:30 to 18:00 and after the 18:30 Mass.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation can be available after any Mass by specific arrangement with Fr Peter. Fr Peter is a retired Ordinariate Priest with a family. It's a great blessing that he is here to be such a help, but he is not a full-time replacement, so all the things I used to do such as opening the church and cemetery, cleaning the hall, emptying all the bins, putting out the recycling, and many other jobs, will all require help now.

We don't have a housekeeper, cook or a cleaner in the parish but we are blessed to have a part-time Parish Secretary, Nicola, but she only works mid-morning to mid-afternoon on a Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. Nicola will continue all her present roles but please note the office hours above.

If you have requested a baptism already then Fr Adrian and Nicola will be in touch to determine dates. There will be no change to the baptisms up to and including 7th January, but Fr Peter will celebrate future baptisms on a Sunday. Fr Adrian is in contact with the couples who have requested marriage as future appointments not already made will need to be arranged with Fr Peter.

One Parish member has volunteered to help with cleaning the hall, but we do need more people to help after Mass on a Sunday with the recycling and refuse and with returning the bins to storage on a Monday morning. If you can help in anyway, please volunteer, as I will still need volunteer help when I return, as I will need more treatment and many months to convalesce even when I'm back in the Parish. If we cannot get any volunteers, we may have to employ a 'caretaker' style post but it seems very unlikely that we could get anyone who would want to work a few days each day with only Tuesday and Saturday off each week. If you can volunteer, or may be interested in a paid caretaker post then please email me in the Parish Office at Mortlake@RCAOS.org.uk with details of how you can help as well as seeing me after Mass.

Please note: the cemetery is opened and closed during term time by the school but at weekends and all other times, so far by Fr Adrian. Fr Peter is not able to do this so, in addition to various volunteering roles for the church, it is hoped that volunteers will be able to open the cemetery at a weekend and during school holidays otherwise the cemetery will sadly have to close. I certainly hope that it does not come to this as we have a great team that look after the cemetery grounds but they are not at the cemetery every Saturday as in poor weather they cannot garden. I will email the cemetery team separately but hope that the cemetery will be able to remain accessible.

Fr Adrian McKenna