



St. Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

61 North Worple Way, London, SW14 8PR

Parish Priest: Fr Adrian Patrick McKenna-Whyte

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Parish website: www.stmarymags.org.uk

Archdiocesan website: www.rcsouthwark.co.uk

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

Office Open: Monday to Friday 10 am to 1 pm

Archdiocese of Southwark CIO Registered
Incorporated Charity Number 1173050

Parish & School News

Collection details: Our sacrificial giving is part of our participation at Mass and a sharing of the blessings God gives us. **Thank you for your support: our collection last week raised: £768.94 for the charitable work of the Parish with a further £400 (on average) by Standing Order plus a further £100 towards the cost of the security fund. Thanks to the wonderful work of the fair which raised £2,277 we have met our £3500 budget, and put out to tender, so A BIG THANK YOU for your tremendous support!** These sums include monies given in Gift Aid envelopes. Our thanks also go to those who donate by Standing Order direct into the parish account.

A BIG THANK YOU to Lucy and Jennie for all their 'behind-the-scenes' work and their coordination of the many 'Santa's Helpers' at each stall, not to forget Santa himself and to all those who were able to donate to or support our Christmas Fair



last Sunday which, in just four hours raised the amazing sum of £2,277. **Thank you to all involved for your hard work in giving of your time, your talents and your treasures.** The winners of our prize raffle are posted around the church and will be contacted by the details given on their ticket over the Christmas period. If you have a winning ticket, please bring this along at any Mass over the holiday to see Fr Adrian or email the Parish Office at Mortlake@RCAOS.org.uk to make arrangements for the collection of an extra Christmas gift.

Flowers for Christmas ... this Sunday we take an 'out of the ordinary' second collection to help raise funds for the flowers and decoration of the church this Christmas. You will already have begun to see the transformation of the church from Gaudete Sunday onwards, so please give what you can to help with the cost of the flowers and decorations for the church, thank you.

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

Weekday Mass: the church opens at 8:30am with Mass at 9.30 am, but please check the Mass Intention List for day to day details.

Please note the church is closed on Tuesdays.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament on Fridays from Mass to 10.30 am, ending with Benediction

Sacrament of Reconciliation (Confession)
Saturdays from 10 am and by request.

22nd - 29th December 2019

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. The **Tears** of Jeremiah, represented his grief at how God's people had turned from the Lord; Habakkuk's **Watchtower**, symbolised his waiting in watchfulness upon the day of the Lord's coming; 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. The **White Lily** symbolises the purity of Mary, the Handmaid of the Lord, and our hope in the dawn of life eternal and this Sunday's symbol will represent 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. The **Carpenter's Hammer** represents Joseph's profession and his unique role in the story of our salvation; 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



Please remember: you are welcome to tie prayer 'gift tags' onto our Jesse Tree as signs of remembering our loved ones in prayer.

Thank you to all those who were able to help with the 'BIG CLEAN' on Saturday and to those who will be able to help decorate the church after Mass on Monday. Please note, if you currently serve on a rota such a Reader, Extraordinary Minister, Collection Counter or Collection Banker, Flower Arranging, Church Cleaning or Altar Linen Cleaning rota etc., please email Mortlake@RCAOS.org.uk to provide your contact details and to confirm if you would like to serve on the new rotas which begin in the New Year.

Altar Servers rota

This weekend → Sunday 22nd Dec. Team 2
Please ask parents if you can serve at our Christmas Masses
 Sunday 29th Dec. Team 1 Sunday 05th Jan. Team 2
 Sunday 12th Jan. Team 1 Sunday 19th Jan. Team 2
 Sunday 26th Jan. Team 1 Sunday 02nd Feb. Team 2

Servers are asked to practice before each Mass so please ensure that you turn up at least twenty minutes before Mass begins. Please note: as space is limited, a maximum of eight Servers can help on the Sanctuary at a time so that each has a role to play.

If your child is able to serve over the Christmas period, please sign up on the Christmas Mass board in the Server's Sacristy. Please don't forget that Thursday 26th December is the feast of St Stephen, the Patron Saint of altar servers, so please attend our 9:30 Mass if you can as there will be a special blessing for altar servers at this Mass. Finally thank you to all our altar servers, whether you can serve at Christmas or not; but if you can serve at any of our Christmas Masses, please remember to turn up at 10:30 am on Monday 23rd December for an hour's rehearsal. Thank you.

MASS details and MASS INTENTIONS this week

22nd – 29th December 2019

Sunday 22 nd December	9.30am	The needs of our Parish Family
Advent 4 Year A	11.00am	Amy MacKenzie
(p.90-93)	6.30pm	Alexander Doci
Monday 23 rd	9.30am	Bill Mannion RIP and Conal Mannion
(Feria)		
Tuesday 24 th	[NB no Mass at 9.30am]	Please note: the church is closed until 5pm
Christmas Eve: First Mass of Christmas	6.30pm	Robert Burke (Foundation Mass) church closed 8-10pm
Midnight Mass	12.00pm	Private Intention
Wednesday 25 th	9.30am	James Prentice Please note: Mass is only at 9.30
Christmas Day	11.00am	Private Intention & 11am today, there is no 6pm Mass
Thursday 26 th	9.30am	Mass for the Parish Altar Servers
(St Stephen: Patron of Altar Servers)		
Friday 27 th	9.30am	Alexander Doci
(St John)		
Saturday 28 th	9.30am	Holy Souls
(Holy Innocents)		
Sunday 29 th December	9.30am	Alexander Doci
The Holy Family Year A	11.00am	No intention
(p.106-109)	6.30pm	The needs of our Parish Family

Parishioners and Friends who are sick:

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 written on our Parish Prayer Board beside the Baptistry.**

These prayer petitions which will be offered by the Priest as a whole at every Mass.

Luke 10:20

"Rejoice that your names are written in Heaven."

Please pray for the repose of the souls of

John Hale White who died recently and for Vera Goldschlager
 Nicholas Hogan, Pauline Bugeja, James Henna,
 Helena Towey, Margaret McKee

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 on the Prayer Board and see Fr Adrian if you would like their name to be added to the Book of Remembrance and to our prayers of intercession at our Sunday Mass.

As we start a new liturgical year at Advent we begin the 'Year of the Word'

with a special focus on our personal link with scripture. An Advent booklet for with readings and activities for adults and children is available from the Gift Table by the West Door at the central aisle. These can be available free, but if you would like to contribute to their cost please leave a donation in the 'Newspapers' slot at the column by the front door of the church. Copies were available last week for those attending the Children's Liturgy at the 9.30 Mass but please take a copy if you were away and didn't receive one.