

St. Mary Magdalen Roman Catholic Church



Parish Priest: *Fr. Richard Whinder*
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Sunday Masses: 9.30am, 11.00am and 6.30pm.
Confessions (Reconciliation):
Saturdays 10am-10.30am & 5pm-5.30pm

Gaudete Sunday – Christmas draws near

Today, the Third Sunday of Advent, is known as 'Gaudete' – 'rejoicing' – Sunday. As we light the third candle on the Advent wreath, we are reminded that Christmas is now very close. With that in mind –

1. Today is the last day to return registration forms for the **CHILDREN'S NATIVITY TABLEAU** at the 5.30 pm Christmas Eve Mass. Children registered must also attend the rehearsal, at 3.30 pm on Wednesday 21st December.
2. Next Sunday (18th December) there will be a retiring collection to help pay for **FLOWERS** for the church at Christmas. We will also be looking for help with a **BIG CLEAN** (to take place on Monday 19th December). There will also be lists up for our Readers and Extraordinary Ministers to sign up if they can assist over the festive period.
3. Lastly, Advent is also a good time to go to **CONFESSION** before Christmas arrives. With that in mind, we include a simple guide to Confession with this week's newsletter.

Parish & Local News

Parish Finances: 4th December 2016
Offeritory: £832.67

Children's Liturgy:

Sunday 11th December: **Group 4** / Third Sunday of Advent
Sunday 18th December: **Group 5** / Fourth Sunday of Advent

Altar Servers rota:

Sunday 11th December: 9.30 & 11am masses: **Team 2**
6.30pm Mass: **Team 1**

Sunday 18th December: 9.30 & 11am masses: **Team 1**
6.30pm Mass: **Team 3**

Cleaner's Rota

Monday 19th December: ALL GROUPS (the 'Big Clean')



Christmas Fair – a great success!

A very big THANK YOU to everyone who helped to organise last Sunday's Christmas Fair, and to all those who took part. The fair raised about £4200.00, and the raffle another £1800.00 on top of that – our best ever result! Just as importantly, the fair was a great occasion for our whole parish, and I think helped everyone enter into the festive mood. Thank you for your continuing support for these events, which help to bring our whole community together.

St Mary Magdalen's Calendar

The parish has produced a calendar for 2017, with lots of pictures of the newly restored church. With beautiful photographs and lots of space for your family dates and engagements, the calendar would make an excellent gift - for yourself or someone else! The calendars cost £10 and are on sale on Sundays leading up to Christmas.

APF/Mission Red Boxes - Counting time

Could anyone who has a red missionary box please bring it to the Church house for counting – most easily by leaving them in the sacristy after Sunday Mass. Thank you to all of you who support this missionary work by saving your coins.

SVP Sudan Baby Feeding Centre Appeal – THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to everyone who has supported our baby feeding centre in Sudan appeal. To date we have together raised £2250 (& gift aid!); a fantastic response and a wonderful gift to the babies in Sudan. We do have a few cards left so if you have not yet bought one and would like to, please contact Joan Henshaw on 07961883140 or at joan@10mmt.com. Again, many thanks for your 'love, kindness and unbounded generosity'.

New Rotas for 2017

New Rotas for Church volunteers are currently being made and will be available for collection from the Church over the next few weeks. Please lookout for which rotas are ready in the weekly newsletter.

Altar Linen Rota

The New Altar Linen Rotas for 2017 have been created and are available for collection at the back of the Church. If you have offered to clean Altar Linens please collect the envelope with your name on it from the back of the church.



Altar Servers for Christmas Masses

If you would like to serve during the Christmas Masses, please sign the volunteers list will be available from next Sunday, with your name and the Mass date and time you would like to serve at. The list will be in the sacristy.

Sign up to our mailing list to receive emails with details of parish news and events

www.stmarymags.org.uk/maillinglist

How to go to Confession

A Prayer before Confession

Lord Jesus, open my mind and heart to your Holy Spirit. Help me to remember my sins, to be sorry for them, and to try hard never to sin again. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for me that I may make a good confession. Amen.

A Simple Examination of Conscience:

Jesus says: '***You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart.***'

Have I been loyal to Jesus and his Church?
Have I betrayed my faith or put it at risk?
Am I faithful to daily prayer?
Have I put my trust in superstition?
Have I cursed, sworn or broken my word?
Did I miss Mass on any Sunday or Holyday of Obligation through my own fault?
Did I fulfil my Easter duties (going to Confession and Communion within the Easter period)?

Jesus says: '***You shall love your neighbour as yourself.***'

Have I respected my parents and those in authority?
Have I been angry, proud or hateful to others?
Have I neglected my family responsibilities?
Have I got drunk, greedy or lazy?
Have I been impure in thought, word, looks or action?
Have I cheated, stolen or gambled beyond my means?
Have I told lies to excuse myself or injure others?

Remember – if it has been a long time since your last Confession, or you are not sure what to say, ask the priest to guide you – he will be very happy to help.

What to say:

You begin by saying:

Bless me Father, for I have sinned: it is a week/ a month/ a year (*or however long you think it has been*) since my last confession.

Then tell the priest all of the things you are sorry for. When you have finished you may say:

I am very sorry for all these sins and the sins of my past life.

The priest may then give you some brief words of advice, and will give you your penance (some prayers to say, or some action to do, to show that you are sorry). He will then ask you to say the Act of Contrition below:

The Act of Contrition:

O my God, because you are so good, I am very sorry that I have sinned against you, and by the help of your grace I will not sin again.

The priest then gives Absolution, and forgives you your sins:

God, the Father of mercies, through the death and resurrection of his Son, has reconciled the world to himself and sent the Holy Spirit among us for the forgiveness of sins. Through the ministry of the Church may God give you pardon and peace, **and I absolve you from your sins in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen**

MASS INTENTIONS

Please note, Masses over the Christmas weekend are Saturday 24th December at 5.30pm, Midnight Mass, Sunday 25th December at 9.30am and 11.00am.

Sunday 11th December - Sunday 18th December 2016

Sunday 11 th December: <i>Third Sunday of Advent</i> <i>Gaudete Sunday</i> (p.88)	9.30am 11.00am 6.30pm	Private Intention (T. Deacon) Mary Crump R.I.P (Family Intention) Holy Souls
Monday 12 th December: <i>Our Lady of Guadalupe</i>	9:30am	Fr. Eamonn Whelan RIP
Tuesday 13 th December: <i>Saint Lucy</i>	9.30am	Good Estate of Felicity Smart (T. Deacon)
Wednesday 14 th December: <i>Saint John of the Cross</i>	9.30am	Fr. Robert Jennings RIP
Thursday 15 th December:	7.00pm	Holy Souls
Friday 16 th December:	9.30am	George Francois Hiller (Sophie Saunderson)
Saturday 17 th December: <i>O Sapientia</i>	9.30am	Well-being of Fr Michael Clifton
Sunday 18 th December: <i>Fourth Sunday of Advent</i> (p.90)	9.30am 11.00am 6.30pm	Pro Populo Holy Souls For Vocations

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Traditional Latin Masses 2017

These are the dates for the monthly Latin Masses in 2017. Please note that, unavoidably, several cannot be on First Fridays. All are at 7pm.

Friday 13 th January (2 nd Friday)	Friday 12 th May (2 nd Friday)	Friday 1 st September
Friday 3 rd February	Friday 9 th June (2 nd Friday)	Friday 6 th October
Friday 3 rd March	Friday 7 th July	Friday 3 rd November
Friday 7 th April	No Latin Mass in August	Friday 1 st December

Parishioners and Friends who are sick:

Please remember in your prayers all those who are sick, especially, Teresa May Donnellan, Veronica McCaffery, Sarah Wilkins, Kevin Best, Jamie Gilmour, Bridget Carr, Pauline Carr, Maureen Carr, Betty Boyle, Catherine Martin, Richard Bannon, Liliana Rodrigues de Reid, Christopher Browne, Catherine Browne, Teri Frank, Sabina Marshall, Manuel Campello, Pauline Goggins, Mabel and Terry Cooney, Bridget Mole, John Harwood-Stevenson, William McGregor, Rachel Cunningham, Margaret Rayner, Peter Brigdale and Pam Raggett.