

Parish Masses for the two coming weeks:

Date	Feast	Time	Mass Intention
Sat 18 th July	16 th Sunday Ordinary Time	6pm	Sheila METCALFE, RIP
Sunday 19 th	15 th Sunday Ordinary Time	9.30am	Judy De SILVA, int
		11.30am	People of the Parish
		6pm	Jenny VANJOUR, Int
Mon 20 th		7am	Olwe O'MALLEY, RIP
Tues 21 st		9am	Fr Freddie JACKSON. RIP
Wed 22 nd	St Mary Magdalene	9am	Angeles JIMENEZ, Int
Fri 24 th		12noon	
Sat 25 th July	17 th Sunday Ordinary Time	6pm	
Sunday 26 th	15 th Sunday Ordinary Time	9.30am	
		11.30am	People of the Parish
		6pm	
Mon 27 th		7am	Mary McGRATH, RIP
Tues 28 th		9am	Ted CRADDOCK, RIP
Wed 29 th	St Martha	9am	Martin MANNION, RIP
Fri 31 st	St Ignatius of Loyola	12noon	Alessandro MILANESE & Caterina D'ALONZO, Int

OUR LADY & ST CATHERINE OF SIENA

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NEWSLETTER - SIXTEENTH & SEVENTEENTH SUNDAYS IN ORDINARY TIME 19TH & 26TH JULY 2020



Our Primary School. St Agnes closed for the summer holidays last Friday. This summer will be different for many of us. The Church, however, continues with her rhythm of celebrations. Next Wednesday, 22nd July, the Church rejoices celebrating St Mary Magdalene. When her celebration was raised to becoming

a feast in the Church's year, archbishop Arthur Roche from the Congregation of Divine Worship wrote:

On the one hand, Mary has the honour of being the first witness to the resurrection of the Lord, the first to see the empty tomb and the first to hear the truth of His resurrection. Christ has a special consideration and mercy for this woman, who shows her love for Him, looking for Him in the garden with anguish and suffering. In this sense, we would point out the difference between the two women present in the garden of Paradise, and in the garden of the Resurrection. The first disseminates death where there was life, and the second proclaims Life from a tomb, the place of death. ... Likewise, it is in the garden of resurrection that the Lord says to Mary Magdalene, '*Noli me tangere*' (Do not cling to me). It is an invitation not only to Mary, but also to all the Church, to enter into an experience of faith that overcomes any appropriation or human understanding of Jesus. It is a good lesson for every disciple of Jesus: do not seek human securities and worldly honours, but faith in the Living and Risen Christ.

"Precisely since she was an eyewitness to the Risen Christ, she was also the first to testify before the apostles. She fulfils the mandate the Risen Christ gives her: 'go to my brothers and say to them ... Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"—and that he had said these things to her'. In this way she becomes, as is already known, an evangelist, or rather a messenger who announces the good news of the resurrection of the Lord; she is the Apostle of the apostles, as she announces to the apostles what they in turn will announce to all the world. Mary is the witness to the Risen Christ and announces the message of the resurrection of the Lord, like the other apostles.

It is right we celebrate Mary Magdalene's feast day and are inspired by her to bring the Good News to those we meet.

Welcome Back

Last week, around 140 people came to Mass. It is great to see you back and quite encouraging to observe people abiding by the rules. The 11.30am mass is still the most congested of all masses and perhaps you do well to reconsider attending another mass.

As we resume public worship, these are some rules we will need to follow:

1. Please sanitise your hands when you arrive and wear a mask if at all possible. Keep a safe distance at all times.
2. At this time, only the main body of the Church is available. No side chapels are accessible and the use of the toilet is not allowed.
3. Please seat in any available space. It would be helpful if you do not seat by the aisle. Once in your space do not move till directed by the stewards.
4. There will be no collection during mass. Please give your contribution as you leave the church or online (<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/bow/donate/>).
5. For communion, wait till the steward asks you to move. If you cannot queue, Fr Javier will come to you.
6. Communion will be distributed only under one kind and on the hand.
7. At the end, wait to be ushered by the steward. If you are on the pulpit side, leave through the main aisle and the main door; if you are on the font side, leave by the side aisle and the side door.
8. If you want to stay praying or light up a candle, wait in your place. Only light the candle when people have cleared the area.
9. Above all, be sensible, be aware of the people around you and respect them.

All of us need to adjust and due to the restriction in numbers we might need to close the doors of the Church if we reach full capacity. The obligation to go to Mass on Sunday has been lifted. A suggestion is to go to Mass during the week when the Churches are not as busy. On that topic, the times of weekday masses have now changed. Mass on Monday will be at 7am (due to my involvement with the Food Bank); mass on Tuesday and Wednesday will be at 9am and Mass on Friday at 12noon. There will not be a mass on Thursday (Guardian Angels, Mile End has a 9.30am mass on a Thursday). Masses during the weekend stay the same: Saturday 6pm; Sunday 9.30am; 11.30am and 6pm. I have also decided to move the Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Benediction to Friday at 11am. Confessions will be on Saturday at 5pm; Sundays between the morning masses and on call.

Fr Javier's Leave of Absence

Fr Javier will be away from 23rd July till 1st August. He is travelling to Spain for his father's 80th birthday and a wedding. All masses will be covered.

Broadcast of 11.30am

Due to Fr Javier's absence there will not be a broadcast of the 11.30am mass on 26th July. We should be back online on 2nd August.

Financial support

Over the period of Lockdown, people have been very generous and have used the online donation services as well as setting up new Standing Orders. This is greatly appreciated. Some of you have come back to Church with the contributions you have saved during this time. For the past four months we have had a sum total of £9,225.95, an average of £768.80 per week which is slightly under our average weekly intake but not completely disastrous.

Together with the Diocese, we are engaging in setting up a Virgin Money Giving page, which will be running soon. This will allow you to donate online if you do not want to carry cash on you. Another way of contributing to the parish is by setting a standing order for the parish (Account Name: WRCDT Bow; Sort Code: 40-05-20; Account Number: 01308157). Please add your Surname and First Name as a reference, to help our bookkeeper.

Those who need to collect their weekly envelopes, please speak to Fr Javier.

If you want to Gift Aid your donation, that would be greatly appreciated. Please speak to Fr Javier who will arrange for a Gift Aid Form to be sent to you.

Volunteering

There are different ways in which you can support the parish. Some of you have helped immensely looking after the garden and the IT in the parish. Fr Javier would like to gather a team which could look after the fabric of the parish. There are some areas such as maintenance, small repairs, IT, gardening which could benefit from the skills of the parishioners. At times people who have a "trained eye" spot issues easier than the rest. If you have any suggestions and would like to carry them out, please speak to Fr Javier.

Baptism

Guidelines have now been issued for the baptism of children. Please approach Fr Javier to discuss how and when your child could be baptised. We still wait for a decision on what form would the baptism of adults will take place.

Confirmation

We are still waiting for guidance on what form the celebration of confirmation will take place.

Eucharistic Adoration

There will be no Eucharistic Adoration till September.

Parish Office

The Parish Office is now opened: Wednesday, 9.30am – 2.30pm and Friday, 9.30am – 12.30 pm

Jose DIAS, RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Jose DIAS, who passed away last Monday, 6th July. He was a regular parishioner at 11.30am. his funeral mass will take place on Wednesday 5th August at 1.30pm. due to COVID-19 restriction this funeral will be for family only.

Mass Offering

Note that there are many free slots if you want to book a Mass. Please let Fr Javier know your request. You can book even for the days that are empty in the two weeks printed overlift.