

4th Sunday of Lent, 14th/15th. March 2026

We welcome all to today's Mass, especially visitors who are celebrating with us for the first time. Please take this bulletin home with you for further reflection on this week's celebration and to follow the activities in the Parish during the week.

REFLECTION

David; Model in our Lenten Journey

God can choose you or me for some special task in this life. Such a choice does not depend on us or on our goodness or on anything except on God Himself. That is the surprising and humbling aspect of God's call: it is mercy and compassion and for God's plan. So often we look at God's call to a person as a response to that person's goodness. Instead, the person's goodness is completely a response to the call of God. When we hear the story of the anointing of David as a king in the first reading, we see God specifically choosing a youngest son, not the eldest and not any of the others. David is a symbol of the greatness of the Kings chosen by the Lord. As we listen to his life, we realize that his greatness was not in total fidelity to the Lord in every aspect of his life, but a total fidelity in the heart. David sins over and over in his life. He chooses his own ways in preference to the ways of the Lord. Every time he is challenged about this, however, he repents and returns to the Lord. David is a wonderful symbol for us in this time of Lent because of his continual conversion to the Lord. We also find ourselves as sinful people who need to repent and seek the face of the Lord. **Fr Nat**

Mass Times & Intentions: 14 March 2026 — 22 March 2026

Sat. 14th. 6:30pm: People of the Parish

Sun. 15th. 8.30am: Alex Lobow (God's Blessing, long life, good health and private intentions). 10:00am: World Peace, Margaret & Alex Alexis (God's blessing & healing, 53rd wedding anniversary). 11.30am: Ivy Muclcle & Family (Good health & God's blessings), All Mothers

Mon. 16th. 9:30am: Holy Souls

Tue. 17th. 9:30am: Lorrain & Catriona (Special Intention)

Wed. 18th. 9:30am: Rodolfo Piscina (Ann. R.I.P)

Thur. 19th. 9:30am: Mario Amodio (Ann. R.I.P.)

Fri: 20th. 9:30am: Mathilda Peter-Monguasa (Birthday Blessings & Private Intention)

Sat. 21st. 9:30am: Joe & Mary Leane (Special in

Sat. 21st. 6:30pm:

Sun. 22nd. 8.30am: Alex Lobow (God's Blessing, long life, good health and private intentions). 10:00am: Blessing, protection & forgiving to my children. 11.30am:

The SICK: Esta Joseph, Rosa Sanctos, Annie O'Kane, Aggrey Michael Davis, Peter Carey, Peter Ageyman, Mario Despasio, Fr. Morty, Joshua Twagira, Darabela Edmund, Margaret Pain, Juliana Charles, Audreh Khan, Ephraim Aluebhosele, Gwen Randall, Chinyere Oburota, Patrick Akanya,

Kathy Langridge, Patricia Wocial & Maxine Leech. **ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH:**

Bridget Foster, William Hughes, Alojzy Kwasniewski, Brendan Rafferty, Berquez Constant, Maria Ellery, William DeRosa, John Walker, Monica Conway, Sydney Plunkett, Mrs Curry, Kathleen Kelly, William Dooley, Michael Murphy, Malcolm George Kirkpatrick, Rodolfo Piscina, Gerald Ward, Vincenzina Grillo, Michael David, Helen Monypenny, Thomas McNamee, Richard Homolka, Eileen Hathaway & Ann Byrne.



Parish is served by the Congregation of the Holy Spirit (Spiritans)

Parish Priests: Fr. Nathaniel Ewusi CSSp, Fr. Christian Enechukwu CSSp.

Parish Deacon: Rev William Dunphy.

Safeguarding Rep: Una McGill (brockleysg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk).

Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday - (10.00am - 1.00pm)

Contact: 73 Comerford Road, Brockley, London SE4 2BA. **Tel:** 020 86911322

Email: brockley@rcaos.org.uk (Reg. Charity No.1173050)

Website: www.stmarymagdalenbrockley.com.

Pastorals/Devotions: Confessions Saturday 11.30am –12noon, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament everyday from 9.00am - 9.30am. Tuesday 10am—11am. **Legion of Mary:** Tuesday 7pm.

Gentle reminders: Please turn off your mobile phones. You have the right to remain silent



spiritans

St. Mary Magdalen Roman Catholic Church, Brockley

TODAY'S READINGS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Cf. Is 66: 10-11 Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her. Be joyful, all who were in mourning; exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

OPENING PRAYER: O God, who through your Word reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way, grant, we pray, that with prompt devotion and eager faith the Christian people may hasten toward the solemn celebrations to come. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING: 1 Samuel 16:1b, 6-7, 10-13a In those days: The Lord said to Samuel, 'Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.' When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, 'Surely the Lord's anointed is before him.' But the Lord said to Samuel, 'Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the Lord sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the Lord looks on the heart.' And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, 'The Lord has not chosen these.' Then Samuel said to Jesse, 'Are all your sons here?' And he said, 'There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.' And Samuel said to Jesse, 'Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.' And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the Lord said, 'Arise, anoint him, for this is he.' Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon David from that day forward.

Reader: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Ps 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. R1
The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.
The Lord is my shepherd;

there is nothing I shall want.

Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.

Near restful waters he leads me;
he revives my soul. **R**

He guides me along the right path,
for the sake of his name.

Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death,
no evil would I fear, for you are with me.

Your crook and your staff will give me comfort. **R**

You have prepared a table before me
in the sight of my foes.

My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life.

In the Lord's own house shall I dwell

for length of days unending. **R**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 5:8-14 Brothers and Sisters: At one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light, for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true, and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says, 'Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you.'

Reader: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation John 8:12 Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus. I am the light of the world, says the Lord; whoever follows me will have the light of life. Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus.

GOSPEL: John 9:1-41 At that time: As Jesus passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. And his disciples asked him, 'Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?' Jesus answered, 'It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.' Having said these things, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, 'Go, wash in the pool of Siloam' (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. The neighbours and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, 'Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?' Some said, 'It is he.' Others said, 'No, but he is like him.' He kept saying, 'I am the man.' So they said to him, 'Then how were your eyes opened?' He answered, 'The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, "Go to Siloam and wash." So I went and washed and received my sight.' They said to him, 'Where is he?' He said, 'I do not know.' They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. So the Pharisees again asked him how he had received his sight. And he said to them, 'He put mud on my eyes, and I washed, and I see.' Some of the Pharisees said, 'This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.' But others said, 'How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?' And there was a division among them. So they said again to the blind man, 'What do you say about him, since he has opened your eyes?' He said, 'He is a prophet.' The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, 'Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?' His parents answered, 'We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. But how he now sees we do not

know, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself.' His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone should confess Jesus to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, 'He is of age; ask him.' So for the second time they called the man who had been blind and said to him, 'Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.' He answered, 'Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.' They said to him, 'What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?' He answered them, 'I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?' And they reviled him, saying, 'You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from.' The man answered, 'Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but if anyone is a worshipper of God and does his will, God listens to him. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.' They answered him, 'You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?' And they cast him out. Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having found him he said, 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' He answered, 'And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?' Jesus said to him, 'You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.' He said, 'Lord, I believe', and he worshipped him. Jesus said, 'For judgement I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.' Some of the Pharisees near him heard these things, and said to him, 'Are we also blind?' Jesus said to them, 'If you were blind, you would have no guilt; but now that you say, "We see", your guilt remains.'

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.

THE NICENE CREED:

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer over the Offerings: We place before you with joy these offerings, which bring eternal remedy, O Lord, praying that we may both faithfully revere them and present them to you, as is fitting, for the salvation of all the world. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: The Lord anointed my eyes: I went, I washed, I saw and I believed in God.

Prayer after Communion: O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world, illuminate our hearts, we pray, with the splendour of your grace, that we may always ponder what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty and love you in all sincerity. Through Christ our Lord.

• Parish Prayer •

God our Father, we give you thanks and praise for calling us to share in the fullness of life and love that Jesus won for us.

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon our parish community. Changed by your Spirit may we become a community of disciples, attentive to the needs of all who come through our doors, and even those who don't.

We pray for your blessing upon every person in our parish community, and on all who live in and around our parish.

May they know your love, your presence, and your power in their lives.

For all who are struggling at this moment, we ask that you enter their lives and lift them.

May our parish become a place of adoration, where the hungry are fed, the sick are healed, the bereaved are comforted, and all are made whole.

Soften our hearts to your will. Make us open to what you desire to do in and through our parish, and give us the courage and strength to follow your call.

We make this prayer in Jesus' name.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Mother's Sunday to all our mothers. We thank you for all your love and sacrifices. May God bless and reward you abundantly.

Stations of the Cross: Stations of the cross will be every Friday at 7.30pm and there will also be a short station of the cross after every Sunday Mass.

Mass for Confirmation Candidates: Mass for Confirmation candidates and their Sponsors will be at 13.30am on Sunday, 22nd of March.

Lent Preparation for Jesus's Passion: You are invited to Lectio Divina, Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Readings, every Wednesday from the 24th February at 7pm to 8pm in the Church, during the of Lenten season. A wonderful opportunity to prepare prayerfully for Holy Week. All welcome.

Secrets of the Conclave Update: On Sunday March 1st, parishioners met in the small hall to watch the 'Secrets of the Conclave' documentary. This was inspirational. The wisdom of the speakers in the documentary in describing the Spirit led experience of choosing Pope Leo XIV was uplifting and moving. Thank you to all who gave us this memorable insight into the Conclave. You can still catch this documentary on BBC iplayer, it is well worth the watch.

Obituary: Mrs. Theresa Mercedes Garraway one of our beloved parishioners, sadly passed away on the 19th of February 2026 at Princess Royal Hospital, aged 88. Her funeral will take place on Friday the 27th of March 10.00am at St Mary Magdalen church, then on to Grove park for burial at 12.00pm. We pray for peace and consolation for her family. May her gentle soul rest in peace.

Confession: Confession is available every Saturday from 11.00am to 12 noon at the presbytery.

Visiting the sick: If you are aware of any Parishioner who is sick, housebound or in a nursing home, it is important to give their name to one of the clergy or send an email to the Parish office.

Hall rental: Please contact Fr. Nat or Fr. Christian for fees and availability.

Tea and Coffee: There is tea and coffee in the small hall, (access through the gate to the left of the church), after 10am and 11.30am Mass. Everyone is welcome.

Masses can be booked by telephone on 020 86911322, or by email at brockley@rcaos.org.uk. Mass offerings can be made online to the parish account.. Account name: RCAS Brockley, NatWest, Account Number: 79143962, Sort code 605001

"Do not lose heart, even if you should discover that you lack qualities necessary for the work to which you are called. He who called you will not desert you, but the moment you are in need he will stretch out his saving hand." St. Angela Merici

S	R	E	N	N	I	S	L	E	T
S	E	D	E	V	O	U	T	H	S
P	E	I	R	T	R	O	H	R	T
I	S	L	A	S	A	R	G	E	N
T	E	H	P	O	R	P	I	S	E
T	A	S	P	I	A	A	S	T	R
L	H	G	I	S	C	O	P	O	A
E	O	U	T	I	P	S	I	R	P
E	V	E	I	L	E	B	I	E	S
E	D	N	I	L	B	L	N	D	I

BLIND	SPAT	PASTE
SPITTLE	SIGHT	RESTORED
PROPHET	PARENTS	DISCIPLES
SINNERS	DEVOUT	BELIEVE

