



spiritans

St. Mary Magdalen Roman Catholic Church, Brockley

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time, 22nd./23rd. Aug. 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

Who is Jesus to you?

We come to know Jesus through Scripture, prayer, and the life of the Church, but above all through a personal encounter made possible by God's grace. In today's Gospel, Peter declares, *"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."* Jesus affirms that this insight is a revelation from the Father, not human wisdom. True knowledge of Jesus is always a gift. Knowing Jesus also means being entrusted by Him. As with Peter, made the rock of the Church, closeness to Christ brings responsibility and service. Christian leadership is not about status or power, but about service, humility, and compassion. God forms leaders not for self-glory, but for the good of His people. The "keys" given to Peter symbolize trust, authority, and mission. In a world that often values wealth and influence over integrity, the Gospel calls us to measure leadership by faithfulness to God, love for others, and willingness to serve. The question remains personal: *Who is Jesus to you?* Is He merely a historical figure, or truly the Christ, your Lord and Saviour? A real encounter with Jesus transforms us, giving courage, strength, and purpose. May we know Him with our hearts and serve Him faithfully in all we do. **Fr Nat**

Mass Times & Intentions: 22 August 2026 — 30 August 2026

Sat. 22nd. 6:30pm: People of the Parish

Sun. 23rd. 8.30am: Linda Nwoye (Birthday Thanksgiving), Yvonne M. Graves (Good health & Well being)

10:00am: Alex Lobow (God's Blessing, long life, good health & private intentions) 11.30am:

Mon. 24th. 9:30am: Sufficient Rain for Crops & Animal Thrive

Tue. 25th. 9:30am: Peter Agyeman (RIP)

Wed. 26th. 9:30am: George & Isabella Gilmour (R.I.P)

Thur. 27th. 9:30am: Harold James Jack (R.I.P)

Fri. 28th. 9:30am: Gerald McPartlane (R.I.P)

Sat. 29th. 9:30am: Mary Carol (R.I.P)

Sat. 29th. 6:30pm: Paul Hanley (4th Ann. R.I.P.)

Sun. 30th. 8.30am: Alex Lobow (God's Blessing, long life, good health and private intentions). 10:00am:

11.30am:

The SICK: Esta Joseph, Rosa Sanctos, Annie O'Kane, Aggrey Michael Davis, Peter Carey, Mario Despisio, Fr. Morty, Joshua Twagira, Darabela Edmund, Margaret Pain, Juliana Charles, Audreh Khan, Ephraim Aluebhosole, Gwen Randall, Chinyere Oburota, Patrick Akanya, Kathy Langridge, Patricia Wocial & Maxine Leech. **ANNIVERSARIES**



OF DEATH: Fr T Bartwick, Francesco Polidoro, Trecia Thomas, Elliott Forde, Eamon O'Sullivan, Joseph Jewiarz, Peter Lee, William Mannix, Frank White, Peter Cranmer, John McDonald, Neville Turnbull, Mary Walsh, James Maloney, Laurent Frapsauce, Thomas Allen & Mary Wilmore.

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

TODAY'S READINGS

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON Cf. Ps 85: 1-3
Turn your ear, O Lord, and answer me; save the servant who trusts in you, my God. Have mercy on me, O Lord, for I cry to you all the day long.

GLORIA: Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER: O God, who cause the minds of the faithful to unite in a single purpose, grant your people to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, amid the uncertainties of this world, our hearts may be fixed on that place where true gladness is found. 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: Isaiah 22:15, 19-23 Thus says the Lord GOD of hosts, 'Come, go to this steward, to Shebna, who is over the household, and say to him: "I will thrust you from your office, and you will be pulled down from your station. In that day I will call my servant Eliakim the son of Hilkiyah, and I will clothe him with your robe, and will bind your sash on him, and will commit your authority to his hand. And he shall be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the house of Judah. And I will place on his shoulder the key of the house of David. He shall open, and none shall shut; and he shall shut, and none shall open. And I will fasten him like a peg in a secure place, and he will become a throne of honour to his father's house." '

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

Responsorial Ps 138(137):1-2a. 2bc, 3. 6, 8bc.
℟8bc

O LORD, your merciful love is eternal; discard not the work of your hands.

I thank you, LORD, with all my heart;
you have heard the words of my mouth.
In the presence of the angels I praise you.
I bow down towards your holy Temple. **R**

I give thanks to your name
for your merciful love and your faithfulness.
On the day I called, you answered me;
you increased the strength of my soul. **R**

The LORD is high, yet he looks on the lowly,
and the haughty he knows from afar.

**O LORD, your merciful love is eternal;
discard not the work of your hands. R**

SECOND READING: Romans 11:33-36 Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgements and how inscrutable his ways! 'For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counsellor?' 'Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?' For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory for ever. Amen.

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

Gospel Acclamation: Matthew 16:18 Alleluia, alleluia. You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:13-20 At that time: When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, 'Who do people say that the Son of Man is?' And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' He said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Simon Peter replied, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' And Jesus answered him, 'Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. And

I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.' Then he strictly charged the disciples to tell no one that he was the Christ.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.

T H E N I C E N E C R E E D :

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: O Lord, who gained for yourself a people by adoption through the one sacrifice offered once for all, bestow graciously on us, we pray, the gifts of unity and peace in your Church. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 103: 13-15 The earth is replete with the fruits of your work, O Lord; you bring forth bread from the earth and wine to cheer the heart.

Prayer after Communion: Complete within us, O Lord, we pray, the healing work of your mercy and graciously perfect and sustain us, so that in all things we may please you. 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.

Softening 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.

Amen.

Saint Mary Magdalen, pray for us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Parish Pastoral and Finance Council: The next Parish Pastoral and Finance Council meeting will be at 7pm in the Parish House on Friday 11th September. This is the third meeting of the year. All council members are asked to attend. Thank you for all you do.

The second collection this weekend is for the Parish Repair Fund. Your generous support will help us to maintain and repair our parish facilities. Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Formation for Eucharistic ministers and Lectors. There will be a special Formation Day for Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors on Saturday, 24 October 2026, from 10:00 a.m.–2:00pm. at Bishop Thomas Grant School, Belltrees Grove, London SW16 2HY. We warmly encourage all our Eucharistic Ministers and Lectors to make every effort to attend this important formation.

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Celebration of St Faustina Birthday at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Bank Holiday Monday 31 August 2026 from 10:30 am to 4pm. The reflection day will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome. Call millie on WhatsApp 07957594646 for more information. Coaches from Slough, Ealing Broadway and Victoria.

Red Box Collection Thank you to everyone who returned their Red Boxes for counting. We are very grateful for your continued support of the Missions. If you have already returned your Red Box, please remember to collect it from the back of the church after Mass.

Lectio Divina Prayer Group: The next Lectio Divina Prayer Group will take place on Wednesday 26th August from 7pm to 8pm in the church. Everyone welcome

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, please 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.

Mass Intentions: Mass intentions can be booked by telephone on 020 8691 1322 or by email at brockley@rcaos.org.uk. Mass offerings may be made by bank transfer to the parish account. Please contact the clergy or the parish secretary for the parish bank account details.

“No one reaches the kingdom of Heaven except by humility” - St Augustine

W	H	C	R	U	H	C	R	J	I
N	H	S	T	E	H	P	O	R	P
L	O	O	S	E	D	H	C	C	P
H	H	I	I	J	N	A	K	H	I
S	A	Y	T	P	E	T	E	R	L
E	J	A	P	S	H	J	Y	I	I
L	I	H	A	P	E	A	S	S	H
F	L	R	B	E	A	U	N	T	P
S	E	T	A	G	P	H	Q	O	E
A	J	H	A	I	M	E	R	E	J



CAESAREA
PHILIPPI
QUESTION
JOHN
ELIJAH
JEREMIAH
PETER
CHRIST
JONAH
ROCK
CHURCH
GATES
KEYS