



spiritans

St. Mary Magdalen Roman Catholic Church, Brockley

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, 19th./20th. Sept. 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

Salvation Is God's Free Gift

This week, we reflect on the parable of the workers in the vineyard. Some workers complained because those who arrived late received the same wage as those who had worked from the beginning.

The parable reminds us that salvation is God's free gift to everyone. God does not measure His generosity according to our human calculations. Whether we come to Him early or later in life, His love and mercy are offered to all.

What matters is not when God calls us, but how we respond to His call. We should therefore avoid comparing ourselves with others or feeling that someone else is receiving more than they deserve. Instead, let us rejoice in God's generosity and be grateful for the grace He has given each of us.

May we always trust in God's mercy and respond generously whenever He calls us. Amen. **Fr Nat**

Mass Times & Intentions: 19 September 2026 — 27 September 2026

Sat. 19th. 6:30pm: People of the Parish

Sun. 20th. 8.30am: Mr Livinus James Ekeocha (R.I.P.), Alex Lobow (God's Blessing, long life, good health & private intentions). 10:00am: Rev. Barry Carter (R.I.P). 11.30am: Sick Parishioners

Mon. 21st. 9:30am: J.K Bonney (Ann R.I.P)

Tue. 22nd. 9:30am: George & Isabella Gilmour (R.I.P),

Wed. 23rd. 9:30am: Gerald McPartlane (R.I.P.)

Thur. 24th. 9:30am: Mary Gallagher (R.I.P)

Fri: 25th. 9:30am: Mrs Maire Forrester (Ann. R.I.P)

Sat. 26th. 9:30am: Peter Agyemang (R.I.P)

Sat. 26th. 6:30pm: People of the Parish

Sun. 27th. 8.30am: Alex Lobow (God's Blessing, long life, good health and private intentions). 10:00am: Peter Agyeman (R.I.P Thanksgiving). 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 Aluebhosese, Gwen Randall, Chinyere



Oburota, Patrick Akanya, Kathy Langridge, Patricia Wocial, Marjorie Murphy & Maxine Leech. **ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH:** Rebecca Hynes, Peter Skehan, Frank Boyle, Bradley Robertson, Alice Green, Tony Giannandrea, Vincenza Newman, Terry O'Connor, Joyce Beadle, Pauline Flood & Elizabeth Sullivan.

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 I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord. Should they cry to me in any distress, I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

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 founded all the commands of your sacred Law upon love of you and of our neighbour, grant that, by keeping your precepts, we may merit to attain eternal life. 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 55:6-9 Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon. For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, declares the Lord. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

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

Responsorial Ps 145(144):2-3. 8-9. 17-18. R18a
The Lord is close to all who call him.

I will bless you day after day,
and praise your name for ever and ever.
The Lord is great and highly to be praised;
his greatness cannot be measured. **R**

The Lord is kind and full of compassion,

slow to anger, abounding in mercy.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures. **R**

The Lord is just in all his ways,
and holy in all his deeds.
The Lord is close to all who call him,
who call on him in truth. **R**

SECOND READING: Philippians 1:20c-24, 27
Brothers and Sisters: Christ will be honoured in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ.

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

Gospel Acclamation: Cf. Acts 16:14b Alleluia, alleluia. Open our hearts, O Lord, that we may pay attention to the words of your Son. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 20:1-16 At that time: Jesus told his disciples this parable, "The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market-place, and to them he said, "You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you." So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, "Why do you stand here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You go into the vineyard too." And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, "Call the labourers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first." And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but

each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?" So the last will be first, and the first last.'

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: Receive with favour, O Lord, we pray, the offerings of your people, that what they profess with devotion and faith may be theirs through these heavenly mysteries. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: Ps 118: 4-5 You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept; may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

Prayer after Communion: Graciously raise up, O Lord, those you renew with this Sacrament, that we may come to possess your redemption both in mystery and in the manner of our life. 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.

Amen.

Saint Mary Magdalen, pray for us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

National Mass count: The first National Mass count takes place today. Next Sunday will be the **second** national Mass.

Second Collection. The Second collection this weekend is towards the repair and maintenance of our church organ, costing £2,106. As a parish family, we warmly ask for your support. Every contribution, however small, will help us keep the music that enriches our worship alive. Thank you for your kindness and generosity. May God bless you and your families abundantly.

Catechist Meeting Friday 25th September: There will be a Catechist meeting with the Clergy at 7pm on Friday the 25th September. In the parish house. All Catechists are to attend.

Sacramental Programmes 2026-2027: The Sacramental programmes for First Holy Communion, Confirmation and RCIA will start in October. Those wishing to enrol are asked to complete a registration form and provide the **original** Baptism Certificate of the child.

- **First Holy Communion:** For children in Year 3 (age 7).
- **Confirmation:** For young people in Year 9 (around age 13).
- **RCIA** (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults): For adults aged 18 and over who are inquiring about the Catholic faith or considering becoming Catholic.

Obituary: We sadly announce the death of Peter Agyemang, a beloved parishioner, who died in Ghana. The Funeral Rite will take place on Saturday, 26 September, at Honor Community Centre, from 5pm to 11pm, 50 Turnham Road, SE4 2JD. A Thanksgiving Mass for Peter will be celebrated at St Mary Magdalen Church at 10am on Sunday, 27 September. Please pray for the repose of Peter's soul and for his family at this difficult

time. May he rest in peace. Amen.

Obituary: It is with great sadness that we share that our beloved parishioner, Sr. Salome Amara Ekeocha, has lost her dear father, Mr Livinus James Ekeocha. Please keep Sr. Salome and her family in your prayers. May his soul rest in peace.

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.

Young Adults Concert: The concert is organized by the Spiritan Religious Order Youth Ministry. The concert will take place on 24th October, from 10.00am to 5pm at St Mellitus RC, Tollington Park, N4 3AG. This is an exciting event, which includes adoration, worship and fun activities. It's a great opportunity to meet other young adults from all the Spiritan Parishes in UK. Please contact Fr Christian, Nevin or Sooria for further details.

Lectio Divina Prayer Group: The next Lectio Divina Prayer Group will take place on Wednesday 23rd September from 7pm to 8pm in the church.

Mass Intentions: Masses 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.

"Earthly riches are like the reed. It's roots are sunk in the swamp, and it's exterior is fair to behold; but inside it is hollow. If a man leans on such a reed it will snap off and pierce his soul" — Saint Anthony

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