Spiritans

St. Mary Magdalen Roman Catholic Church, Brockley

1st Sunday of Advent, 28th./29th. Nov. 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

REMAIN ALERT

Today we celebrate the First Sunday of Advent, marking the beginning of a new liturgical year. Advent is a season of hope, expectation and preparation. We remember that Christ came into the world over 2,000 years ago, continues to come into our lives every day, and will come again in glory. As we prepare for Christmas, let us also prepare our hearts to welcome Him. In today's Gospel, Jesus tells us: **"Be on your guard, stay awake!"** He reminds us of the gatekeeper who must remain watchful while waiting for his master's return. Jesus invites us to remain spiritually alert and ready to welcome Him. Let us not become so distracted by shopping, parties and Christmas preparations that we forget the true meaning of this holy season. St Paul reminds us of the grace and blessings God has given us through Christ. Let us use this grace to recognise Jesus in the poor, the sick, the lonely and those who need our help. As we begin Advent, may the Lord renew our hearts, strengthen our faith and help us remain watchful through prayer, kindness and loving service to others. **Fr Nat**

Mass Times & Intentions: **28 November 2026 — 6 December 2026**

Sat. 28th. 6:30pm: Philip & Rose Leonard (R.I.P.)
Sun. 29th. 8.30am: Alex Lobow (God's Blessing, long life, good health & private intentions), 10.00am: Joseph & Mary Crilly (R.I.P), James O. Ntukogu (Ann. R.I.P.). 11.30am: Edward Omatsoguwa Ofosaren (30th. Ann. R.I.P.), Grace Izebhokun Ofosaren (nee Alemezoho, 5th. Ann. R.I.P.) & Richard Okeleke (R.I.P)
Mon. 30th. 9:30am: Pat Porter (Ann. R.I.P.)
Tue. 1st. 9:30am: Aidan Leonard (R.I.P)
Wed. 2nd. 9:30am: Elizabeth Bernadette May (R.I.P)
Thur. 3rd. 9:30am: Raymond Duggan (Ann. R.I.P.)
Fri: 4th 9:30am: People of the Parish
Sat. 5th .9:30am: Denis Shine (Ann. R.I.P.)
Sat. 5th. 6:30pm: Elizabeth Bernadette May (R.I.P)
Sun. 6th. 8.30am: Fionnuala Hartigan (1st Ann. R.I.P.). 10:00am: Alex Lobow (God's Blessing, long life, good health and private intentions). 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 Aluebhosele, Gwen Randall, Chinyere Oburota, Patrick Akanya, Kathy Langridge, Patricia Wocial, Maxine Leech, Raissa Tchail, Agostino Musto & Gerrard Whelan. **ANNIVERSARIES OF DEATH:** Alfonso Grillo, Angiel Deroche, Eileen O'Connor, Patrick O'Doherty, Pat Porter, Mrs Franks, Mr Reidy, Jane Whitham, Razalia Jasionovich, William Winston, Patrick Shiel, Raymond Duggan, Denis Shine, Anthony Dunne, Kazimiera Manson, Baby Francis McLister, James Smith, Mary Knight & Helena Szewczenko.

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 24: 1-3 To you, I lift up my soul, O my God. In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

OPENING PRAYER: Grant your faithful, we pray, almighty God, the resolve to run forth to meet your Christ with righteous deeds at his coming, so that, gathered at his right hand, they may be worthy to possess the heavenly kingdom. 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 63:16b-17; 64:1, 3b -8 You, O Lord, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is your name. O Lord, why do you make us wander from your ways and harden our heart, so that we fear you not? Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage. O that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence. You came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him. You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities. But now, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.
Reader: The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Responsorial Psalm
Ps 80(79):2ac, 3b, 15-16. 18-19. R/4
Bring us back, O God; let your face shine forth, and we shall be saved.
O shepherd of Israel, hear us,
enthroned on the cherubim, shine forth.
Rouse up your might and come to save us. **R**

God of hosts, turn again, we implore;
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it,
the stock your right hand has planted,
the son you have claimed for yourself. **R**

May your hand be on the man at your right hand, the son of man you have confirmed as your own.
And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your name. **R**

SECOND READING: **1 Corinthians 1:3-9** Brothers and sisters: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge — even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you — so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise be to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Acclamation: **Psalm 85(84):8** Alleluia, alleluia. Show us, O Lord, your mercy, and grant us your salvation. Alleluia.

Gospel: **Mark 13:33-37** At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: 'Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. Therefore stay awake — for you do not know when the master of the house will come,

in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning — lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.'

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: Accept, we pray, O Lord, these offerings we make, gathered from among your gifts to us, and may what you grant us to celebrate devoutly here below gain for us the prize of eternal redemption. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: Ps 84: 13 The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Prayer after Communion: May these mysteries, O Lord, in which we have participated profit us, we pray, for even now, as we walk amid passing things, you teach us by them to love the things of heaven and hold fast to what endures. 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

Fr Nathaniel will be away this weekend in Colchester for a Spiritan Mission Appeal. We kindly ask you to remember him in your prayers as he shares the Spiritan mission and ministry with others. May the Lord guide him, bless his work and keep him safe throughout his journey.

Our November list of the faithful departed will be reverently burnt after 11.30am Mass. We continue to remember all our departed loved ones in our prayers, asking the Lord to grant them eternal rest and let perpetual light shine upon them.

The Rite of Welcome will take place at the 10am Mass on Sunday the 6th December for our RCIA participants, which marks the beginning of the Catechumenate period of the Rite of the Christian Initiation of Adults. We welcome them and pray for them as they journey to full communion with the Catholic Church.

Knights of St. Columba: The Council 117 of the Knights of St Columba (KSC) will be distributing Christmas posters after every Mass **next** weekend, (5th/6th December). They will also be collecting donations to support homeless people through the Manna Centre and other KSC charities. Your generosity and support towards this worthy cause will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Sacramental Programmes: First Holy Communion sessions run weekly in term time, Saturdays at 10am in the Presbytery.
Confirmation sessions run weekly in term time, Saturdays at 12.30pm in the Presbytery.
RCIA sessions weekly Wednesdays at 5pm in Presbytery.

Lectio Divina Prayer Group: The next Lectio Divina Prayer Group will take place on Wednesday 2nd. December from 7pm to 8pm in the church.

Visiting the sick: If you know of any parishioner who is sick, housebound or living in a nursing home and would appreciate a visit from a priest, please kindly pass their name and contact details to one of the clergy or email the Parish Office.

Obituary Notice: It is with deep sadness that we announce the death of Elizabeth Bernadette May, one of our beloved parishioner, devoted mother of Simone and beloved wife of the late Paul May, who passed away on Saturday, 21 November. The Funeral Mass of Elizabeth will take place on Wednesday, 16 December at 11:30am at St Mary Magdalen Church. Following the Mass, Elizabeth will be taken to Grove Park Cemetery for burial at 1:30pm. We pray that the Lord will grant Elizabeth eternal rest and bring peace, comfort, and consolation to her family and loved ones. Amen.

50/50 Club: The winning numbers for the October draw were **32 and 95**, while the November draw winners were **57 and 69**. Congratulations to all the winners!

Tea & Coffee: Tea and coffee will be served in the presbytery, at 73 Comerford Road after 10am 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.

"The fear of death follows from the fear of life. A man who lives fully is prepared to die at any time." Mark Twain

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GUARD AWAKE ASLEEP
ABROAD HOME SERVANTS
TASK EVENING MIDNIGHT
DAWN COCKCROW KNOW

