Spiritans

St. Mary Magdalen Roman Catholic Church, Brockley

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 7th./8th. 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

Be prepared for the trials of life.

There are two extreme types of Christian in our world today. There are those who proclaim that the Lord will return very soon and that the rapture will occur soon and hence we all need to make critical preparation for this coming by storing up food and other essentials. This group of Christians proffer all type of evidence to buttress this and their Christian faith is tied to this. On the other hand, there are Christians who believe that Jesus is not coming or even coming in their lifetime. They believe that there is no urgency to prepare for His coming. However, the point of this Sunday's Gospel is for us to be prepared always by living a good life regardless of Jesus coming or not. Jesus comes to us always in our everyday life and we must be ready to meet him. He comes to us as our neighbour, our partner, someone in need, a helper and many other events of our life. He also comes to us in our moment of death. At this moment, if we are unprepared, we may not be able to receive him. Jesus also comes to us in the trials of life, our faith is tested when these trials come. If we are not prepared for them, they always swallow us up. Every time we face a critical trial in life, the readiness of our faith is tested; when someone we love dies, when we are told that we have cancer or terminal illness, when your child is sick or dies, when your spouse walks out, when your family or friend reject you, when you face severe financial crisis and when you are falsely accused. These times of trials can come up suddenly and may not ask if one is ready or not. Such times of trials can make people turn back to God or walk away from their faith. It can make people despair or give up on love, hence we need to always be prepared. To be prepared, we need to first know that we are people of the journey and that we are on the way to meet God. By this we must understand that God and Heaven are the goals of our life, nothing else really matters. We must understand that relationship with God and others are the utmost purpose of our life. To be prepared means to focus on God and love always in everything that you do. **Fr. Nat**

Mass Times & Intentions: **7 November 2026 — 15 November 2026**

Sat. 7th. 6:30pm: Marion Hanley (Ann. R.I.P.) Mike Dowler (R.I.P)
Sun. 8th. 8.30am: Alex Lobow (God's Blessing, long life, good health & private intentions)10:00am: Aldo & Rodolfo Piscina (Ann. R.I.P)11.30am: Deceased Members of Mc Nicholas & Downing Families
Mon. 9th. 9:30am: Susan & Paul Fitzsimons (Well being)
Tue. 10th. 9:30am: Jen Hegarty (R.I.P)
Wed. 11th. 9:30am: Thanksgiving for Another Birthday
Thur. 12th. 9:30am: Monsignor Joseph Gyimah (R.I.P.), Monsignor Oppong Baah (R.I.P.)
Fri: 13th 9:30am: Holy Souls
Sat. 14th.9:30am: James Harold Jack (R.I.P)
Sat. 14th. 6:30pm: People of the Parish
Sun. 15th. 8.30am: Breda McAleer (R.I.P.). 10:00am: Jen Hegarty (R.I.P.) 11.30am: Alex Lobow (God's Blessing, long life, good health and private intentions).

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:** Daniel Monroe,Dorothy Hopkins, Violet Tubb, Isaac Fuseini, Christopher Fitzsimons, Marion Hanley, Naana Darku, Richard Cullen, Henry Easom, Patrick O'Brien, Georgette Hall, James McKibbin, Paulo Swai, Mrs Sabina Ojukwu, Mary Norris, George Gayner, Margaret Near, Jermaine Mokwe, Elizabeth Ruddock, Paige Hutton-Kyle & Gillian Tudman.



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 87: 3 Let my prayer come into your presence. Incline your ear to my cry for help, O Lord.

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: Almighty and merciful God, graciously keep from us all adversity, so that, unhindered in mind and body alike, we may pursue in freedom of heart the things that are yours. 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: Wisdom 6:12-16 Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. He who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for he will find her sitting at his gates. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and he who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths and meets them in every thought.

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

Responsorial Responsorial Psalm
Ps 63(62):2. 3-4. 5-6. 7-8. ℟2b
For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.
O God, you are my God; at dawn I seek you;
for you my soul is thirsting.
For you my flesh is pining,
like a dry, weary land without water. **R**

I have come before you in the sanctuary,
to behold your strength and your glory.
Your loving mercy is better than life;
my lips will speak your praise**. R**

I will bless you all my life;
in your name I will lift up my hands.
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet;
with joyful lips, my mouth shall praise you. **R**

When I remember you upon my bed,
On you I muse through the watches of the night.
For you have been my strength;
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. **R**

SECOND READING: **1 Thessalonians 4:13-18** We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by the word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

Gospel Acclamation: **Matthew 24:42a, 44** Alleluia, alleluia. Stay awake and be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect. Alleluia.

Gospel: **Matthew 25:1-13** At that time: Jesus told his disciples this parable, 'The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, "Here is the

bridegroom! Come out to meet him." Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out." But the wise answered, saying, "Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves." And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterwards the other virgins came also, saying, "Lord, lord, open to us." But he answered, "Truly, I say to you, I do not know you." Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.'

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: Look with favour, we pray, O Lord, upon the sacrificial gifts offered here, that, celebrating in mystery the Passion of your Son, we may honour it with loving devotion. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon: Cf. Ps 22: 1-2 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.

Prayer after Communion: Nourished by this sacred gift, O Lord, we give you thanks and beseech your mercy, that, by the pouring forth of your Spirit, the grace of integrity may endure in those your heavenly power has entered. 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

Second collection: The second collection today is for Archbishop's Appeal, which funds three key mission areas: Youth and Evangelization, Our Faith in Action and Clergy Care and Formation.

Holy Souls Mass: There will be a Candlelight Mass for Holy Souls on Friday the 20th November at 6pm in St. Mary Magdalen's church, Brockley.

Month of Holy Souls: November is dedicated to praying for our deceased loved ones. Please, remember to pray and book Masses. Please bring pictures, order of service or memorabilia of your deceased loved ones for our memorial altar. De Profundis will be said in all our Masses throughout this month.

Cemetery Visits and Prayers in November: We gather in quiet reflection to remember those who have gone before us – loved ones whose presence shaped our lives and whose memories continue to live in our hearts. May their souls rest in peace.
Cemetery Visits: Dates and times are as follows:
Hither Green Cemetery: Sunday, 8th Nov. 2026. Please assemble at the Main Gate in Verdant Lane at 2.15pm. The procession will begin at 2.30pm. Accompanying clergy are happy to pray at your family grave. We are asked to vacate the cemetery by 3.45pm.
Grove Park Cemetery: Sunday 15th Nov. at 2.30 pm.
Brockley Cemetery: Sunday 22nd November at 2.30 pm.

First Holy Communion programme has started. Parents and children aged 7plus, Year 3, to attend. Please bring completed registration form & **original** baptism certificate.

Confirmation programme starts on the 14 November, from 12pm to 13.30 in the Presbytery. Please bring your completed registration form and **original** baptism certificate. The programme is for Year 9, aged 13plus.
RCIA for Adults started in October. Please bring completed registration form (forms are at back of the church).

A Feast for all Peoples: The last meeting of this spiritual exercise in living out synodality will take place in the Presbytery at 7pm on Friday 13th November Please contact Father Nat. or Moira Forrester. Moira's phone or Whatsapp is 07712507489.

Lectio Divina Prayer Group: The next Lectio Divina Prayer Group will take place on Wednesday 18th. November from 7pm to 8pm in the church.

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.

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.

"What we love we shall grow to resemble" **— St. Bernard of Clairvaux**

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TEN BRIDESMAID LAMPS
FIVE BRIDEGROOM FOOLISH
SENSIBLE WEDDING OIL
DOOR AWAKE HOUR

