

INTERCESSIONS Please pray for the long term sick and those in special need, among them:

Holly Ryan, John Bason, Wendy Webb, Ann-Marie and Andy, David Games, Daniel Argov, Abigail, Melanie, Dan, Angela, Anna and Phoenix, Philip, Chris, Lewis, Timothy, Ilona Zimon, Steven Wiltshire, Jenny Hey, Julie, Michael, Sara Ali, John Cuff, Sue Goodall, Alex Underwood, Janet Semper, Oakley, Peter Parsons, David Platt, Richard Gurney, Brian, Martin, Ray Hey.

DEDICATION FESTIVAL We celebrate our Dedication Festival on the last Sunday in October. There will be a service of Solemn Festal Evensong and Benediction on the evening of Saturday 24th October at 6:30pm, and the usual three masses on Sunday 25th October. The preacher at the High Mass will be Fr John Muddiman.

GIFT DAY As usual there will be a Gift Day in connection with the Dedication Festival on Sunday 25th October. A resoundingly successful gift day would be a tremendous boost to the parish's resources as we move forward with new projects and continue to improve the appearance and facilities of the church. The expensive but essential works currently being carried out at the east end exterior of the church are the latest example of the significant financial responsibility we bear in caring for our medieval building whilst ministering to the twenty-first century world. Please give as generously as you can. Envelopes will be available in the weeks before the Festival.

PARISH ASSISTANT James Holden, our new Parish Assistant, has begun work. Like his predecessor, we will be living at 2 Dale Close, thanks to the generosity of Ruth Wynne-Davies. He comes to us having recently completed a degree in Theology at Keble College. James will be working to help Fr Peter with parish administration and pastoral contact, taking a particular role in co-ordinating our student ministry. He will also be based in the church office on weekday afternoons (three or four out of five) in order to watch over the church whilst it is open to visitors. Please make a point of dropping into church during the afternoon if you can.

THE RESTORATION AND DEVELOPMENT TRUST meets on Saturday 3rd October at 10am in the Vicarage.

ST GILES FAIR The total raised so far by the church stall is in excess of £2300, and the final sum may well be higher. Many thanks to all who contributed things to sell, and to Ruth Wynne Davies, Patrick Boyd Maunsell, Robert Simpson and all who worked very hard to organise and run the stall.

PARISH LUNCH There will be parish pot-luck, or bring-and-share, lunch on Sunday 25th October, our Dedication Festival, after the High Mass at the Vicarage. All welcome.

FLOWERS IN CHURCH All who worship at St Mary Magdalen's will agree that we are blessed with an extremely skilled team of flower arrangers, expertly led by Sally Lawton, who gives a great deal of time and effort to this visual aspect of our worship. The flower team is currently welcoming and training up new members. Sally would be pleased to hear from anyone—young or old, male or female—who would be interested in learning some of the skills involved and contributing to our flower displays. Please speak to Sally herself, to Anne Dalziel or to Fr Peter if you are interested.

THE HARVEST FESTIVAL, is an annual opportunity for helping the Gatehouse Drop-in Centre. Each evening during the summer the centre has had at least 70 guests, and the number is likely to rise with the onset of autumn. Harvest festival gifts help them to re-stock their larder. The things they most need are: coffee,

sugar, peanut butter, honey, chocolate spread, tea, jam (strawberry preferred), Marmite/Bovril, and Branston pickle. (NB They cannot use cereal, fresh vegetable, rice, pasta, or anything which needs to be cooked). There will be boxes by the font for gifts on Sunday 4th October.

SUNDAY CELEBRANTS

4th October 8am Fr Peter Groves; 10:30am Sr Margaret Anne; 5:30pm Fr Jay Wilson

11th October 8am Fr Richard Smail; 10:30am Fr Peter Groves; 5:30pm Fr Jay Wilson

18th October 8am, 10:30am Fr Peter Groves; 5:30pm Fr Jay Wilson

25th October 8am Fr Richard Smail; 10:30am Fr Peter Groves, 5:30pm Fr Jay Wilson

VICARAGE TEA All are most welcome to come and enjoy tea at the vicarage on Wednesday October 28th from 3:30pm.

SHAKESPEARE'S SONNETS A performance by The Milton Consort to mark the 400th anniversary of the publication of Shakespeare's Sonnets, will take place on Saturday 21st November at 8pm. (Note change from the previously advertised date).

A HISTORY OF CHRISTIANITY Professor Diarmaid MacCulloch, a Fellow of St Cross and member of Oxford's Theology Faculty, has written an enormous and exciting new history of Christianity, recently published by Penguin, which features as our "book of the month" on the parish website. It will shortly be accompanied by a major BBC TV series, some of the initial filming for which took place in St Mary Magdalen's. In a recent Guardian review, Archbishop Rowan wrote "This book is a landmark in its field, astonishing in its range, compulsively readable, full of insight." It promises to become the standard history of the church in English for a generation, and is warmly recommended.

LORD HUNT OF KING'S HEATH the Deputy Leader of the House of Lords, is known to some of us better as Philip, son of Muriel Hunt and former boat boy and server at St Mary Magdalen's. He was recently appointed to the Privy Council, and Fr Peter has written to him offering our congratulations. Please pray for Philip and for all involved in the work of parliament and government.

STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP Two new groups have been founded by members of St Mary Magdalen's providing opportunity for study and prayer.

Jay and Susannah Wilson are hosting a group to study scripture and Christian teaching under the title "People of the Book", with particular reference to the Old Testament, to Judaism and to Islam. It meets on Mondays from 5:45pm at the Wilsons' home, 9 Avery Court, Hernes Road, Summertown.

Sarah Apetrei and Dominic Keech will be hosting "Fellowship and Prayer", a group which will meet weekly in the Upton Room, All Saints Convent, St Mary's Road, East Oxford. It will provide an opportunity for quiet reflection and regular fellowship with other members of the congregation.

All are most warmly invited to attend either or both of these new groups.

PRAYER FOR THE HOMELESS This month's prayer for homeless people and agencies will be at 1.15pm on Wednesday 7 October at Holy Rood Church, Abingdon Road (on the left shortly after Folly Bridge, opposite Western Road).

PARTY FOR STUDENTS To kick off a new year of student ministry, there will be a party at the vicarage from 8pm on Tuesday 13th October. The young, and the young at heart, are all most warmly invited.

STUDENT NIGHT Tuesday evening is student night at St Mary Magdalen's. We meet weekly for a variety of activities—perhaps to watch a film, discuss theology, read poetry, or have a meal. We gather at the vicarage from 7:30pm. At 10pm the evening will end with Compline, for which we repair to Hertford College Chapel. The first such evening will be October 20th, following the student party in “1st week”.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH Our Children's Church is held, in conjunction with our friends at St Michael's, on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month. We start in St Michael's at 10:30am on the relevant Sundays, and move into St Mary Magdalen's to join the High Mass around the time of the Peace. We shall shortly be arranging events for Advent and Christmas, including our annual Crib Service.

DAVID NICHOLLS MEMORIAL LECTURE Many of us remember the late Fr David Nicholls, Chaplain and Fellow of Exeter College and then Vicar of Littlemore, one of the Church of England's leading political and theological thinkers, who died in 1996. The 10th David Nicholls Memorial Lecture will take place on Thursday October 22nd at 5pm at Regents Park College, Pusey Street. Professor David Marquand, formerly Principal of Mansfield and sometime Labour MP, will lecture on “Defending Politics in the 21st Century.”

SAINT THERESE OF LISIEUX sometimes called St Therese of the Child Jesus, or the “Little Flower”, was born in Alencon, France in 1873. She joined the Carmelite Order at the age of sixteen and became known for her remarkable yet simple piety, and her devotion to the image of Christ, and to the “Holy Face” in particular. Her spiritual autobiography, “Story of a Soul” has become one of the most popular and influential of modern Christian spiritual writings. In it she sets out her idea of “the little way” in which the follower of Christ can serve the Lord. She maintained that it was not necessary to accomplish great deeds to attain holiness and to express her love of God. She wrote, “Love proves itself by deeds, so how am I to show my love? Great deeds are forbidden me. The only way I can prove my love is by scattering flowers and these flowers are every little sacrifice, every glance and word, and the doing of the least actions for love,” and “it is enough to realize one's nothingness, and give oneself wholly, like a child, into the arms of the good God. Leaving to great souls, great minds, the fine books I cannot understand, I rejoice to be little because only children, and those who are like them, will be admitted to the heavenly banquet.” Therese suffered from tuberculosis and died at the age of only 24. She was canonised in 1925 (remarkably early, the Pope having waived the traditional fifty year interval between death and sainthood), and is buried in the Basilica which bears her name in Lisieux. Except that, at present, she is not. The relics of St Therese, patroness of missions, have been brought to this country for a period of a month, and on Wednesday 7th October they will be visiting the Oxford Oratory, our local Roman Catholic parish church of St Aloysius. Many will wish to visit the Oratory on that day and join in the vigil of prayer, praying particularly for the mission and unity of the whole Church of Christ.

Sunday Readings

OCTOBER 4TH:	Genesis 2.18–24	Hebrews 2.9–11	Mark 10.2–16
OCTOBER 11TH:	Wisdom 7.7–11	Hebrews 4.12–13	Mark 10.17–30
OCTOBER 18TH:	Isaiah 53.10–11	Hebrews 4.14–16	Mark 10.35–45
OCTOBER 25TH:	2 Chron 5.6–11, 13–6.2	1 Cor 3.9–13, 16–17	John 4.19–24



ST MARY MAGDALEN

Services
Sundays : Eucharist at 8 am and 5.30 pm
 Mattins 10 am
 High Mass at 10.30 am
Weekdays : Eucharist at 12.15 pm and 6.00 pm
 Morning Prayer 8.15 am, Evening Prayer 5.40 pm

Confessions
 Daily after the 12.15 pm Mass, Wednesdays & Saturdays at 6.30 pm

Parish Clergy

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 Sr Margaret Anne, ASSP
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Website

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Calendar for October 2009

1	Th	Therese, V Dr	<i>John our Bishop</i>
2	F	Holy Guardian Angels	<i>Rowan our Archbishop</i>
3	S	Feria	<i>Franciscans</i>
4	☉	27TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	<i>Harvest Thanksgiving</i>
5	M	Feria	<i>Those new to Oxford</i>
6	T	Feria	<i>Our PCC</i>
7	W	Feria	<i>The Oxford Oratory</i>
8	Th	Feria	<i>Helen & Douglas House</i>
9	F	Denys, Bp & Companions, Ms	<i>The persecuted church</i>
10	S	Paulinus, Bp Missionary	<i>Churches Together</i>
11	☉	28TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	<i>Parish Community</i>
12	M	Wilfrid, B	<i>Missionaries</i>
12	M	Edward the Confessor	<i>Christian government</i>
13	T	Feria	<i>The elderly</i>
14	W	Feria	<i>Servers and sacristans</i>
15	Th	Teresa of Avila, V Dr	<i>Spiritual Directors</i>
16	F	Feria	<i>Oxfam</i>
17	S	Ignatius, Bp M	<i>Bishops</i>
18	☉	29TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR	<i>Parish Community</i>
19	M	Feria	<i>Oxford City Council</i>
20	T	Feria	<i>Christian unity</i>
21	W	Feria: Anointing during the 6.00 mass	<i>Healing ministry</i>
22	Th	Feria: Anointing during the 12.15 mass	<i>Oxford's hospitals</i>
23	F	Feria	<i>Monthly requiem</i>
24	S	Feria	<i>The R & D Trust</i>
25	☉	DEDICATION FESTIVAL	<i>Parish community</i>
26	M	Feria	<i>The homeless</i>
27	T	Feria	<i>Oxford deanery</i>
28	T	Simon & Jude, Apostles	<i>Vocations</i>
29	W	Feria	<i>World Peace</i>
30	Th	Feria	<i>The housebound</i>
31	F	Feria	<i>The Lutheran Church</i>
