



SHRINE & PARISH OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN,

1, NICOLL RD, LONDON, NW10 9AX.

Tel: 0208 965 4935 email: [willesden@rcdow.org.uk/](mailto:willesden@rcdow.org.uk)

Website <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/willesden>

Rector and Parish Priest: Fr Stephen Willis.

Assistant Priest: Fr William Johnstone.

Parish Secretary: Karen Toole: Safeguarding: Sylvia Vernon.

**PARISH
NEWSLETTER**

**CHRISTMAS
2023 &
NEW YEAR
2024**

Lamp intentions this week:

Sacred Heart Lamp- Eileen & Dave - Intention

Blessed Sacrament Lamp 1 - Theresa Walls – RIP

Blessed Sacrament Lamp 2-For the Purtill & Hassett families

Shrine Lamp 1- Siobhan & Ciara – Int.

Shrine Lamp 2- The Jones Family Int.

Mass intentions from Saturday 23rd December 2023

6pm: John McNamara – Anniversary

Sunday 9am: John Cahillane - Anniversary

11am: Pro Populo

6pm: Alice Schmidt- Anniversary

Midnight : Pro Populo

Mon: 9am John Harkin -RIP

10am: Middle East esp. Palestine, Israel & the triumph of the faith

11.15am: Pro Populo

Tues 10am: Fr Stephens Int.

Wed: 10am: Holy Souls OLM

Thurs:10am: Maria Fernandes - Anniversary

Fri: 7pm: November Dead List 2024

Saturday 10am: Kenhall & Hill families – Int.

6pm: Holy Souls OLM

Lamp intentions from Sunday 31st December:

Sacred Heart Lamp- PEACE

Blessed Sacrament Lamp 1 - Theresa Walls – RIP

Shrine Lamp 1-Esmeralda – Int.

Mass intentions from Sunday 31st December 2023

Sunday 9am: Pro Populo

11am: November Dead List 2023 *No 5.30pm evening Mass today.*

Mon: 12 noon: Ruben Alonso Panameno – Anniversary

Tues 10am: Anthony Dass - Anniversary

Wed: 7pm: Susan Shackleton – Birthday Int.

Thurs:9.45: Eulogy

10am: Funeral Mass Anne Marie Doheny RIP

Fri: 7pm: Tom & P J McKenna

Saturday 10am: Mauricio -Private Int.

6pm: Chris Docherty – 1st Anniversary

Sunday 9am: Sister Mary Majella - Anniversary

11am: James Cahillane – Anniversary

5.30pm:Pro Populo

Masses& Sanctuary Lamp intentions can be booked online:

willesden@rcdow.org.uk or by phone 02089654935

MASS INTENTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FROM 5th February 2024

and SANCTUARY LAMPS *from January!*

USUAL MASS TIMES:

Saturday 6pm (Anticipated said Mass for Sunday)

SUNDAY 9am (simple said: Livestreamed)

11am (Solemn Mass with Choir)

5.30pm – (Traditional Latin)

Monday to Saturday 10am, & Monday-Friday 7pm

(No evening Mass on Bank Holidays)

Confessions: Tue 6.15-6.45pm & Sat.10.30-11.30am & 5-5.45pm.



GIFTS – a SHORT STORY FOR Christmas written by a parishioner...

PROLOGUE: In a tiny, secluded bay, a group of men scrambled out of a small fishing boat, piled into a waiting van, and set off into the night, not knowing where they were going and what they would find when they arrived.

They had come in search of a new life, each with his own hopes, fears, and a rucksack full of trepidation. The journey had been long, fraught with danger and wasn't over yet. The men settled down and tried to sleep.

One man, Fahad lay with his head on his rucksack, soon he was dozing until he heard:

'I'm a precious metal.'

'I'm a sweet perfume.'

'I'm a bitter perfume.'

Fahad smiled. He and his fellow travellers had followed their stars to this foreign country to hand over their gifts...

EPILOGUE: The King has an heir! The King has an heir! Crowds were shouting on the streets and hillsides, in the villages and surrounding fields. What joy there was all over the land. The Queen had given birth to a son, her firstborn. The people had been waiting a long time for this and they came from far and near to congratulate the King and his Queen.

Among the donkeys and dromedaries was an old van. It came to a halt and out stepped Fahad and his companions. It had brought the men on the last leg of their journey all the way from Persia, bearing their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

They came to greet a helpless baby, the Son of God.

Come, let us welcome him too.

Susan Carberry © November 2023

Refreshments after the 9am Mass on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. Come, and join us

Sponsor an Organ Pipe as a gift. Beautiful Cards available that pay for a pipe to be restored in the Organ. £25 per Pipe, with a card you can give at a token. Available from the Repository or Parish Office.

Parish Christmas Cards with the times of masses over Christmas and New Year are available from the rear of church, or on the Parish Webpage: parish@rcdow.org.uk/willesden
The Parish Office is CLOSED until January 2nd 2024. Usual Hours: Tuesday – Friday 10.30am – 12.30pm.

ONLINE:

Children's Liturgy: <https://www.themark10mission.co.uk/>

Livestream Mass: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/willesden> or the **Willesden Shrine Facebook Page.** 9am Sunday.

Sign up to e-alerts from the Parish to receive news, updates and the weekly Newsletter directly to your email!

Go to the parish website: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/willesden>

Parish Offerings: Weekend of 16th & 17th December: £1,485.58; Shrine Restoration £78.47 Organ

Fund: £25.00

Many thanks to all who support the ministry and mission of our Parish.

Warm Welcome Space. We have all experienced the bitterly cold weather at the end of November, and we should soon be opening the Warm Welcome space which we offered last year. Westminster Caritas have doubled the grant they gave the parish last year to assist with heating the Marian Hall, but we need the resource of people to help host the Space. As last year we propose to offer two 3 hour sessions a week, on Thursdays and Saturdays, and at least to offer a warm space, companionship, and refreshment. There may be some other resources to offer too.... But in the first place we need volunteers (it doesn't have to be every week). If you would be willing to help, please sign up on the sheets available today, and the coordinating group will soon contact you. ***"Whatever you do to one of the least of these brothers and sisters, you do for me"***

Crib Offerings, As usual, will be given to the Catholic Childrens Society for their work with vulnerable families.

Christmas Offering: The Offertory Collection at the Christmas masses goes into the General Parish Finances. Should your wish be to make the traditional offering to the priest you should do so by placing it in a card, or an envelope with that intention marked upon it.

The Repository has in stock: Nativity sets/Cribs, Christmas Cards, Calendars and diaries. Also Rosaries, Prayer leaflets, and Medals including Our Lady of Willesden, and also the Organ Fund ***Gift of a Pipe*** Cards.

Parish Obits:

Anne Marie Doheny RIP: 9.45am Eulogy and 10am Funeral Mass, Thursday 4th January, followed by Committal at Carpenders Park Cemetery.

Marie Alcide RIP: 9.45am Eulogy and 10am Funeral Mass, Friday 12th January, followed by Committal at Alperton Cemetery.

Marie Shanganhoo RIP: 9.45am Eulogy and 10am Funeral Mass, Thursday 18th January, followed by Committal at S. Mary's Cemetery Cemetery

Parish Poor Box. As the year ends the Parish Finance Committee has allocated the following donations from the balance of your generous donations to the Poor Box this last year. On your behalf, a donation of £500 has been made to each of the following Charities: Aid to the Church in Need, Good Counsel Network, Cardinal Hume Centre, The Passage, Acton Homeless Concern.

**EPIPHANY CAROLS & VESPERS, SUNDAY 7TH JANUARY, 4.30PM,
FOLLOWED BY MULLED WINE IN THE MARIAN HALL.**

***FR STEPHEN & FR WILLIAM WISH YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES A
VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS, AND MANY BLESSINGS IN THE NEW YEAR***