



## SHRINE & PARISH OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN,

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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  
7<sup>TH</sup> January  
2024  
THE  
EPIPHANY  
OF THE LORD**

### Lamp intentions this week:

**Sacred Heart Lamp-** Pat Willis

**Blessed Sacrament Lamp 1 -** Theresa Walls – RIP

**Blessed Sacrament Lamp 2** PEACE

**Shrine Lamp –** Jane - sick

### Mass intentions from Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**6pm:** Chris Docherty – Anniversary

**Sunday 9am:** Sister Mary Majella - Ann

**11am:** James Cahillane - Anniversary

**5.30pm:** Pro Populo

**Mon: 10am:** Vanessa & Marcello – Wedding Anniversary

**7pm:** Holy Souls OLM

**Tues 10am:** Phyllis Sinnott- Sick

**7pm:** Holy Souls OLM

**Wed:10am:** Albert Laird- Anniversary

**7pm:** November Dead 2024

**Thurs 10am:** Claire O'Beirne – Int.

**7pm:** Holy Souls OLM

**Fri: 9.45am:** Eulogy

**10am:** Funeral Mass Marie Alcide RIP

**7pm:** November Dead 2024

**Saturday 10am:** Mary O'Beirne – Birthday Int.

**6pm:** Mick Lyons – Anniversary

**Sunday 9am:** Matt Carr – Anniversary

**11am:** Ronald DeSouza – Anniversary

**5.30pm:** Pro Populo

Masses & Sanctuary Lamp intentions can be booked online: [willesden@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:willesden@rcdow.org.uk) or by phone 02089654935 MASS INTENTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FROM 12th February 2024 and SANCTUARY LAMPS *from next weekend!*

### *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.*



## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

In their thirst for knowledge of God, the wise men from the East willingly left everything, their home and country, in pursuit of that quest. In their diligent search they were led to the source of true knowledge - to Jesus Christ, the Light and Wisdom of God. When they found the new-born King they humbly worshiped him and gave him gifts fitting for a king.

The Lord of the universe who revealed the star of Bethlehem to the Gentiles of the East so they could come and worship Jesus, the Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6) and King of Kings (Revelations 19:16), gives each one of us the same light of revelation to recognize and accept Jesus as our Lord and Saviour. Faith is an entirely free gift that God makes to us. It is through the help of the Holy Spirit, who moves the heart and opens the eyes of the mind, that we are able to understand, accept, and believe the truth which God has revealed to us through his Son, Jesus Christ. In faith, the human will and intellect cooperate with grace. *"Believing is an act of the intellect assenting to the divine truth by command of the will moved by God through grace"* (Thomas Aquinas).

To know and to encounter Jesus Christ is to know God personally. In the encounter of the wise men with Jesus we see the plan of God to give his only Son as King and Saviour, not just for the Jewish people but for all the nations as well. The Lord Jesus came that both Jew and Gentile might find true and lasting peace with God. Let us pray today that Jew and Gentile alike will find the Lord and Saviour on their journey of life. Do you bring the light of Jesus Christ to those you meet through the witness of your life and testimony?

*Lord Jesus Christ, we thank you for bringing salvation to all the nations. May the gospel of salvation be proclaimed to every nation today and to every person on the face of the earth. Help me to be a good witness of the joy of the gospel to all I meet.*

*Refreshments after the 9am Mass on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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.

**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 23<sup>rd</sup>/24<sup>th</sup> December £1,016.72 Shrine Restoration £32.13 Organ Fund: £365. 25<sup>th</sup> £1,692.81.

Weekend of 30<sup>th</sup>/31<sup>st</sup> December £1,269.32 Shrine Restoration £48.92 Crib : £77.41 Gifts to Organ Fund of £200, & £400 from the Ghanaian Association .

*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: 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:**

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

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

**Primary Entrance.** Fr Stephen will be available for the Signing of the Certificate of Catholic Practice. Appointments can be made for interviews between 4.30pm and 6.30pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> January. Please book an interview with him at the end of masses this weekend.

**Fire Warden Training.** The Diocese requires that each parish has a number of Fire Wardens to assist in the evacuation of the church buildings if such a need arises during times of worship. An updated training session will be held at S. Mary Magdalen's, Willesden Green on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January at from 7 – 8 pm for local parishes. It would be good if we could have at least 2 volunteers from every weekend Mass to attend. Please sign up on the Green Notice Board at the back of church if you are able to attend. Thankyou.

**Sacramental Preparation dates: First Communion:** Sunday 14 January 2024 9.55am in the Marian Hall.

**Confirmation** Tuesday 16 January 2024 at 6pm in Marian Hall.

**Adult Preparation for the Sacraments** Initial Meeting Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> January at 4pm in the Presbytery (please let Fr Stephen or Fr William know if you wish to attend, or even if you cannot, but would like to be prepared for the Sacraments)

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

**FR STEPHEN & FR WILLIAM THANK YOU FOR YOUR KIND GIFTS AND  
GREETINGS, AND WISH YOU MANY BLESSINGS IN THE NEW YEAR**