



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**
18th February
2024
**FIRST
SUNDAY
OF
LENT**

Lamp intentions this week:

Sacred Heart Lamp- Pat Willis

Blessed Sacrament Lamp 1 - Theresa Walls – RIP

Blessed Sacrament Lamp 2 - Andrew - sick

Shrine Lamp – The Sick in our Parish Community

Mass intentions from Saturday 17th February 2024

6pm: Tim Regan – Anniversary

Sunday 9am: Leena Cardoso – For Good Health

11am: Pro Populo

5.30pm: Maria O’Beirne -Int

Mon: 10am: Alan & Gillian Jones - CMB

7pm: Holy Souls OLM

Tues 10am: Kathy McGloin - CMB

7pm: Bruna Soraia De Melo Cardoso - Anniversary

Wed: 10am: S De Silva -Thanksgiving for 35 years Service

7pm: November Dead List

Thurs :10am: Eugenia Szydlo – Lately Dead

7pm: Hermina Braganca - Anniversary

Fri: 10am: Holy Souls OLM

7pm: Michael O’Connor – Anniversary

Saturday 10am: Pat O’Sullivan – Lately Dead

6pm: Pro Populo

Sunday 9am: Francis Fernandes - RIP

11am: Abidimi & Titilayo Akinwomni -Pedro – Wedding Anniversary

5.30pm: Catherine Killian & Family – Int.

Masses & Sanctuary Lamp intentions can be booked online:

willesden@rcdow.org.uk or by phone 02089654935

MASS INTENTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FROM 26th March 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.



“FORTY DAYS AND FORTY NIGHTS, THOU WAST FASTING IN THE WILD...”

What is the significance of Jesus spending 40 days and nights of solitude, prayer and fasting in the Judean wilderness? In the Old Testament 40 days was often seen as a significant period of testing and preparation for entering into a covenant relationship with God. In the days of Noah, God judged the earth and destroyed its inhabitants in a great flood because of their idolatry and total rejection of God. Noah and his family were spared because they obeyed God and took refuge in the ark for 40 days. When the flood subsided God made a covenant with Noah and promised that he would not destroy the human race again. Jesus came to fulfil that promise.

When God freed the Israelites from slavery in Egypt he brought them into the wilderness of Sinai. Moses went to the mountain of the Lord at Sinai and remained there in prayer and fasting for 40 days (Exodus 24:18). At the conclusion of this 40 day encounter God made a covenant with Moses and the people. After the prophet Elijah had confronted the sin of idolatry (the worship of false gods) in the land of Israel and destroyed the 400 priests of Baal (1 Kings 18:20-40), he fled into the wilderness and journeyed for 40 days to the mountain of God at Sinai (1 Kings 19:8). There God spoke with Elijah and commissioned him to pass on the work of restoring the worship of the one true God in the land. After Jesus was anointed by the Spirit in the waters of the Jordan River, he journeyed to the wilderness of Judea for 40 days to prepare himself for the mission which the Father sent him to accomplish - to offer up his life as the perfect atoning sacrifice for our sins. Through the shedding of his blood on the cross he won for us a new and everlasting covenant which fulfilled and surpassed all the previous covenants which God had made with his people.

Lord Jesus, your word is life, joy, wisdom, and strength for me. Fill me with your Holy Spirit that I may have the strength and courage to embrace your will in all things and to renounce whatever is contrary to your will for me. Amen.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: APPEAL FOR ADORERS. If this is something that you could help with then please add your name to the Sheets on the table at the back of church by the Green Notice Board. Obviously there are times when other things like holidays or an appointment means that it is not always possible to be here, but if you could **normally** be here, that's fine, and also why it is best to have 2 or 3 names for each half hour.... You can of course sign up to more than one half hour segment! This will then assist us in creating a rota of Eucharistic adorers. Remember the words of Jesus on the eve of his passion. Could you not watch with me one hour? It is such a small thing that he asks of us. But one which is crucial if he is to make his home in our hearts.

Refreshments after the 9am & 11am Masses on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.
Come, and join us in the Marian Hall.

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 10th/11th February £1,463.35 Shrine Restoration £47.38 Organ Fund: £1,207.00.

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

Sacramental Preparation dates:

Confirmation : Tuesday 20th January 2024 at 6pm in Marian Hall.

Adult Preparation for the Sacraments Today (Sunday) at 3.45pm.

First Holy Communion. Next Sunday, 25th February, 9.55am in the Marian Hall.

SYNODAL PATHWAY 2024. The Diocese has asked all parish communities to host 2 Consultation Meetings before early March. News of this and the resources have only arrived recently, so please excuse the lack of notice! We will be hosting the Consultation Meetings on Sundays the 18th February (this weekend) and 3rd March in the Marian Hall at 10.10am in the hope that it will be easier for people to stay on from the 9am Mass, or come early to the 11 am Mass... or of course drop in if you come on Saturday or Sunday evening. **To assist in this, the 11am Mass on these two Sundays will be slightly postponed until 11.15am.**

The questions we are asked to consider at the first meeting this weekend (Sunday) are:

Q.1: How do we witness as a Parish and proclaim our faith to:

▷those who have never heard of Christ;

▷those who have ceased walking with Christ;

▷those with whom we worship Christ (those who go to church)?

Q.2: How should we organise ourselves as a Parish to do this more effectively?

This is an opportunity for you to make your hopes known, and be fed into the Diocesan Submission for the next Meetings in Rome.

THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT

Almsgiving. As usual, we have the opportunity of supporting **Cafod, and Caritas;** envelopes are available at the rear of Church.

Stations of the Cross will be celebrated communally on Wednesday and Friday mornings and Friday evenings after Mass.

Lent Study Course “We are bold to say”, which centres on the prayer Our Saviour taught us; the Our Father, will be offered on Thursday morning after the 10am Mass, or Thursday evening after the 7pm Mass.

PARISH LENTEN MOTTO: MERCIFUL, NOT MISERABLE!

Cake Sale for HCPT. Many thanks to all who indulged their sweet tooth's before Lent: a total of £480.05 was raised.

Annual Mass for Matrimony The annual Mass for Matrimony will be celebrated in the Cathedral by the Cardinal on Saturday 25th May at 2.30pm for couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries such as 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th and 60+. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

SVP 4 NW10 The new Society of S. Vincent de Paul Conference for our area are holding an either or Session: Wednesday 21st or 28th February 6-7pm in the Marian Hall. All interested are welcome.

Warm Welcome Space. From Thursday 11.30am -2.30pm in the Marian Hall.