



SHRINE & PARISH OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN,

1, NICOLL RD, LONDON, NW10 9AX.

Tel: 0208 965 4935 email: willesden@rcdow.org.uk/

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

Rector and Parish Priest: Fr Stephen Willis.

Assistant Priest: Fr William Johnstone.

In Residence Fr Paulachan Kochappilly

Parish Secretary: Karen Toole: Safeguarding: Sylvia Vernon.

**PARISH
NEWSLETTER**

28th APRIL

2024

**FIFTH
SUNDAY OF
EASTER**

Lamp intentions this week:

Sacred Heart Lamp: Gloria Sylvester – Birthday Int.

Blessed Sacrament Lamp 1 - Theresa Walls – RIP

Blessed Sacrament Lamp 2 – Fr Michael Daley RIP

Shrine Lamp – Bishop-Elect James Curry

Mass intentions from Saturday 27th April 2024

6pm: Ellen Lyons - Anniversary

Sunday 9am: Zeferino Rodrigues - RIP

11am: Pro Populo

5.30pm: Thanksgiving to the Auxiliary Saints

Mon: 10am: Holy Souls OLM

7pm: Pat & Theresa Lawless & family – Int.

Tues 10am: Holy Souls OLM

7pm: November Dead List 2024

Wed: 10am: Mary Creedon - Anniversary

7pm: Thanksgiving for St Joseph

Thurs:10am: Helena Shiatis – Int.

7pm: Mr & Mrs Ogu – Wedding Anniversary

Fri:10am: Marin Horgan - Anniversary

7pm: Tony & Pat White – Special Int.

Sat:10am: Amanda Cardoso – Birthday Int.

6pm: Sheila Lynam- Anniversary

Sunday 9am: Pro Populo

11am: Catriona Dirwan – Private Int.

5.30pm: Edwin O'Driscoll - Anniversary

Masses & Sanctuary Lamp intentions can be booked online:

willesden@rcdow.org.uk or by phone 02089654935 MASS

INTENTIONS ARE AVAILABLE FROM 27th May 2024 and

SANCTUARY LAMPS *from next weekend!*

USUAL MASS TIMES:

Saturday 6pm (Anticipated said Mass for Sunday)

SUNDAY 9am (simple said: Livestreamed)

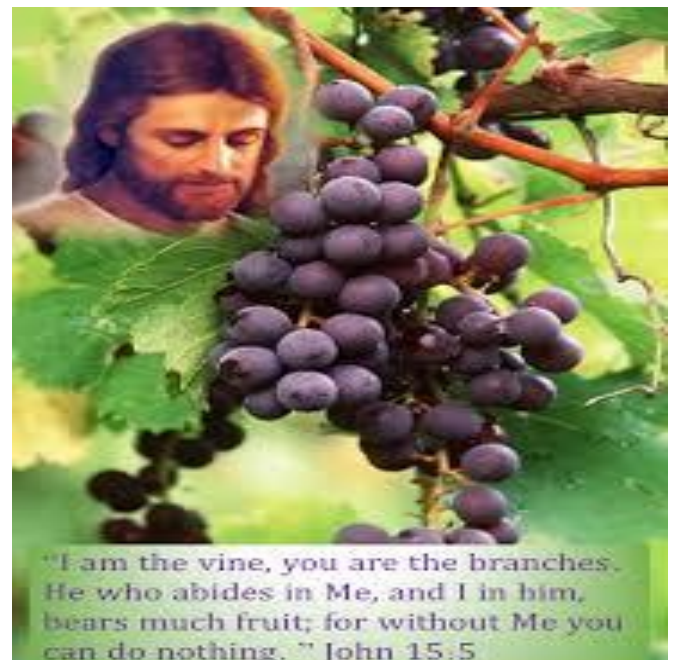
11am (Solemn Mass with Choir)

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.



Why does Jesus speak of himself as the *true vine*? The image of the vine was a rich one for the Jews since the land of Israel was covered with numerous vineyards. It had religious connotations to it as well. Isaiah spoke of the house of Israel as "*the vineyard of the Lord*". Jeremiah said that God had planted Israel "*as his choice vine*". While the vine became a symbol of Israel as a nation, it also was used in the Scriptures as a sign of degeneration - a deformed state of spiritual growth and moral decline. Isaiah's prophecy spoke of Israel as a vineyard which "*yielded wild grapes*". Jeremiah said that Israel had become a "*degenerate and wild vine*".

When Jesus calls himself the *true vine* he makes clear that no one can grow in spiritual fruitfulness and moral goodness unless they are rooted in God and in his life-giving word. Religious affiliation or association with spiritually minded people is not sufficient by itself - one must be firmly rooted in the "Tree of Life" who is the eternal Father and his only begotten Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus makes a claim which only God can make - he is the true source of life that sustains us and makes us fruitful in living the abundant life which God has for us. It is only through Jesus Christ that one can be fully grafted into the true "vineyard of the Lord".

Jesus offers true life - the abundant life which comes from God and which results in great fruitfulness. How does the vine become fruitful? The vine dresser must carefully prune the vine before it can bear good fruit. Vines characteristically have two kinds of branches - those which bear fruit and those which don't. The non-bearing branches must be carefully pruned back in order for the vine to conserve its strength for bearing good fruit. Jesus used this image to describe the kind of life he produces in those who are united with him - the fruit of "*righteousness, peace, and joy in the Holy Spirit*" (Romans 14:17). Jesus says there can be no fruit in our lives apart from him. The fruit he speaks of here is the fruit of the Holy Spirit (see Galatians 5:22-23).

There is a simple truth here: We are either fruit-bearing or non-fruit-bearing. There is no in-between. But the bearing of healthy fruit requires drastic pruning. The Lord promises that we will bear much fruit if we abide in him and allow him to purify us.

Do you trust in the Lord's healing and transforming power to give you the abundant life and fruit of his heavenly kingdom?

Lord Jesus, may I be one with you in all that I say and do. Draw me close that I may glorify you and bear fruit for your kingdom. In flame my heart with your love and remove from it anything that would make me ineffective or unfruitful in loving and serving you as my All. AMEN.

THIS WEEK: IN CHURCH:

Weekdays, **Rosary** in the Shrine at 10.30am.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament: Tuesdays & Saturdays between the masses.

Coffee and Bible Study: Thursday after 10am from 11th April.

Legion of Mary: Sundays, 12.30pm – 2pm in the Presbytery.

Church Cleaning: Wed 8.30am-10am.

DURING THE MONTH:

Choral Vespers & Benediction on the First Sunday at 4.30pm (*Not May & October when Processions are on the 2nd Sunday*)

Coffee in the Marian Hall after 9am Mass on the 1st and 3rd Sundays, and after the 11am Mass 2nd and 4th Sundays.

Ghanaian Catholic Association: First Sunday of the Month after the 11am Mass, in the Marian Hall.

Nigerian Catholic Association: Third Sunday of the Month after the 11am Mass, in the Marian Hall.

1,000 Hail Mary's: First Saturdays, after 10am Mass, in the Shrine Chapel.

SVP4NW10. Wednesday 22nd April 6-7pm in the Marian Hall.

ONLINE:

Children's Liturgy: Each week a short Liturgy for both Children, and Little ones. <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 20th/21st April £1,241.10 Shrine Restoration £89.86, Priest Training Fund Collection £631.79 so far

Funeral collection Mary O'Beirne RIP towards the Organ Fund £230.66

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

BON VOGAGE -Fr Paulachan returns to Kerala this week we thank him for his presence in the Parish and assure him of our prayers.

ORGAN PROJECT - Please Note. The Organ Builders return this week to continue the rebuilding works. There will be some major lifting works, so the Church may be closed when necessary. Please note that on this Tuesday the morning Mass will be in the Marian Hall, and that, there will not be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Sacramental Preparation dates:

First Communion: Sunday 28th April. 9.55am. **Confirmation:** Tuesdays 30th April, 6pm in the Marian Hall.

Easter Lilies. Many thanks to all who donated for Easter Lilies in memory of Loved Ones. The Dedications are displayed on the Green Notice board at the back of church, and the donations have enabled lilies to be placed at the Shrine and High Altars throughout Eastertide.

New Boxes of PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES available after Masses: Please ask Fr Stephen.

REFRESHMENTS IN THE MARIAN HALL AFTER THE 11AM MASS THIS SUNDAY---ALL WELCOME!
(Also, after the 11am Mass next Sunday)

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

2 & 3 Year Old Nursery Places - St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School

Applications for admission to **Nursery Class** at St Joseph's Roman Catholic Primary School, Goodson Road, London NW10 9LS are invited for children aged 2 and 3 years old. If you are a working parent you may be eligible to 15 free hours per week from the term after your child turns 2 years old. Some will be eligible for 30 free hours (working parents) from the term after their child turns 3 years old. Please call to the school for an application pack and details on how to apply.

DAY TRIP TO SOUTHEND ON SEA

The Mary Magdalen Wednesday Club is organising a day trip to Southend on Thursday 27th June 2024.

Cost- £15, from St Mary Magdalene 's Catholic Church, Peter Avenue, at 9am. Return from Southend is at 5.30pm and hope to arrive back at Church by 7pm. If you wish to book on this trip, kindly contact Beatrice at the Repository.



MAY PROCESSION, SUNDAY 12TH MAY 3PM. POSTERS ADVERTISING THE PROCESSION ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE REAR OF CHURCH: PLEASE ADVERTISE.