

Presbytery

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rcdow.org.uk/parish/willesdengreen

Facebook: St Mary Magdalen RC
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Parish Clergy

Father Kevin Jordan
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Father Prasad Fernando

Deacon Michael Jarmulowicz
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Parish Office

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ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH SEPTEMBER - MONTH OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER YEAR B

20 SEPTEMBER 2015

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

“History repeats itself.

Has to. No-one listens.” Believe it or not that is an entire poem by Steve Turner. Sadly, history is repeating itself because next week we shall be saying, “Goodbye” to the current Sinhalese chaplain, Fr Prasad Fernando. Having completed his studies he will be returning to Sri Lanka to take up a new appointment.

We shall miss his singing and his preaching from the heart with such passion at Mass. Outside of Mass we will definitely miss that infectious and booming laugh—believe me, it sounds much richer in the house! At the same time, many of us will also miss his quiet presence dutifully praying the Divine Office throughout the day in the church. Moreover, when he has not celebrated a public Mass I shall miss him telling me that he will lock the church after saying a private Mass as all priests are encouraged to say Mass daily. Above all, we shall miss his imposing but always polite and gentle presence.

The Sinhalese community will miss him in particular as he has done so much for them not only here but in Hounslow and Woolwich and across the country. We often talk about new ideas that we can implement in our respective “parishes” so I thought I would take this opportunity to repeat history and a few things I’ve suggested recently:

1. International Lunch in Saint Mary Magdalen School after 1200 Mass, Sunday 22 November, the Solemnity of Christ the Universal King. Chefs and music needed to celebrate the universality of the parish.
2. *Mardi Gras* in Saint Mary Magdalen School after 1200 Mass, Sunday 7 February, the Sunday before Lent begins. Activities, food and music showing how our countries mark the start of Lent are needed before we burn old palms for the ashes.
3. *World Youth Day*, ages 18-35, July 2016 with Pope Francis, in Poland.
4. Collection counters on Sundays from 6:00pm to 7:30pm; volunteers to welcome at Mass and/or serve tea and coffee after 9:00am and 10:30am; and recruits for a Parish Pastoral Council to suggest parish events like 1 and 2 above. Come on!

In the time—honoured way, we will have a collection for Fr Prasad after Masses this weekend and next or you can donate at the presbytery: I know you will be as generous to Fr Prasad as he has been to us. He will speak at all the Masses next weekend and there will be a farewell after the 4:30pm Sinhalese Mass on Sunday. And with a bit of luck, he won’t know too much about it all if he doesn’t read the newsletter either!

It has been both a pleasure and an honour to serve and live with Fr Prasad, and so I say thank you and goodbye to a fine priest—a confessor, an example and a friend. *Fr Kevin*

Mass Times

Monday—Thursday: 9:30am

Friday: 9:30am,
6:30pm

Saturday: 9:30am, 6:30pm (Vigil
Mass of Sunday)

Sunday: 9:00am, 10:30am,
12:00 noon, 6:30pm

Sinhalese Mass

Last Sunday of the month: 4:30pm

Eucharistic Adoration

Weekdays: One hour before
morning Mass

Saturday: 8:30am—9:30am
5:30pm—6:15pm

First Friday 7:00pm—8:00pm

Confessions

Saturday: 10:00am—10:30am
5:30pm—6:15pm

Those who are sick: Josephine Nylon, John Sheedy, Anthony Butler

Those who have died recently: John Guckian, Mamie Hall

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Catherine Dyra, Bridget Sills, Tom & Nora Sullivan, Michael Duignan, William Duignan, Elizabeth Fenlon, Margaret Butler, John Joe O’Dwyer, Cecilia Larkin, Martin Cusack

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £1,736.86 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much and may God bless you for your generosity.

Home Mission Sunday. Today we are celebrating *Home Mission Sunday*. This year's theme is "Proclaim God's Mercy". *Home Mission Sunday* is the day in the Church's calendar when the bishops invite every member of the Catholic community to pray for, celebrate and support the work of evangelisation in England and Wales. For more information about the bishops' work of *Home Mission* please visit the website at www.catholicnews.org.uk/hms15. Donations can be made online at www.catholicnews.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your support and do pick up a free commemorative prayer and information card about *Home Mission Sunday* as you leave the church today.

Ashford Place. The monthly collection of non perishable food stuffs only, for Ashford Place, takes place next weekend.

Catholic Children Society Annual Collection has been delayed until the weekend of 22 November 2015, the Solemnity of Christ the King. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

Pilgrimage to Fatima, 22 November until 28 November 2015, including all excursions, cost £629. For further information please call Mrs Mozzi on 020 8472 0843 or 07859 027 301.

Parish Newsletter. Any notices for the weekly Sunday newsletter should be given to the Parish Office by Thursday noon. Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Parish Diary

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| Monday | 7:00pm | Prayer Group meeting in the Annexe |
| Tuesday | 7:00pm-8:30pm | <i>Stitch Amazingly</i> sewing workshop in the Annexe |
| Wednesday | 5:00pm-6:00pm | Post—Confirmation Group for girls meeting in the Annexe |
| Thursday | 7:15pm | <i>St Vincent De Paul Society</i> meeting in the Annexe |
| Saturday | 2:30pm-4:00pm | <i>Stitch Amazingly</i> sewing workshop in the Annexe |

Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: The Lord upholds my life.

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows Me will have the light of life. Alleluia!

Diocesan News

Marriage & Family Life Office website has now been uploaded with the summary report of all the comments, replies and submissions received in response to the Holy Father's call for a period of 'true spiritual discernment' ahead of the Synod on the Family in October 2015. The full link to the document is <http://rcdow.org.uk/diocese/marriage-and-family-life/news/summary-of-responses-to-synod-consultation/>. The full report with all the comments and submissions received is available on request.

Caritas Westminster refugee crisis. Following the announcement that the UK will accept 20,000 Syrian refugees over the next five years, *Caritas Westminster* are coordinating assistance for refugees in line with Cardinal Vincent's and Archbishop Peter Smith's pledge to work with the government. Although the government is developing a framework for supporting the arrival of Syrian refugees, as a Church we need to be prepared to welcome vulnerable and newly arrived people into our communities in the form of practical support for refugees. These services will include, but are not limited to: help with languages, including interpreting and ESOL (English as a second language teaching); legal advice; medical services; befriending; basic necessities such as clothing, shoes, toiletries, food parcels, toys etc. Could any potential volunteers please record their details on the spread sheet on the table at the back of the church today? Once we know the kind of assistance the parish is able to provide, *Caritas* will be able to develop an effective strategy which makes use of the resources available. *Caritas* will be regularly updating their website at www.rcdow.org.uk/caritas with developments and their response to the crisis. In the meantime, we would ask you to continue to monitor the refugee crisis in the news, and to continue to pray for the safety and security of all people caught up in the flight from Syria and all global conflicts.

Apostleship of the Sea. On the Feast of Our Lady, Star of the Sea the World Maritime Day Mass takes place at St George's Cathedral, Westminster Bridge Road, London SE1 7HY (entrance on Lambeth Road) on Thursday 24 September 2015 at 12:30pm. Bishop Tom Burns SM will preside at Mass. Afterwards there will be a reception in the Amigo Hall. For catering purposes, please email roland@apostleshipofthesea.org.uk to let him know if you are coming, or for any further information.

Vocation Discernment Group for adults (18-30's) meets on Friday 25 September 2015, 7:00pm till 9:00pm in the Hinsley Room next to Westminster Cathedral. The next speaker is Dom Dominic Taylor, OSB on the Benedictine charism. For more information please contact Fr Richard at richardnesbitt@rcdow.org.uk

After Alpha course will commence on Wednesday 13 October 2015 at 2 Lauradale Road, East Finchley N2 9LU from 7:30pm till 9:30pm. Alpha is the course continuing to grow all over the world, supported by all Christian denominations, loved by both the Pope and the Archbishop of Canterbury. This course will be concentrating on the Holy Spirit and on living in the presence of the Lord. There is no charge for the course. Please telephone Peter Kraushar on 020 8883 4736 or email peterkrau@aol.com. Please see the poster at the back of the church for further details.