

## Presbytery

Peter Avenue, Willesden Green,  
London, NW10 2DD

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[rcdow.org.uk/parish/willesdengreen](http://rcdow.org.uk/parish/willesdengreen)

Facebook: St Mary Magdalen RC  
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## Parish Clergy

Father Kevin Jordan  
[kevinjordan@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:kevinjordan@rcdow.org.uk)

Father Daya Perera

## Parish Office

[willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk)



## ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

OCTOBER - MONTH OF  
THE HOLY ROSARY

9 OCTOBER 2016

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
YEAR C

## 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

## If You Don't Want to Go to Mass...

At the first meetings of our Holy Communion and Confirmation candidates with their parents I mentioned how some parishes get you to sign a register to show that you're coming to Mass at least for the duration of the courses. We don't do that because going to Mass isn't about ticking boxes or keeping the priest satisfied but saving our souls.

Bishop Robert Barron was asked when he was a seminary rector about the low number of vocations to the priesthood at that time. He responded, "People say to me there is a crisis in the priesthood. I say there is an even greater crisis in the laity. 75% of all Catholics do not attend Mass. That is the problem." And he's right and everyone knows it, not least the Diocese who ask us how many attend Mass each week (about 1200) and how many Catholics live in the parish—a staggering 5000 or so, many of whom we don't see.

Of course these numbers are slightly skewed insofar as some people come every other week or less frequently, perhaps because they are visiting family or friends and go to Mass elsewhere, or find a Mass at a more convenient in a neighbouring parish for a given weekend. But it is undeniable that other things take priority and on a given Sunday's "to do" list, keeping the third commandment that God gave to Moses on Mount Sinai (Ex 20:8) gets shuffled to the bottom of the pile and forgotten without us noticing.

As many people have to work on a Sunday it can be hard, but even so it is impossible to find one hour out of 164 in a week—0.6% of our lives—to give to God—especially when He has given us everything? Yet somehow that time for God is the first thing that begins to slip away, and week by week fades to become a forgotten habit. As Pope Saint Pius X wrote, "All the strength of Satan's reign is due to the easy going weakness of Catholics." And we can understand his point when the Mass becomes increasingly less important since it is the one place where we intimately encounter Christ who conquered Satan, sin and death. As Pope Francis says, "The Church is Herself God's great family which brings Christ to us." And as Cardinal Nichols says, the Mass is the "promise of future glory," a variation on the words of the Eucharistic Prayer, which calls the Mass "a foretaste and promise of the Paschal Feast of Heaven" where we hope to be forever in the Presence of Christ, the Victorious Lamb of God, who comes to us here in that single hour.

Hence, "If you don't want to go to Mass, why would you want to go to Heaven?" It is the devil's desire that we don't go to Heaven but making the Mass the greatest priority on Sunday is the perfect way to start the conscious battle against his wily ways. *Fr Kevin*

**Those who have died recently:** Cy Cheng, Sr Amadeus Bulger CJ

**Those who are sick:** James Martin, Christina Smythe, Carmen Vasco

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Bridget Mulhern, John & Kay Wallace, Beatrice Wallace, Kathleen Carter, Paul Power, Michael Barrett, Henriqueta Ferreira, Alberto Chiappetta, Gilda Falcone

**Those Baptised:** Alfie Lee Brewster, James Michael Lambert

## Parish News

**Collection.** Last week's collection was £1,895.58 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much for your generosity. Stranding order figures will be published at the end of the year.

**Rebuilding England's Nazareth collection** on the weekend of the 24/25 September has raised the total sum of £523.56. Thank you. The monies will be used to help in the development of England's National Shrine to Our Lady. Details of the plans can be found by visiting the website at [www.walsingham.org.uk](http://www.walsingham.org.uk)

**CAFOD Harvest Fast Day** was Friday 7 October 2016. This Harvest Fast Day we were invited to fast in solidarity with our brothers and sisters around the world and join 32-year-old Nicanora, from Bolivia, on her journey from poverty to abundance. We can stand alongside Nicanora as she learns new skills and receives materials and seeds that will enable her to grow enough food to feed her family. Please place your Fast Day envelope with your donation in this week's collection. Thank you. Please also see the poster at the back of the church and for further details visit the website at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk).

**Readers' Rotas.** New rotas are now available in the rack in the Sacristy. Please pick up your copy today. Also could all readers please confirm their up to date contact details by either telephoning the Parish Office on 020 8451 4677 or emailing at [willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk). Thank you.

**Tea and coffee.** You are welcome in the Annexe after the 9:00am and 10:30am Masses when we will be serving drinks. Do take this opportunity to meet your fellow parishioners.

**Infant, Primary, Secondary School Priest's Reference Forms.** Please telephone the Parish Office Tuesday to Friday, between 10:00am and 2:00pm, to arrange an appointment.

**Stitch Amazingly Sewing Workshop.** As the October half term approaches *Stitch Amazingly* will be running sewing workshops for teens who enjoy fashion and textiles and would like to join a sewing group. They could make a simple piece of clothing or even an accessory piece. The workshops will run for a limited time from 25—27 October, 11:00am until 1:30pm. Take a chance to learn new skills and develop those you have, with a final piece to take home! Price is £90 for 3 days. Please contact Glenda via her website at [www.stitchamazingly.co.uk](http://www.stitchamazingly.co.uk) or telephone 07739 707 564. Please also see the poster at the back of the church.

## Parish Diary

Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group meeting— Annexe
Thursday	7:15pm	<i>Saint Vincent De Paul</i> meeting in the Annexe
Friday	7:00pm	<i>Knights of St Columba</i> meeting in the Annexe
Saturday	7:30pm— 9:30pm	"The Feast London" - a Catholic prayer meeting of the Light of Jesus Family in the Annexe

## Diocesan News

**National Prisons Week.** *Caritas* Westminster are holding an event to promote volunteering with prisoners, ex-offenders and their families. Come along to hear about the work that goes on in prisons and how you can get involved. All are welcome. The event takes place on Tuesday 11 October, 6:00pm—8:00pm, at Westminster Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Ave, London SW1P 1QW. Refreshments provided. Please RSVP to [caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk).

**Risen Movie** takes place on Friday 14 October at 7:30pm in Notre Dame de France. One of the best Christian movies of the decade! Tickets cost £5 and can be purchased online at [www.bit.ly/risen14oct](http://www.bit.ly/risen14oct) or in person at the venue, Notre Dame de France, 5 Leicester Place, London WC2H 7BX. Movie is followed by questions and answers. Advance booking is recommended.

**Music Ministry Day** is taking place on Saturday 29 October at the Centre for Youth Ministry in Euston (NW1 1TA) from 11:00am—7:00pm. This day is open to all young people interested in developing their talents in music ministry. The day will be led by Edwin Fawcett and will contain several workshops based around developing skill in different areas of leading music. This will also be an opportunity for young people to enquire about Edwin's Music Ministry scholarship course. For more information please email Rebekah at [rebekahcurran@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rebekahcurran@rcdow.org.uk) or follow this link: <http://dowym.com/events/music-ministry-edwin-fawcett/>

**Retreat for Advent** led by the Retreat Team takes place on Friday 2 December until Sunday 4 December at the House of Prayer, 35 Seymour Road, East Molesey, Surrey KT8 0PB. A weekend silent residential retreat with an individual guide for each retreatant. As well as time for personal prayer, there will also be community prayer, with Scripture, poetry and music. Arrive on Friday in time for supper at 7:00pm and leave on Sunday at 4:00 pm. Cost is £140 and advance booking is essential. To reserve a place please telephone 020 8941 2313 or email [houseofprayer@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:houseofprayer@hotmail.co.uk).

## Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: The Lord has shown His salvation to the nations.

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life: You have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!

## Hail Holy Queen

Hail, holy queen, mother of mercy! Hail our life, our sweetness, and our hope! To thee do we cry, poor banished children of Eve, to thee do we send up our sighs, mourning and weeping in this vale of tears. Turn, then, most gracious advocate, thine eyes of mercy toward us; and after this our exile show unto us the blessed fruit of thy womb Jesus; O clement, O loving, O sweet virgin Mary. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God that we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ.