

Presbytery

Peter Avenue, Willesden Green,
London, NW10 2DD

Tel: 020 8451 4677

rcdow.org.uk/parish/willesdengreen

Facebook: St Mary Magdalen RC
Church Willesden Green

Parish Clergy

Father Kevin Jordan
kevinjordan@rcdow.org.uk

Father Daya Perera

Parish Office

willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk



ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MARCH—MONTH OF

ST JOSEPH

12 MARCH 2017

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

YEAR A

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

Ask and You Shall Receive...Hopefully

There is a story in the Hebrew book called the Talmud about a young man who wished to convert to Judaism. He was so eager that he demanded to be taught all 613 precepts of the *Torah*—the Jewish law—while standing on one leg or he wouldn't accept the faith. Every rabbi mocked him and refused his request—until he met Rabbi Hillel. This gentle and wise old man looked at him and said, "What is hateful to you, do not do to your neighbour. That is the whole Torah; the rest is the explanation of this--go study!"

In the Catholic Church there are only five precepts listed in the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*. But that catechism itself runs to 610 pages. And the *Code of Canon Law* adds another 970 pages, the *Rites* (which covers the way the Sacraments should be celebrated) is a further 1594, and so on. It's a lot to take in. Especially on one leg.

Each of us learns about the faith throughout our lives. Just this morning, talking to two people who will be received into full Communion with the Church, I was stuck by a couple of things. The first was a new way of explaining the role of the priest during the Mass so that it was clear that Eucharist was not a repeat of Christ's sacrifice. The second was the delicacy with which the teachings and laws of the Church need to be laid out.

As you read this, I am sure there are questions you have, or even things you are fairly sure you've got a grip on but just need a bit of affirmation that your understanding of the things of God and His Church is sound. Well, your opportunity is nigh as on Thursday at 8:00pm in the church, Justin (who you put through the School of the Annunciation's Diploma in Catechesis by your generosity towards *Growing in Faith*) and me will be available to (try) and answer those questions. This is a wonderful idea from the Parish Council and will include refreshments in the Annexe afterwards. You can post your questions online at <https://bit.ly/EYAWTKAF> or complete one of the forms at the back of the church and drop it in at the Parish Office. The only reasons we invite you to submit your questions in advance are to give you anonymity and to give us the opportunity to direct all the evening's participants to reading materials on that topic. However, if you prefer, you can just put us "on the spot" on the night—that should be fun for some of us!

Most importantly, whatever your question is, *please* ask it—it's important to you and you can be sure that someone else will be thinking about exactly the same issue too.

And don't worry, there will be chairs. Standing on one leg is optional.

Fr Kevin

Those who have died recently: Ian Smith, Caroline Ikazoboh

Those who are sick: Paul Etuka, Stanley Napoleon, Lydia Pambakian, Peggy Delaney, Jean Wadsworth, Margaret Duffy, Mary Mills, Mary Cahill, Patrick Roddy, Peter Corcoran

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Father James McNulty, Mary Killian, Maureen Anderson, Michael Moore, Mary Mulhern, Edward Benoit

Those Baptised: Walter Ernest Mettis

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £1,953.86 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much for your generosity.

CAFOD Lent Fast Day 2017. Please return your CAFOD Fast Day envelope in this week's collection, or make a pledge to give regularly. If you are a UK taxpayer, please *Gift Aid* your donation so that CAFOD can claim an extra 25% at no extra cost to you. Thank you so much for your continued support and generosity.

Planned Giving envelopes for the new tax year 2017/2018 for existing users are available for collection at the back of the church today. Please consider using envelopes or a standing order for your offertory donations, and *Gift Aid* your contribution which benefits the parish by 25p for every £1 you give at no extra cost to you. Please contact the parish office for more information. You can also pay using your mobile phone by texting PARISH WILLG to 70800 to donate £5 which will be added to your phone bill. Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

Parish Pilgrimage to Stonor (which is of great significance to Catholicism in England) takes place on Saturday 6 May 2017. The coach will depart from the church at 8:30am and return at approximately 6:00pm (depending on traffic). Cost is £25. Members of our Parish Pastoral Council will be available at the back of the church after all Masses this weekend to tell you more about the pilgrimage and to take bookings and payment. Alternatively, please contact the Parish Office for information, Tuesday to Friday, between 10:00am and 2:00pm.

Lenten Alms. This year the Cardinal has asked that the Lenten Alms collection be directed to the Cardinal's Appeal fund. The funds raised will go to support parishes or groups in their work to further the mission of the Church: to serve the evangelisation of youth, to develop marriage and family life projects, and to provide service in society, especially to those on the margins. Please take a leaflet, read and pray about this. The second collection next weekend will be for the Cardinal's Appeal Lenten Alms. Envelopes are available at the back of church today – you can make a Lenten Gift by placing the envelope in the weekly collection or by placing money in the box at the back of the church. Please be as generous as you can.

First Holy Communion 2017. The children are ready now to make their First Confession. Parents can bring them to the church between 10:00am and 10:30am or 5:30pm and 6:00pm on a Saturday or can make a separate time that suits them better. Please come as a family—children will follow your example.

Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: May Your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you.

Acclamation: Praise to You, O Christ, King of eternal glory! From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Praise to You, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

Everything ...

...You Always Wanted to Know about Faith but Were Afraid to Ask is an open forum which Justin Osuji and Fr Kevin will try to help deepen our understanding of the truths of Christ and His Church on Thursday 16 March at 8:00pm in the church with refreshments in the Annexe. You can ask anything you like, anonymously, either online at <https://bit.ly/EYAWTKAF> or by completing one of the forms at the back of the church and dropping it in at the Parish Office. Whether you have a question or not, do come along—catechesis is good for all of us at every stage of life.

Diocesan News

Lent at the Niland Centre. 'Day of Prayer and Reflection'—with Sr Regina McGarry OP and Sr Anne Walsh OP on Thursday 16 March at 10:00am with Holy Mass 2:30pm. Please bring a packed lunch. Hot drinks will be provided. Suggested donation is £12.

'Praying your way to Easter—The Gospel of St John' with Sr Anne Walsh OP on Thursdays 23 March and 6 April from 7:30pm—9:00pm. Suggested donation is £5 a session.

Both events will take place at the Niland Conference Centre, Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath WD23 4EE. Registration is suggested. Please telephone 020 8950 4000 or email bookings to finance@nilandcentre.co.uk or visit the website at www.nilandconferencecentre.co.uk/programme-of-events.

Heaven's Road Catholic Online Radio is an online radio broadcasting featuring prayers, interviews and music to appeal to a Catholic audience. They also broadcast over 40 daily live Masses from 15 churches in England and Ireland from their website too. Listen on www.heavensroadfm.com/listen-now. Follow @<https://www.facebook.com/heavensroadfm> or @HeavensRoadFM.

Parish Diary

Monday	5:30pm— 6:30pm	First Holy Communion class at St Mary Magdalen's Junior School
Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group—Annexe
Tuesday	7:00pm— 8:30pm	Confirmation class at St Mary Magdalen's Junior School
Tuesday	7:00pm— 8:30pm	<i>Stitch Amazingly</i> sewing workshop—Annexe
Thursday	8:00pm	Parish Pastoral Council—Open Forum on Faith—Church
Friday	7:00pm	Stations of the Cross—Church
Saturday	11:00am— 1:00pm	<i>Stitch Amazingly</i> sewing workshop—Annexe
Saturday	3:00pm— 5:00pm	"The Feast London" - a Catholic prayer meeting of the Light of Jesus Family— Annexe