

## Presbytery

Peter Avenue, Willesden Green,  
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[rcdow.org.uk/parish/willesdengreen](http://rcdow.org.uk/parish/willesdengreen)

Facebook: St Mary Magdalen RC  
Church Willesden Green

## Parish Clergy

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

Father Daya Perera

Deacon Michael Jarmulowicz  
[michaeljarmulowicz@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:michaeljarmulowicz@rcdow.org.uk)

## Parish Office

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



**ST MARY MAGDALEN  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
JANUARY - MONTH OF  
THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS  
YEAR C

**24 JANUARY 2016**  
**3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

## Jesuits One and All

Many of you will have seen Fr Daya, Deacon Michael and me in the church praying the Divine Office, a series of prayers spread out over five times during the waking hours to sanctify the day. These are prayers each of us have made a public promise to say. We also spend other times in private prayer and since none of us belong to a particular religious order we are not bound to pray in a manner laid down by the founding Fathers of any order. Instead, we have all tried various methods and have come to utilise that pattern of prayer which bears most fruit in us as individuals.

I follow the Spiritual Exercises of Saint Ignatius, the founder of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) of which Pope Francis is a member. The principle and foundation of these exercises with which I begin each day contains the following prayer, a version of which our First Holy Communion children, catechists and parents are becoming familiar: "We beseech You O lord to direct all our actions by Your inspiration, to carry them on by Your gracious help, that every prayer and work of ours may always begin from You and through You be happily ended." It is a prayer which roots all our activities in the Lord, seeking only the knowledge of His will and the power to carry that out.

In the Gospel today we read that Christ's reputation is spreading throughout the countryside, perhaps because of His teaching and miracles—certainly the transformation of water into wine that we heard about last week would make anyone popular. And yet no sooner are we told how admired He is for His words and actions than He roots it all in the scriptures. He wishes to show that He is not just about doing things for people, seeking social justice and never saying a bad word about anyone, but is focused on fulfilling the call of the Scriptures and in so doing writing the New Testament—the Gospels in particular—Himself and giving us the command to love God and neighbour as self.

St Vincent de Paul—after whom one of the most effective Catholic agencies helping those in need is named—writes, "If at a time set aside for prayer, medicine or help has to be brought to some poor man, go and do what has to be done with an easy mind, offering it up to God as a prayer; for God is not neglected if prayers are put aside, if God's work is interrupted, in order that another such work may be completed."

St Paul in today's second reading lists the many gifts and talents that we put to use in service of the Church. Our Holy Father spends many hours in prayer before his work day begins with the Mass so that every prayer and work of his may be rooted in Christ present in the Word of God and most especially in the Eucharist. May this aspect of his reputation be mirrored in our prayer lives and in every work of ours. *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:** Tim Ryan, John Cattigan, Peter Corcoran, Mary Mills

**Those who have died recently:** Honor Joyce, Josephine Clough, Karen Phillips

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Paul Carr, Pat Hegarty, Beatrice Perera, Mary Shaughnessy, John Hendry

**Those Baptised:** Evelyn Althandra

## Parish News

**Collection.** Last week's collection was £2,196.60 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much for your generosity.

**The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC)** annual collection takes place after all Masses this weekend.

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

**First Holy Communion Catechists.** The worksheets for session two are available for collection today from the rack in the Sacristy.

**New readers rotas** are available from the rack in the Sacristy.

**Children's Calendars for Lent 2016** are now available from the rack in the porch. Please do take one.

**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.

**Mardi Gras Celebration.** Although we have only just celebrated Christmas, Lent is just around the corner. So please bring your palms from last year to Mass or drop them into the Presbytery as on Sunday 7 February 2016 after 12 noon Mass the palms will be burned in the grounds of St Mary Magdalen Junior school to make the ashes for Ash Wednesday. It would be wonderful to make this a parish celebration to mark the beginning of Lent - do you have any family or national sweets that you make for this occasion? Or do you know of any games or traditions that you would like others to join in with that afternoon? Please let us know at the Presbytery and we can enter this beautiful penitential season with a real bang. In preparation, there will be food and activity lists on the table at the back of the church today for you to sign.

**Pilgrimage to Lourdes** 2 May 2016—6 May 2016. Cost £500 including insurance, full board at the Agena Hotel, transport to and from the airports and two trips. For further details please telephone John O'Sullivan on 020 8459 0279.

## Bidding Prayers

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 valley, 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.

## Funeral Notice

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late Karen Phillips of Maybury Gardens will take place on Thursday 28 January 2016 at 12 noon followed by cremation at the West London Crematorium, Kensal Green at 1:30pm

May she rest in peace

## Diocesan News

**The annual Mass in honour of Our Lady of Lourdes** in this *Year of Mercy* will take place in Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 6 February 2016 at 2:00pm. The Sacrament of the Sick will be administered during the Mass by the bishops and priests. If any parishioners will be attending in a wheelchair, please let the parish office know by Friday 29 January 2016 to ensure that the appropriate space is reserved in the Cathedral.

**Retrouvaille.** Matrimony: A calling to forgive! "Mercy is the force that reawakens us to new life and instils in us the courage to look to the future with hope." *Retrouvaille* offers a welcoming and loving space to couples who have been living with the misery of a failing marriage. *Retrouvaille* offers hope that it is not too late, hope of a different and better marriage. *Retrouvaille* helps couples to show each other mercy through the opportunities it provides to listen, to forgive, to be reconciled and to move into their futures believing that God loves them and with His help and their efforts, their marriages can be healed and restored. *Retrouvaille* provides help for marriage problems/difficulties/crises. Further details can be found at [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) or telephone/text 07887 296 983 or 07973 380 443.

## Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.  
Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives. Alleluia!

## Parish Diary

Monday	5:30pm— 6:30pm	First Holy Communion class at St Mary Magdalen's Junior School
Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group meeting in the 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 in the Annexe
Thursday	7:15pm	<i>St Vincent De Paul Society</i> in the Annexe
Saturday	2:30pm— 4:00pm	<i>Stitch Amazingly</i> sewing workshop in the Annexe