

## 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  
Church Willesden Green

## 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**  
**MARCH—MONTH OF  
ST JOSEPH**  
**19 MARCH 2017**  
**3RD 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

## No-One Was Killed

A priest friend of mine once asked me if I knew the definition of a good Jesuit liturgy. Despite my guesses at fine music, beautiful vestments, challenging homilies or a deep sense of the sacred, he assured me that that the answer was, “No-one was killed.” It’s one of those jokes that can only be told in a self-deprecating manner. And since John is a Jesuit that’s fine. If it were told by anyone else there’d be an outcry. Such is life.

A similar thing happened—or rather *didn't* happen—on Thursday when we had an open forum at which people asked those questions on the faith that they had always wondered about. In the annexe, filled with parishioners ranging in age from our Confirmation candidates, through to young couples preparing for marriage, up to those recently and long retired, we had a lively and often amusing group discussion for over 90 minutes which continued over drinks until after 10:00pm. And no one was killed.

We began with the choice of Israel as the homeland of Christ—if He was truly human He had to enter our world in a specific place at one time. There was some clarification of the meaning of prophecies which pointed towards the re-establishment of mankind’s place in the Heavenly Kingdom without toil and suffering and the definitive overcoming of the Evil One. Indeed, further discussion on this ensued and we were able to identify where we could see that Kingdom already present in our world today. One question on spreading the love of Christ encountered in the Mass when we leave the church stimulated a discussion on how we witness to our faith with our families and the effect our closeness to Christ in the Eucharist has on them. This led on to the Real Presence of Christ in the form of bread and wine—transubstantiation—where only the “accidents” of bread and wine remain. On this, I was challenged to reach back into St Thomas Aquinas’ teaching and his argument for *terminus a quo* and *terminus ad quem*, not something I ever thought I’d revisit in parish life! We concluded on the topic of gender issues and equality and the complementarity of the sexes in the Church, and with a nod to the issue of changing substances, how the Church cares for those who wish to alter the biological nature given them by God at the moment of their conception.

All in all, it was thoroughly enjoyable and, as far as I can tell from the participants, a fruitful exercise. Furthermore it was good for Justin and me to articulate what your generosity has done for our knowledge of the faith. As we used to say about the best way of learning surgical procedures at vet school—“You see one. You do one. You teach one.” So here’s to the next Open Forum. And keep those questions coming. *Fr Kevin*

**Those who have died recently:** Patrick McDyer

**Those who are sick:** Paul Etuka, Freddie Gaughan, Carmel Whelan, Carmel Hollowed

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Myles & Eileen Hollowed, Thomas Dias, Patrick ‘Jimmy’ Feeley, Fr Michael Buckley

**Those Baptised:** Althea Ritch Balajadia, Leonardo Giuseppe Toman-Rapacioli

## Parish News

**Collection.** Last week's collection was £2,065.69 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much for your generosity.

**CAFOD Lent Fast Day 2017.** This Lent Fast Day our parish raised £1,029.51. This incredible amount will help CAFOD stand alongside poor communities working with them to end poverty and injustice across the world. Thank you for your support.

**Lenten Alms.** This weekend special leaflet envelopes are being distributed to support our Lenten Almsgiving, benefitting the Cardinal's Appeal. Please be sure to take one and read about this important Appeal which helps fund evangelisation programmes, marriage and family life promotional efforts, and our presence in charitable works and service in society, especially among those on the margins. Please use the Cardinal's Appeal leaflet/envelopes to make your Lenten gift, and place it in this week's collection or by placing money in the box at the back of the church. Please make the Cardinal's Appeal part of your Lenten Almsgiving and sacrifice for the benefit of others and the Church's dynamic efforts to increase outreach in the three focal areas of ministry. Thank you for your 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.

**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.

**Stations of the Cross in Konkani** will be held today, Sunday 19 March 2017, at 3:00pm in St Mary Magdalen's church.

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

**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. There are still some places left. You can book by calling Melissa on 07968 564 632 or Tom on 07947 620 271. Alternatively, please contact or visit the Parish Office, Tuesday to Friday, between 10:00am and 2:00pm.

**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.

**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.

## Funeral Notice

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late Patrick James McDyer of Balmoral Road will take place on Thursday 23 March 2017 at 7:00pm followed by repatriation to Ireland

May he rest in peace

## Diocesan News

**Pray as You Can** led by Rosey Feuell, on Monday evenings 6:00pm– 8:00pm with refreshments available from 5:45pm. Dates are 27 March, 3 April, 5, 12, 19 and 26 June. Cost £120. The course is designed for practising or trained spiritual directors, those exploring this ministry and those working in, say, pastoral care, therapy and listening situations where one may "advise" others on prayer.

**Salvatorian College rebuilding party.** All old boys are invited on Thursday 23 March 2017 from 6:00pm in the school hall. Music plus buffet and bar. Entry is £10 in advance only by calling or texting 07772 816 451 or email [alumni@salvatoriancollege.co.uk](mailto:alumni@salvatoriancollege.co.uk).

## Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: O that today you would listen to His voice: 'Harden not your hearts.'

Acclamation: Praise to You, O Christ, King of eternal glory. Lord, you are really the saviour of the world; give me the living water, so that I may never get thirsty. Praise to You, O Christ, King of eternal glory!

## 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	7:15pm	SVP—Annexe
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