

## Presbytery

Peter Avenue, Willesden Green,  
London, NW10 2DD

Tel: 020 8451 4677

[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

MAY—MONTH OF  
THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY  
14 MAY 2017  
5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER  
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

## Again?

The word above is often tagged on to the end of, "Father, are you going on holiday...?" It is actually a perfectly reasonable thing to say given the history of clergy time-off: even in my childhood with several priests in our parish, one would go away in July, another in August and the third in September. Now, with fewer clergy and the difficulty of getting cover, and since most of us don't "go home" to another country for a prolonged free holiday, our six weeks' leave tends to be broken up. Hence, we're "always" away.

On top of this, we are required by Canon Law to seek holiness by various means including going on retreat regularly. Our cardinal insists that we do this annually for at least five days and have odd quiet days here and there. However, this is not something that is solely for priests and religious and St Anselm highlights this in his beautiful *Proslogion*.

"Come now, insignificant man, fly for a moment from your affairs, escape for a little while from the tumult of your thoughts. Put aside now your weighty cares and leave your wearisome toils. Abandon yourself for a little to God and rest for a little in Him. Enter into the inner chamber of your soul, shut out everything save God and what can be of help in your quest for Him and having locked the door seek Him out. Speak now, my whole heart, to God: 'I seek Your face, O Lord, Your face I seek.'"

I know this is easier said than done, but stillness and silence are so important. Indeed, Bishop Hugh Gilbert (who was the Abbott of Pluscarden where Fr Prasad made his final retreat before returning to Sri Lanka) wrote his first pastoral letter on the matter. <http://communio.stblogs.org/index.php/2011/12/create-a-space-for-silence-bis/> Moreover, Cardinal Robert Sarah has just penned a book called *The Power of Silence*.

With these things in mind, on Saturday 3 June, Abbot Hugh Allen o.praem (who led our parish mission last year) will give a morning of reflection at the Church of the Transfiguration, Kensal Rise. Beginning at 11:00am with tea and coffee, there will be talks at 11:30am and 12:45pm. Bring a packed lunch and it will all be over by 1:30pm. What a wonderful opportunity in our busy lives to seek God's face and spend time with Him.

No one will be turned away, but this is especially for readers and extraordinary ministers of Holy Communion. Why? Because Pope Francis *insists* that those who exercise these ministries must meditate regularly on God's Word and spend time before the Blessed Sacrament. So pop this time with the Lord in your diaries. Oh, and by the way, the last one was four years ago, so no way are you going on a retreat...again. *Fr Kevin*

**Those who have died recently:** Myrtle Bannis, Anthony O'Donnell, Mary Cahill, Paud Quinlan, Patrick Keenan, Christine Phelan

**Those who are sick:** Ray Sweeney, David Kane, Ned Lynch, Margaret Duffy, Elfreide Singleton, Patrick Roddy

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Ernie & Catherine Lindford, Patrick Cleary, Mary Sullivan, Bridie Molloy, Amanuel Habtai

## Parish News

**Collection.** Last week's collection was £1,855.54 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much for your generosity.

**Priests' Training Fund Collection.** Thank you for your generosity to the Priests' Training Fund collection last weekend. A total of £1,105.56 was raised. It is not too late to make a donation if you wish. Envelopes are available in the church or from the parish office. Please continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood. For more information, or to make a donation, please visit [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations).

**The family of the late Thomas Clough** would like to thank everyone who expressed condolences, sympathy, attended the funeral and sent Mass cards. The collection at the funeral raised a total of £255 which has been shared equally between the *MS Society*, *Cancer Research UK* and the *Diabetic Association*. A Mass will be offered for your intentions on Friday 16 June at 9:30am.

**First Holy Communion 2017.** There will be a meeting for parents on Monday 15 May in the school while the children are in their First Holy Communion class. A later meeting will also take place at 7:30pm in the church which will be a repeat of the earlier meeting. A list detailing your child's name and First Holy Communion date will be available at the meetings. Any amendments should be annotated on the list. The First Holy Communion photographer, Simon Drake, will be at the earlier meeting. Simon can be contacted on 07858 519 771 or 020 8384 0629 or via email at [simondrake1967@gmail.com](mailto:simondrake1967@gmail.com) or by visiting the website at [www.simondrakephotography.co.uk](http://www.simondrakephotography.co.uk).

**Confirmation 2017** meeting and rehearsal in the church on Tuesday 16 May from 7:00pm until 8:30pm with parents and/or sponsors. Please remember in your prayers our candidates who will be confirmed at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 20 May 2017 at 3:00pm—pray that they will be open to the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Simon Drake is the official photographer on the day and can be contacted on 07858 519 771 or 020 8384 0629 or via email at [simondrake1967@gmail.com](mailto:simondrake1967@gmail.com) or by via the website at [www.simondrakephotography.co.uk](http://www.simondrakephotography.co.uk).

**Parish Pastoral Council agenda items.** Do you have anything you would like your Parish Pastoral Council to discuss or address? Please submit any items for the next meeting on Tuesday 23 May 2017 to Clergy House or by talking to one of the Parish Pastoral Council members.

**Deacon Michael** will be ordained to the Sacred Priesthood at 10:30am on Saturday 24 June at Westminster Cathedral. Many parishioners have already enquired about a gift for him. Having been a deacon for several years, Michael says that he does not need anything in the way of books, vestments or other items associated with liturgies. However, like many priests, he has mentioned that he would like to have his own chalice—this is an extremely personal thing. Therefore we suggest that any parishioners who would like to get him something contribute towards a collection so that he can buy a chalice of his own choosing. It will then be a gift in whole or in part from the community which greatly encouraged his vocation, and be used

at his first Mass here at 12 noon on Sunday 25 June to which we hope you will all come. Indeed, we will be remembered in a particular way at every Mass Michael celebrates with it just as Fr Kevin thinks of his family whenever he uses the chalice they bought for him. Donations should be placed in an envelope marked, "Deacon Michael's Collection" and handed to one of the priests or the parish administrator. Thank you.

**Altar Servers.** If you have been serving for over a year but have not yet been enrolled into the Guild of St Stephen (i.e. got your medal) please write your name on the list on the noticeboard in the sacristy.

## Funeral Notices

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late Anthony James O'Donnell of Dawpool Road will take place on Tuesday 16 May 2017 at 11:00am followed by burial at Paddington Old Cemetery at 12:30pm

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late Mary Anne Cahill of Chapter Road will take place on Thursday 18 May 2017 at 6:00pm followed by repatriation to Ireland

May they rest in peace

## Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

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

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father except through Me.' Alleluia!

## Parish Diary

Monday	5:30pm— 6:30pm	First Holy Communion class—St Mary Magdalen's Junior School
Monday	5:30pm— 6:30pm	First Holy Communion parents meeting—St Mary Magdalen's Junior School.
Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group—Annexe
Monday	7:30pm— 8:30pm	First Holy Communion parents meeting in the church (repeat of the earlier meeting)
Tuesday	7:00pm- 8:30pm	<i>Stitch Amazingly</i> sewing workshop—Annexe
Tuesday	7:00pm – 8:30pm	Confirmation class—church
Saturday	11:00am— 12:30pm	<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