

## Presbytery

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

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## Parish Clergy

Father Kevin Jordan  
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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  
10 JANUARY 2016  
THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

## 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

## What's Next?

Someone pointed out the other day that *Tesco* (other retailers are available) are now selling Easter eggs and chocolate bunnies. As you know, Christmastide doesn't end until this Sunday evening. Why is the world in such a rush to move on to the next big thing?

However, the Church too does strange things with time. The Easter Triduum from Maundy Thursday evening through Good Friday and including the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday night is actually one event and we have the same with this feast, the Baptism of the Lord. One of the key indicators of the significance of a day in the Church is the verse before the *Magnificat* (Mary's prayer at the Visitation) which is sung or said during Vespers or Evening Prayer. It reads for the Epiphany, "Three wonders mark this day we celebrate: today the star led the Magi to the manger; today water was changed into wine at the marriage feast; today Christ desired to be baptised by John in the River Jordan to bring us salvation. Alleluia." Indeed, a great deal of Vespers today is that of the Epiphany. Thus, three distinct dates of celebration—the Epiphany (3 January), the Baptism of the Lord (today) and the first Sunday in Ordinary Time (17 January) when we hear the Gospel of the wedding feast at Cana—have one common theme which is the manifestation, revelation, showing of who Christ really is.

At the Epiphany the gift of gold, at the wedding Our Lady calling Christ her son, and today Jesus doing what other people are doing show His humanity. Frankincense, turning water into wine, and the voice of the Father from heaven saying, "This is my Son" show His Divinity. Finally, the kings' gift of myrrh and Jesus telling His mother, "My hour has not yet come" indicate that he will undergo suffering. And on this subject, at the Baptism three important elements are present. Firstly, the waters of Baptism are made holy for all time because He enters them. Secondly, the old humanity enters those waters and comes up to be declared a Son of God while the Holy Spirit hovers over those waters making all things new as at the start of creation. Thirdly, the heavens closed by Adam's desire to be Divine are opened by the Word's willingness to become truly man and a new relationship develops between the Creator and His creatures.

Therefore, today, we are pointed towards the reason Christ came and the fruition of the mystery of the Incarnation foretold by John the Baptist, enacted by Jesus throughout His life and confirmed by the Father's voice from heaven.

The world has had its fill of the cute baby in the crib and is heading towards a feast of chocolate. Our task is to remind that world that what Christ said and did when He grew up is worthy of our attention as each of these things is integral to our salvation. Every little thing we hear in the Gospel helps, this week, next week, every week. *Fr Kevin*

**Those who are sick:** Pat Roddy

**Those who have died recently:** Pat Breen, Brendan Dineen, John McLarnon, Mai Molloy

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Elizabeth & Christopher Doran, Dermot O'Brien, Jean Edinborough, Tom Oliver, Nemesio & Carmen Larranaga, Frank Donnellan

## Parish News

**Collection.** Last week's collection was £1,980.70 (excluding standing orders). Thank you very much for your generosity.

**First Holy Communion Catechists.** The worksheet and books that you will require for the first First Holy Communion session should be collected today from the rack in the Sacristy.

**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.

**Stitch Amazingly Sewing Workshop.** Thank you to everyone who attended the *Stitch Amazingly* sewing workshops at St Mary Magdalen (annexe) in 2015. It was a great success. The first workshops of this year will start on Tuesday 12 January 2016 and Saturday 16 January 2016 for six weeks. If you would like to book for sessions please see the poster at the back of the church or visit the website at [www.stitchamazingly.co.uk](http://www.stitchamazingly.co.uk), or telephone Glenda Brady on 07739 707 564.

**St Mary Magdalen's Wednesday Club** re-opens on Wednesday 20 January 2016 at 1:30pm. New members are always welcome.

**Can You Spare Just an Hour a Week Once a Month?** We need more people to help count the collections. Full training on procedures will be given by the Diocese in the New Year. Please talk to one of the clergy to take part in this important work.

**St Vincent de Paul Society.** In this Jubilee "Year of Mercy" we are reminded of the Corporal Works of Mercy (feed the hungry, give drink to the thirsty, clothe the naked, shelter the homeless, visit the sick, visit the imprisoned, bury the dead) by which we extend God's compassion and mercy to those in need. This is done in an organised way by the *SVP*, mainly visiting those who are housebound — the requests for help exceed our resources so please consider joining and offering some of your time to glorify God by living out your faith by showing mercy to others.

## 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.

Amen.

## Funeral Notice

The Cremation service of the late Brendan Dineen of Avonhurst House will take place on Wednesday 13 January 2016 at 2:15pm at West London Crematorium

May he rest in peace

## Diocesan News

**The Refugee Volunteer Evening** is being held on Tuesday 26 January 2016, 6:00pm—8:30pm in the Westminster Centre for Youth Ministry, 20 Phoenix Road, Euston London NW1 1TA. The evening will give parishioners the chance to find out how they can help refugees in London and Hertfordshire. As well as stalls from organisations working with migrants and refugees, we will be hosting a panel on working with refugees. Speakers will include Louise Zanre from *JRS UK*, Sister Christine from *Neighbours in Poplar*, Cathy Corcoran CEO of the *Cardinal Hume Centre* and Michaela Costello from Guardian Angels parish. Places are limited so please email [caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:caritaswestminster@rcdow.org.uk) to book.

**Westminster Youth Ministry** are leading a pilgrimage for youths aged 16 years and over to *World Youth Day* in 2016, visiting both Lodz for *Days in the Diocese*, and Krakow for *World Youth Day*. The pilgrimage runs from 18 July until 31 July 2016 and is priced at £750, inclusive of all accommodation, travel, *World Youth Day* fees and food. There is an option for those over 18 to join the pilgrimage for the *World Youth Day* week [sic] only. For more information please talk to Deacon Michael after Mass as we will be running a group from the parish and will provide help to cover the fare. To whet your appetite email [youth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:youth@rcdow.org.uk) or visit the website at [dowym.com](http://dowym.com) and see some of the testimonies given by people who attended previous events.

## Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great You are.

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Someone is coming, said John, someone greater than I. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Alleluia!

## Parish Diary

Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group meeting in the Annexe
Tuesday	7:00pm—8:30pm	<i>Stitch Amazingly</i> Sewing Workshop
Thursday	7:15pm	<i>St Vincent De Paul Society</i> meeting in the Annexe
Saturday	2:30pm—4:00pm	<i>Stitch Amazingly</i> Sewing Workshop