

## 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 Ashley Vincent  
[ashleyvincent@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:ashleyvincent@rcdow.org.uk)

Seminarian Tim Mangatal  
[timmangatal@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:timmangatal@rcdow.org.uk)

## Parish Office

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



**ST MARY MAGDALEN  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
MAY—MONTH OF  
**THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**  
6 May 2018  
**6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
YEAR B

## 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

## The Last Thing We Need...

The restoration of the Ascension of the Lord to this coming Thursday will be a complication because you all lead such busy lives. The moving of this former holyday of obligation to a Sunday made the practice of our faith easier as there was one less day in the year when we had to go to Mass. Moving it back to the biblically accurate forty days after the Resurrection of Jesus (Acts 1:3) means, as the *Catechism of the Catholic Church* states (2180), "On holydays of obligation the faithful are bound to participate in the Mass." Therefore deliberately missing Mass on Thursday will constitute a mortal sin.

That aside, St Thomas Aquinas says that the appearances of Jesus after his Resurrection reveal two things. First the fact that He is there at all shows He has risen. Secondly the fact that He appears suddenly and then disappears shows that He has not simply returned to living the life He had before. He has risen to a new kind of life, a life of bodily glory beyond the constraints of our world, and only when that is grasped by the apostles because He ascends does He give them the commission to preach to the nations.

He explains it thus: "It was Christ as man who ascended into Heaven. As God there was nowhere to which He could or need ascend and [so] it is His humanity which is glorified in the ultimate way at the Ascension." In other words, it is only after the Ascension that the full truth of the Resurrection is shown. And the proclamation of what it means can begin because only with this event is a genuinely human nature ultimately glorified.

This is what we all hope for when our loved ones die. And it is for this reason that we all make the effort to follow Christ's commandments in this life —the prospect of life, in a different but everlasting realm, beyond the grave. In his beautiful book on the Mass *The Promise of Future Glory* (a great preparation for the Eucharistic Congress in Liverpool this September) Cardinal Nichols wrote, "In Him [Christ] we find an unambiguous declaration of God's manifesto, a manifesto of our humanity in its full stature. Not a pamphlet but a person. It is therefore a [powerful] invitation to know Him and be known by Him, to love Him and be loved by Him, and so find the fulfilment of life."

So check your diaries and move whatever needs to be moved for Mass this coming Thursday—here at 9:30am and 7:00pm or if you want to know the Mass times near your place of work just ask.

We celebrate the Ascension not because it's a holyday of obligation but because it's what we do everything else for—the promise of our future glory. And that is precisely the last thing we want to be on offer to us as we depart from this world. *Fr Kevin*

**Those who have died recently:** Juliana Onwuagwa, Trevor Torres

**Those who are sick:** Valerie Crain, Elenice Ribeiro, Angelita Feliciano, Stewart Samaden, Josephine Niland, Alfriede Singleton, Tom Kinahan

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Patrick Cleary, Phil McGovern, Mary Mulhern, William Langan, Annie Dempsey, Jonathan Dempsey

## Parish News

**Collection.** Last week's collection was £1,518.80 (excluding standing orders). Standing orders for March amounted to £1,424.00. Thank you very much for your generosity.

**Cleaning Rota.** New rotas are available to collect from the rack in the sacristy today.

**Mary's Meals** will be at the church this Sunday morning only to collect all your unwanted clothing/bedding (no duvets or pillows). Please bring all your bags before 12 noon. Please ensure all clothing/bedding is put into tied black sacks—four full sacks will feed a child one good nutritious meal every school day for a whole year. Thank you.

**First Holy Communion 2018.** Please go to the following link: <https://5661602.tifmember.com/v/photos/21563fxk/C289628804?ppp=0> to view the First Holy Communion pictures. If you require further information please contact Simon Drake via email [simondrake1967@gmail.com](mailto:simondrake1967@gmail.com) by visiting the website [www.simondrakephotography.co.uk](http://www.simondrakephotography.co.uk) or Facebook [www.facebook.com/simondrakephotography](http://www.facebook.com/simondrakephotography) or by telephone on 020 8384 0629 or mobile 07858 519 771.

**Ascension, Holyday of Obligation, Thursday 10 May.** Masses will be at 9:30am and 7:00pm.

**Planned Giving Envelopes** for boxes numbered 2, 6, 17, 23, 54, 87, 90, 127, 152, 165 and 169 have not yet been collected. If one of these boxes belongs to you please kindly collect it from the Parish Office. Any boxes still remaining after Friday 11 May 2018 will be deleted from the register. Thank you.

**Confirmation 2018.** Recommended books as Confirmation gifts are available to order from CTS via the parish office. The parish office is open from 10:00am until 2:00pm, Tuesday to Friday. Alternatively please telephone 020 8451 4677 or email [willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk) for more information.

**St Mary Magdalen's PTA Race Night** takes place on Saturday 26 May 2018 at the Willesden Working Men's Club, 202 Villiers Road, NW2 5PU. The first race begins at 7:30pm. All are welcome for a fun evening, including children.

**Forty Hours of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.** As you know there will be a Eucharistic Congress in Liverpool in September and the bishops have asked us to deepen our understanding of and devotion to Christ truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. We already have an enviable tradition of Exposition, Adoration and Benediction here but will be adding to it in the lead up to the feast of *Corpus Christi*. Starting on Wednesday 30 May and continuing until evening Mass on Saturday 2 June we will have the Forty Hours—literally 40 hours of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Two people (or parish groups or classes from our schools) need to sign up to watch and pray for each hour during the day. And at 7:00pm each weekday there will be devotions, a sermon and Benediction. A sign up form is available on the table at the back of the church.

**St Mary Magdalen's Wednesday Club** is organising a seaside trip to Walton on the Naze, Essex on Thursday 21 June 2018. Walton

is a traditional and vibrant Victorian town with original features. It has a fine sandy beach, a beautiful promenade, and the second longest pier in Great Britain. It also has the Market Millennium Square with shops and cafes. The coach will pick you up from St Mary Magdalen's church at 9:00am and return at 6:30pm. Cost is £20 per adult and £12 for children under 15. Please book asap as there are limited seats available. To book and for more information please contact Gillian Horrell on 020 8830 2840.

**St Mary Magdalen's Willesden Green 1901-1988 by Eric Brentini**  
Does anyone know where we could get this book to place in the Diocesan archives? If you know please inform Father Kevin or the Parish Office. Thank you.

## Diocesan News

**115<sup>th</sup> Annual May Procession at the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden** takes place on Sunday 13 May 2018 beginning at the Shrine, 1 Nicoll Rd, NW10 9AX, at 3:30pm. The Homilist is Fr Mark Walker, Diocesan Youth Chaplain. For further details please see the poster at the back of the church.

**CAFOD.** Thank you for your support of the CAFOD Lent Fast Day appeal. Donations to CAFOD until 12 May will be doubled by the UK Government. CAFOD have planned a £5 million programme to combat malnutrition and with it hope to be able to reach 245,000 people. But they need the full amount of match funding to make it happen. You can help CAFOD reach the full amount needed for this crucial programme as they still have some way to go yet. To donate please visit the website at [cafod.org.uk/lent](http://cafod.org.uk/lent).

**Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land.** Join the 8th annual diocesan pilgrimage to the Holy Land led by Bishop John Wilson that will take place from 21—29 November 2018. Come and visit holy sites, support local Christians and deepen your faith. Galilee-Bethlehem-Jerusalem covered. Full board. Flying BA. Price £1,549 per person sharing. Single room and travel insurance extra. For booking forms or more information telephone Elizabeth Uwalaka on 020 7798 9173 or Gill at Tangney Tours on 01732 886 666.

## Parish Diary

Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group—Annexe
Thursday	7:15pm	SVP—Annexe
Friday	7:00pm	Knights of St Columba—Annexe
Saturday	3:00pm—5:00pm	"The Feast London" - a Catholic prayer meeting of the Light of Jesus Family in the Annexe

## Responsorial Psalm and Acclamation

Antiphon: The Lord has shown His salvation to the nations.

Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia! Jesus said: 'If anyone loves Me he will keep My word, and My Father will love him, and We shall come to him...