

Presbytery

Peter Avenue, Willesden Green,
London, NW10 2DD

Tel: 020 8451 4677

rcdow.org.uk/parish/willesdengreen

Facebook: St Mary Magdalen RC
Church Willesden Green

Parish Clergy

Father Kevin Jordan
kevinjordan@rcdow.org.uk

Father Sudham Perera
sudhamperera@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Office

willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk



ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH SEPTEMBER—MONTH OF THE SORROWFUL MOTHER

23 SEPTEMBER 2018

25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
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

Monday—Friday:
One hour before
morning Mass

Saturday: 8:30am—9:30am
5:30pm—6:15pm

First Friday (Holy Hour):
7:00pm—8:00pm

Confessions

Saturday: 10:00am—10:30am
5:30pm—6:15pm

Can You Keep A Secret?

It was one fine day in the middle of Easter when one of my priest friends rang me up and started divulging the tale of my maiden departure. How to keep it a secret? After a pair of equal sleepless nights I started gathering the bits and pieces of what is left over. Saul had a fall off his horse on the road to Damascus and went blind for three days (Acts 9:4-9). Christ was the great light before starting his new life. Was it going to be yet another new chapter in the journey of my life? So when his eminence Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith officially asked me to take up the mission in London as the chaplain of the Catholic Sinhala community it was the vow of obedience that prompted me to say, "Yes."

It was all very well planned and set up for me to leave but I did not even have a passport. Hence I had to start everything from the scratch. The Lord had a message to deliver to the nation of Judah, and He expresses His desire for a messenger in Isaiah chapter 6 verse 8. Isaiah's exclamation "Here am I; send me" marked the very beginning of his ministry. Hence I started singing; "Here am I, Lord. Is it I Lord? I have heard You calling in the night. I will go Lord, if You lead me. I will hold Your people in my heart."

When I said it was planned and all set up, it was really designed. Everything went on well. It was not the human effort eventually but divine intervention that I started experiencing.

I entered the minor seminary at the age of thirteen. At the very outset my parents were against my decision. Since it was to become a Catholic priest they could not help it. I come from a family of teachers. My father was a school principal who passed away when I was about to start my studies in the major seminary. He was not there to see me becoming a priest but I still feel him since he was my ideal model who gave me the real taste of human life. My mother was working as a teacher in the government sector for nearly thirty long years. When she was on the verge of her retirement she was offered a fine opportunity of serving in a catholic private school. A mother is always a mother. She never stops worrying about her children, even when they are all grown up and have children of their own. The biggest worry of my mother is the bad eating habits of mine which I very often cover up with a white lie. I have one brother, younger to me who is a banker. He is a family man having two kids and a loving wife. I gave them in marriage. It was my first wedding Mass as a priest. Maybe that is the secret of his happy family life...My blessings...?

I was ordained as a priest in the year 2006. I have served in two different parishes and three Catholic private schools in the archdiocese of Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Here I am with you to explore the greatness of God.

Fr. Sudham Perera.

Those who are sick: Pat Joe Daly, Pierre Timon, Lorenzo Aureli, Mossie Joy, Julia Egan, Kelly Rice, Margaret Ginty, Miriam Barron, Augustine Williams, Lister Williams, Tracy Levy

Those who have died recently: Fr Thomas Burke, Michelle Dalrymple

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Michael Hollowed, Margaret 'Ita'O'Neill, Michael Moore, Catherine Dyra, Cecilia Perpetual Larkin, Jimmy Sheehan, Noel Abeyratne, Martin Cusack, Faye Beverley

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £1,956.94 (excluding standing orders). Standing orders for August amounted to £1,564.00. Thank you very much for your generosity.

APF—Mill Hill Mission thank you and appeal. Fr Donie O'Connor MHM wishes to thank you for your welcome last weekend. If you did not become a member of APF Mill Hill by taking a Red Box and you wish to do so please contact the parish office.

Adoremus. After the spectacularly successful and prayerful Eucharistic Congress in Liverpool last weekend, some of our delegates (including the youngest) will give a presentation on some of the input from Cardinal Nichols and Bishop Barron of Los Angeles and *Word on Fire* among others, as well as their own reflections on the spiritual and practical ways they picked up to deepen our love for the Lord truly present in the Blessed Sacrament. This will take place on Tuesday 25 September at 7:00pm in the Annexe. Refreshments will be provided and there will be ample opportunity to ask questions and see photographs and video clips of this once in a lifetime event.

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

Good Shepherd Company will be visiting our parish next weekend to sell olive wood carves from the Holy Land (Bethlehem) on behalf of its Christian families. The Good Shepherd Company is based in Nottingham and works alongside the *St. Vincent De Paul* society for orphans and elderly in the Holy Land. Their goal is to support and help the Christian families in the Holy Land to stay at work, as olive wood carving is one of the most important sources of income for them, as 90% of the Christians rely on their sale. By selling their produce here from the olive wood (rosaries, crosses, cribs and religious statues) on their behalf, this will prevent Christians from leaving the country in search of better work opportunities, as a test survey from the bishops of Jerusalem has shown that there is only 41,000 Christians left in the area.

Stitch Amazingly. Are you interested in learning and developing your skills to sew basic, tailored and creatively structured sleeves and more? Then please join the *Stitch Amazingly 'Sleeve Project'* taking place in the Annexe on Saturday 29 September 2018 10:00am—5:00pm. For more information and to book please visit the website at www.stitchamazingly.co.uk or telephone Glenda on 07739 707 564.

Roman Catholic Secondary School and Sixth Form Applications. On 1, 4, 5, & 8 October 2018 Fr Kevin will be available to sign the Certificate of Catholic Practice for those who attend Mass here every week and have done so for some years. Newer parishioners should bring a letter from their previous parish. Please telephone the parish office this week between 10:00am and 2:00pm, Monday, Tuesday or Thursday, to make an appointment.

Planned Giving Envelopes. Can all parishioners that are using envelopes please ensure they are using the ones for the current tax year 2018/2019 which are light green in colour. If you do not have these please contact the parish office. Thank you.

Funeral Notice

The Cremation Service of the late Michelle Louise Dalrymple of Sheil Court will take place on Thursday 27 September 2018 at the West London Crematorium

at 12 noon

May she rest in peace

Diocesan News

Rosary Crusade of Reparation. On the 13 October 2018, the 101st Anniversary of the miracle of the Sun of Fatima, the Rosary Crusade will once again take to the streets of London in honour of Our Blessed Mother in the month of the Holy Rosary. The Procession follows a route from Westminster Cathedral to the Brompton Oratory. The Crusade will assemble at 1:45pm at Westminster Cathedral and finish at approximately 5:00pm. On arrival in the church there will be rosary, hymns to Our Lady, a sermon, Solemn Benediction and the opportunity for enrolment in the Brown Scapular of Our Lady of Mount Carmel. For more information or to make a donation to the Crusade please visit www.rosarycrusadeofreparation.blogspot.com.

Growing in Connectedness: Healing the History of Child Sexual Abuse. A national one day conference takes place on Sunday 21 October 2018 at 10:00am until 5:30pm at St Benedict's School, Marchwood Crescent, Ealing W5 2DZ. This conference provides a space to connect and share learning from both those dealing with the aftermath of child sexual abuse and experienced safe guarding professionals, in order to prevent, stop and take responsibility for child abuse within our schools, churches and child organisations. Please see the poster at the back of the church.

Readings at Mass

First Reading: Wisdom 2:12 17-20

Psalm Response: The Lord upholds my life.

Second Reading: James 3:16 - 4:3

Alleluia Verse: I am the light of the world, says the Lord, anyone who follows me will have the light of life.

Gospel: Mark 9:30 - 37

Parish Diary

Sunday	1:15pm— 2:15pm	<i>Oremus</i> —Annexe
Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group—Annexe
Tuesday	7:00pm	<i>Adoremus</i> Presentation— <i>Annexe</i>
Thursday	7:15pm	<i>SVP</i> —Annexe
Saturday	10:00am— 5:00pm	<i>Stitch Amazingly 'Sleeve Project'</i> —Annexe