

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

Monsignor Roger Reader KHS
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Father Sudham Perera
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Parish Office

willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk

Office Hours:
Tuesday—Friday
10:00am until 2:00pm

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

Confessions

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

Stations of the Cross

Friday: after 6:30pm Mass



ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MARCH—MONTH OF
ST JOSEPH
24 MARCH 2019
3RD SUNDAY OF LENT
YEAR C

Our Confirmation course ended last week with the young people posing questions for the catechists to try and answer. There were 24 challenging questions. One was about why do some people suffer and not others, and how this seems unfair, It's one of the oldest questions humanity has ever had to struggle with, especially if you believe in a loving God. It is reflected in our gospel today, as we read about two events of great suffering. One was a political attack by Pilate on some Galileans which ended in bloodshed. The other was the collapse of a tall structure, the Tower of Siloam, in which 18 people died. Neither of these events was a punishment on the sinful, Jesus tells us.

To help us just a little bit as we contemplate suffering, reflect on our first reading from Exodus. Moses has a direct encounter with God, we see him in dialogue with the Lord. He is brought into the mystery which is the Godhead. The bush burns and yet is not consumed. Like the Confirmation candidates, we all have questions about innocent suffering which we want to ask. We bring these to the Lord when we pray, when we are in God's presence, especially before the Blessed Sacrament. But we have to remember that God is not a Google search engine in the sky. He does not give one line answers to our questions. We have to enter the mystery of the Divine and learn to trust.

Monsignor Roger

Those who have died recently: Fr Gerry Burke, James Doody

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Carmel Whelan, Bridget Connell, Thomas Egan, Vincenzo Sanseverino, Kamala Brereton, Festus Sumoila Yesufu-Eke, Valiyathyil Michael Anthony

Those Baptised: Jane Diane Catherine Leach, Curtis Jackson Anthony Leach, Tiannah Clare Bonass Leach, Dwain Joseph Leach

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £2,008.54 (excluding standing orders). Standing orders for February amounted to £1,509.00. Thank you for your generosity.

Lenten Alms 2019/Cardinal's Lenten Appeal. This weekend please take a Cardinal's Lenten Appeal donation leaflet as you leave Mass. The Appeal contributes to three mission areas of the Church: Marriage and Family Life, Youth and Evangelisation, and Service in Society. This year, the Cardinal has launched a new programme focusing on the food poverty affecting people in every part of the Diocese, much of it hidden. Funds will support foodbanks, schools and other initiatives to relieve poverty, helping people back on their feet and able to live independently. The Cardinal is also calling everyone to consider volunteering. Visit CardinalsLentenAppeal.org.uk for details. Envelopes are available at the back of church today – you can make a Lenten Gift by placing the envelope in the weekly collection or by placing money in the box at the back of the church. Please be as generous as you can.

First Holy Communion 2019. 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 6:15pm on a Saturday or can make a separate time with Monsignor Roger or Fr Sudham that suits them better. Please come as a family – children will follow your example.

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

Planned Giving envelopes for the new tax year 2019/2020 for existing users are available for collection in the Sacristy after Masses 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. Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

Repository. Easter and First Holy Communion and Confirmation cards, prayers books and rosary sets and many other items are available to purchase from the repository. The repository is open before and after all Sunday Masses including the Saturday Vigil.

Padre Pio Group. Please note that with effect from Thursday 4 April 2019 the *Padre Pio* Group will meet at 7:30pm rather than 8:00pm. All are welcome.

First Give Social Action Project. As part of the First Give Social Action Project the Year 9 pupils from the Sacred Heart Language College, Harrow have chosen to raise awareness of the local charity, the *Sickle Cell* Society whose headquarters are here in Willesden. Sickle cell anaemia is a debilitating, hereditary blood disease. The blood cells are 'sickle' shaped and this means they don't carry oxygen efficiently and they get caught in small blood vessels which causes painful crisis for people with the disease. The sickle cell society provides counselling, advice on treatments and organizes outings for young people with the disease. If you would like to know more about this charity their website is <http://www.sicklecellsociety.org.uk>. Join with the pupils from

Year 9, Sacred Heart, Harrow to offer our prayers over the Lenten period for those who suffer with this disease and their families.

Diocesan News

Post—Synod Reflections for young adults. The next meeting of young adults at Archbishop's House will take place on Tuesday 2 April at 6:30pm. These meetings are an opportunity for young adults to come together following the Synod of Bishops meeting on youth last October, pray, have input from one of our diocesan bishops, reflect and discuss the place of faith in the life of young people. Bishop John Sherrington will be leading our reflections this time. All young adults are invited to attend. Please confirm attendance by emailing youth@rcdow.org.uk. For more details, go to www.dowym.com/events.

Lent Day of Prayer & Reflection. *Were you there when they crucified my Lord?* Reflections on the Passion of the Lord Jesus Christ with the Dominican Sisters takes place on Wednesday 3 April 2019 at 9:30am until 3:00pm at the Niland Conference Centre, Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath WD23 4EE. Please bring a packed lunch. Suggested donation £14. To register email events@nilandconferencecentre.co.uk or telephone 07746 707 247. Please see the poster at the back of the church.

Readings at Mass

3rd Sunday of Lent Year C

First Reading: Exodus 3:1—8. 13—15

Psalm Response: The Lord is compassion and love.

Second Reading: St Paul 10: 1—6. 10—12

Alleluia Verse: Repent, says the Lord, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.

Gospel: Luke 13:1—9

Parish Diary

Monday	5:30pm— 6:30pm	First Holy Communion class at St Mary Magdalen's Junior School
Monday	5:30pm- 6:30pm	First Holy Communion parents meeting at St Mary Magdalen's Junior School
Monday	7:00pm	Prayer Group—Annexe
Monday	8:30pm— 9:30pm	First Holy Communion parents meeting at St Mary Magdalen's church (for those unable to make earlier meeting at school)
Thursday	7:15pm	SVP— Annexe
Thursday	8:00pm	Finance Committee—Presbytery
Friday	7:00pm	Stations of the Cross—Church
Saturday	3:00pm— 5:00pm	"The Feast London" - a Catholic prayer meeting of the Light of Jesus Family in the Annexe