

Presbytery

Peter Avenue, Willesden Green,
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rcdow.org.uk/parish/willesdengreen

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



**ST MARY MAGDALEN
CATHOLIC CHURCH**
**DECEMBER—MONTH OF
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**
15 DECEMBER 2019
3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
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,
(includes Children's Liturgy),
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

I have just finished reading a fascinating book called 'Dominion' by an historian called Tom Holland. The book tells us that the teachings of Jesus Christ, St Paul and the Church transformed the world for the better and that, even though some people claim we live in a post-Christian world, these teachings have a huge influence today. The teachings and life of Jesus Christ over turned a world view which said that the rich and the powerful were to be worshipped as gods, and that the weak, the ill and the elderly were worth nothing. In this world there was no such things as human rights.

That we live in a very different world is because of the teachings and life of Jesus Christ, and that should bring us great joy. The theme of our Mass today is Joy, and not just because of the joy will have in ten days time at the Christmas table. The coming of Christ turned the world on its head— as we hear in today's gospel the good news is preached to the poor.

Whomever we may have voted for, we must pray for the government and our own MP that the gospel values of Jesus Christ may underpin their thinking. We must also pray the joy maybe part of our lives, hard though this may be for some of us. We must rejoice in the birth of the One who turned the values of the world on its head. **Monsignor Roger.**

Those who have died recently: Elizabeth Murphy, Joseph Owusu-Ansah **Those who are sick:** Stewart Samaden, Mary Gavahan, Martin and Mary Dolan, Elfriede Singleton, Peter Cochrane and Jerome Hayes **Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Annam Chalissery, Mary Langan, Francis Edward Owusu-Ansah, Anthony Owusu-Ansah, Nuala O'Brien.

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £ 1820.32 (excluding standing orders). Standing orders for November amounted to £2,882.00. Thank you for your generosity.

Christmas Offering Envelopes are available on your benches this weekend. Your Christmas offering is not taxed by the Diocese and was traditionally your Christmas gift to the clergy.

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

Cleaning of the church floors will take place immediately after 9:30am Mass on Friday 20 December 2019 when the church will close until approximately 2:30pm.

Children's Nativity Play. This will take place within the 6:00pm Vigil Mass (First Mass of Christmas) on Tuesday 24 December 2019. We are looking for as many children as possible to take part and all are welcome. We also need parents/carers to help prepare the children for the play. Rehearsals will take place in the church on Friday 20 December at 4:00pm and Tuesday 24 December 2019 at 4:30pm. Please leave your details with the parish office if you can assist in any way. Thank you.

Advent and Christmas 2019 and New Year 2020. Leaflets giving the times of Masses and other services over this period are now available in the racks at the back of the church or in the porch.

Christmas Rotas. If you have not already done so Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and readers should indicate their availability on the lists at the back of the church today. Servers should check with their parents and then indicate their availability on the list in the sacristy. Thank you for your ministry throughout the year.

Crib Offering 2019. This Christmas our crib offering will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society to support their work with disadvantaged children and families. This will help provide family support, emergency grants and mental health services for vulnerable children in our Diocese.

Catholic Mothers have produced a beautiful diary for 2020 which are now on sale in the repository at £19.75 each (which includes a 10% discount). With Christmas only 10 days away why not purchase one for your mum or your nan. I'm sure they'll love it.

Repository. Advent calendars, Advent candles, wreaths, cribs, Christmas cards, Mass bouquets, Christmas story books, church art calendars, cribs, candles, selection of cards to suit all occasions and religious items are on sale now in the Repository. The Repository is open before and after all Sunday Masses including the Saturday vigil.

Roman Catholic Nursery, Infant, and Primary School

Applications. On 4 January 2020, Monsignor Roger 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 between 10:00am and 2:00pm, Tuesday to Thursday, to make an appointment.

What happens if you go into hospital? In light of strict data protection rules it is essential that on entering hospital you indicate that your details or those of your relative are to be passed to the Roman Catholic chaplain. Also state that you or your relative would like the Roman Catholic chaplain to visit you. Chaplains visit the wards during the week and provide an on-call service in case of emergencies.

Newsletter. Please take your newsletter home with you after Mass and share it with family and friends. Any notices for the weekly Sunday newsletter should be given to the Parish Office by Wednesday noon. Thank you for your kind cooperation.

Funeral Notices

Reception of the late Elizabeth Murphy
will take place on

Monday 16 December 2019 at 6:30pm and the Requiem Mass
will take place on Tuesday 17 December 2019 at 11:30am
followed by Cremation at West London Crematorium at 12:45pm

May she rest in peace

Diocesan News

Vinnie Packs. The SVP are distributing 11,500 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. We invite parishioners to donate £3.50 for each pack. Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Natwest, sort code 60-60-04, account number 46088237. Thank you.

Catholic Singles is an organisation which helps single Catholics of all ages (over 18 years old) meet other single Catholics, either one to one or through social events. For further information visit www.catholicsingles.org.uk or telephone 0161 941 3498.

Readings at Mass

3rd Sunday of Advent

First Reading: Isaiah 35:1—6. 10

Psalm Response: Come Lord, and save us

Second Reading: St James 5:7—10

Alleluia Verse: The spirit of the Lord has been given to me. He has sent me to bring good news to the poor.

Gospel: Matthew 11:2—11

Parish Diary

Monday

7:00pm

Prayer Group—Annexe