

## Presbytery

Peter Avenue, Willesden Green,  
London, NW10 2DD

Tel: 020 8451 4677

[rcdow.org.uk/parish/willesdengreen](http://rcdow.org.uk/parish/willesdengreen)

## Parish Clergy

Monsignor Roger Reader KHS  
[rogerreader@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:rogerreader@rcdow.org.uk)

Father Sudham Perera  
[sudhamperera@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:sudhamperera@rcdow.org.uk)

## Parish Office

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

Office Hours:

Tuesday—Friday

10:00am until 2:00pm

Contact via email/telephone only  
until further notice

## Church Opening Times

Monday—Sunday

8:30am—7:00pm



**ST MARY MAGDALEN  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
MARCH—MONTH OF  
ST JOSEPH  
22 MARCH 2020  
4TH SUNDAY OF LENT  
YEAR A**

## FINDING JESUS.

On St Joseph's Day, 19 March, the gospel for the day is the 'Finding of Jesus in the Temple' from St Luke 2: 41. Here we read how Mary and Joseph, returning home from their Passover pilgrimage lost sight of Jesus. To start with, they thought he was with some other people in the group of pilgrims, but it soon became clear he was not. Anyone who has ever looked after children – parents, grandparents, teachers, friends - will know the awful feeling which can grip the heart as you realise that a child is missing. A million fears and anxieties go through your head. This must have been the experience of Mary and Joseph once they realised they could not find Jesus.

As public Masses are suspended, many of us may well feel that it is hard to find Jesus. We may be feeling very uneasy in our hearts as the practice of a lifetime is interrupted. After all, we know that it is in the Mass that we truly encounter Jesus Christ in his Body and Blood. Many anxieties will be going through our hearts as well. It may be that some of us may have to self-isolate as well, adding to our distress.

Mary and Joseph found Jesus, and they found him safe. We now have to find the Lord in different places. We will find him still in the church, in the Blessed Sacrament. There is his abiding presence animating the life of this parish. We will find him when we pray, especially as families and friends pray together, remembering his words. "For when two or three meet in my name, I am there among them" (Matt 18:20). We will find him as we care for and look out for each other.

These will be testing times for us all, not least because we do not know how long they will last. You will find practical information elsewhere in the newsletter. Here, I just want to reassure you that you will be in my heart, and Fr Sudham's heart, whenever we offer the Mass.

Monsignor Roger

*Happy Mothering*

*Sunday*

*May the blessing of the*

*Divine*

*Be an especially bright*

*benediction*

*Upon mothers everywhere*

*On your blessed day -*

*On Mother's Day!*

*- Author Unknown*

**Those who have died recently:** Michael O'Shea, Kathleen Ford

**Those who are sick:** Michael O'Callaghan, Francis Maguire

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Peter McHugh, Festus Sumoila Yesufu-Eke, James Doody, Stephen Fogarty, Martin Joseph Naughton, Nora Davin, Kamala Brereton

**Those Baptised:** Ayn Zalzale

## Parish News

**Coronavirus.** Cardinal Nichols has advised that “in response to the Coronavirus pandemic so many aspects of our lives must change. This includes the ways in which we publicly express our faith. It is very clear that, following official advice and in order to keep each other safe, save lives and support the NHS, at this time we must not gather for public acts of worship in our churches. This began from Friday evening 20 March 2020, until further notice. Our churches will remain open. They are not closing. They will be a focal point of prayer, where you will find solace and strength. In visiting our churches at this time, we will observe with great care the practices of hygiene and the guidance on social distancing. However, the celebration of Mass, Sunday by Sunday and day by day, will take place without a public congregation. Knowing that Mass is being celebrated; joining in spiritually; watching the live-streaming of the Mass; following its prayers at home; making an act of spiritual communion; this is how we share in the Sacrifice of Christ in these days. We want everyone to understand that in these emergency circumstances, and for as long as they last, the obligation to attend Mass on Sundays and Holy Days is removed.” You can read the Cardinal full message to you by following this link: <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/advice-regarding-coronavirus>. There is also a pastoral letter from Cardinal Nichols plus a list of Mass times which are live streamed, prayer booklets and a ‘Perfect Contrition and Spiritual Communion’ booklets available on the table at the back of the church. These can be found along with further information and updates on the parish website at [rcdow.org.uk/parish/willesdengreen](http://rcdow.org.uk/parish/willesdengreen). You may also like to view a video message recorded by the Cardinal about the latest developments and offering words of encouragement. This can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/398532027>. Lastly, please note that the meeting of all parish groups and catechesis has also been suspended until further notice. If you require any support or would like to volunteer to support people within the parish please either telephone the parish office on 020 8451 4677 or email at [willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk) so we can obtain your contact details.

**Collection.** Last week’s collection was £1,428.04 (excluding standing orders). Standing orders for February amounted to £3,037.00. Thank you for your generosity.

**Planned Giving envelopes.** If anyone would like to drop off their envelope they can be posted through the inner presbytery door. Thank you.

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

**Lenten Alms 2020.** Our Lenten Alms this year will go to the Cardinal’s Lenten Appeal, which – like last year – includes a focus on food poverty. Sadly, more people are turning to foodbanks for help and one new initiative you can support is the opening of school holiday clubs where children can come to prepare and eat a healthy meal. If you have not done so already, please pick up a Cardinal’s Lenten Appeal donation leaflet at the back of the Church for more information. Please read and pray for its aims,

and if you can, please give generously. Please place your Cardinal’s Lenten appeal donation envelope in the box at the back of the church. Thank you for your generosity.

**Mary’s Meals—Rags to Riches Collection 15 March 2020.** The parish managed to give 900 kg of unwanted clothes; there were also cash donations of £163.86 making a total contribution of £667.86. Mary’s Meals are very grateful for our support– this is an excellent result! The amount raised will feed 42 children who will not only get fed one good, nutritious meal every school day for a whole year, but they will get an education too.

**Planned Giving envelopes for the new tax year 2020/2021** are available for both existing users and for those who requested one as part of our recent ‘Planned Giving’ appeal. The new envelopes should not be used until the weekend of the 11/12 April 2020. Your box can be posted or delivered to you. Please either telephone the parish office on 020 8451 4677 or email [willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk) to make arrangements.

**The funeral of the late Michael O’Shea** will now take place at the graveside, family only. May he rest in peace.

**Mass Intentions.** As public Masses cannot be celebrated at this time, it is generally no longer appropriate for priests to celebrate Mass more than once a day, including on Sundays. This might mean that some Masses which were to be celebrated for a special intention will now not be celebrated singly. In these situations, and only whilst these very exceptional circumstances continue, it might be necessary for a Mass to be celebrated for more than one intention. Should any member of the faithful who has arranged to have a Mass celebrated for a specific intention not wish to have that intention included with other intentions in what is known as a Collective Intention Mass s/he should contact the parish office.

**Parish Registration Forms.** If you have not received an email from the parish updating you on our current situation in response to the coronavirus pandemic it is likely that you either have not completed a parish registration form or that your contact details need to be updated. With this in mind registration forms can be found in the racks as you enter the side porch and on each pillar at the back of the church. Completed forms should be posted through the door of the presbytery.

## Readings at Mass

### 4th Sunday of Lent

**First Reading:** Samuel 16:1. 6—7. 10—13

**Psalm Response:** The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

**Second Reading:** St Paul to the Ephesians

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

**Gospel:** John 9:1—41