

## 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  
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Father Sudham Perera  
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## 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



**ST MARY MAGDALEN  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
MARCH—MONTH OF  
ST JOSEPH  
29 MARCH 2020  
5TH SUNDAY OF LENT  
YEAR A**

## Prayer to Mary, Our Lady of Walsingham

*For the rededication of England to Mary-  
Sunday 29th March 2020*

O Mary, recall the solemn moment when Jesus, your Divine son, dying on the cross, confided us to your maternal care. You are our Mother, we desire ever to remain your devout children. Let us therefore feel the effects of your powerful intercession with Jesus Christ. Make your name again glorious in this place once renowned throughout our land by your visits, favours and many miracles. Pray, O holy Mother of God for the conversion of England, restoration of the sick, consolation for the afflicted, repentance of sinners, peace to the departed. O Blessed Mary, Mother of God, Our Lady of Walsingham, intercede for us. Amen.

## ENGLAND: THE DOWRY OF MARY.

I'm sure that some of you will have made the pilgrimage to Walsingham, the little village in Norfolk where Our Lady appeared to the Lady of the Manor in 1065. Ever since then it has been one of the most important places of pilgrimage in England. On Sunday 29 March England will be re-dedicated as the Dowry of Mary. Mgr. John Armitage, the Rector of the Shrine writes: "The re-dedication is a timely moment. In the midst of much current turmoil and fear, when so many are greatly troubled, we turn to Mary, Mother of Jesus, seeking her help and protection. Let us follow her example by imitating her openness to God's call." Let us ask Mary to pray for us all to her divine Son at this moment in our lives. You can use the prayer on the front of this sheet, and maybe say the Angelus prayer every day. Our Lady of Walsingham, pray for all who are sick, all who are afraid, all who are making decisions about our lives, and all who work in our hospitals, emergency services and prisons.

Monsignor Roger.



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

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

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Oliver Fay, Festus Sumoila Yesufe-Eke, Anne Ryan

## Parish News

**A Message from Cardinal Vincent Nichols** 'As our churches have to remain closed, let's open our hearts even wider. As the Psalms say "Grow higher ancient doors and let the King of Glory enter." These are the doors of our hearts. God knows well how to fill our lives. We must open our hearts in prayer and silent welcome. 'Even in this difficult time, there is evidence of so much good. Online congregations at Mass on Sunday were huge. Examples of online participation are so encouraging. Even the experience of the Acts of Spiritual Communion, all made at the same time, were deeply nourishing. God is so good. 'Today we are learning, step by step, the truth of the old axiom: God is not limited by his sacraments. The Holy Spirit overcomes our distances, prompts and enriches our prayer. Encourage this personal and shared prayer. Don't finish a telephone call or an online chat without a moment of shared prayer!' Following some confusion in the guidance published by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government regarding the opening of churches, where it states that 'places of worship should remain open for solitary prayer', the Bishops' Conference has clarified that churches must close and remain closed:

'The instruction is very clear on the occasions when someone can leave home:

Shopping for basic necessities, for example food and medicine, which must be as infrequent as possible.

⇒One form of exercise a day, for example a run, walk, or cycle - alone or with members of your household.

⇒Any medical need, or to provide care or to help a vulnerable person.

⇒Travelling to and from work, but only where this absolutely cannot be done from home.

'None of these four specific reasons for leaving home concur with the visiting of a church for solitary prayer. In addition, keeping churches open could undermine the desire of the government for people to remain at home, the very fact of them being open may draw people out of their homes, many of which would be the most vulnerable to infection. 'Professor Jim McManus has spoken with a senior civil servant and it was quite clear they just had not thought through the issues of infection and security of churches and when he made these points clear, they were appalled and agreed they had made a mistake. 'Keeping churches open sends an utterly inconsistent message and therefore they must be closed for the benefit of others and stopping infection.'

For all of the latest news from the Diocese regarding the Coronavirus including resources available during Mass suspension please visit <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/>

**Finances.** The mission of the parish continues, as do all the costs necessary to maintain our presence here in Willesden Green. We kindly ask that if you are able, you might continue contributing so that we maintain our life and witness. Thank you all for everything that you give to our parish, financially, spiritually and pastorally. We all rely on this generosity of heart and spirit.

**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.

**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.

**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.

## Diocesan News

**The Passage** is raising funds through the 'Big Give' until 12 midnight Tuesday 31 March 2020 to support its work helping homeless people to move away from the street during the present Coronavirus situation and to provide support to keep them off the street both immediately and in the longer term. Double your Donation, Double your impact. This is a matched giving scheme for online donations. If someone (can be company, individual or trust) gave £10 online, matched giving of £10 would bring the Gift up to £20 (and for individuals to £22.50 with Gift Aid, with higher rate tax relief it may cost the donor less than £10). Contact Andrew Hollingsworth on 020 7592 1886 or email [andrew.h@passage.org.uk](mailto:andrew.h@passage.org.uk). Donate at <https://bit.ly/334RmGH>

## Readings at Mass

### 5th Sunday of Lent

**First Reading:** Ezekiel 37:12-14

**Psalm Response:** With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.

**Second Reading:** St Paul to the Romans 8:8—11

**Alleluia Verse:** I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; who ever believes in me will never die.

**Gospel:** John 11:1—45

## Sunday Readings and Prayers

### Entrance Antiphon *Cf. Ps 43 (42): 1-2*

Give me justice, O God, and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless. From the deceitful and cunning rescue me, for you, O God, are my strength.

### Collect

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God,  
may we walk eagerly in that same charity  
with which, out of love for the world,  
your Son handed himself over to death.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God,  
for ever and ever.

### First Reading: *Ezekiel 37:12-14*

The Lord says this: I am now going to open your graves; I mean to raise you from your graves, my people, and lead you back to the soil of Israel. And you will know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves and raise you from your graves, my people. And I shall put my spirit in you, and you will live, and I shall resettle you on your own soil; and you will know that I, the Lord, have said and done this - it is the Lord who speaks.

### Responsorial Psalm: 94

#### *R/. With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.*

1. Out of the depths I cry to you,  
O Lord, hear my voice!  
O let your ears be attentive  
to the voice of my pleading. **R./**
2. 2. If you, O Lord, should mark our guilt,  
Lord, who would survive?  
But with you is found forgiveness;  
for this we revere you. **R./**
3. My soul is waiting for the Lord,  
I count on his word.  
My soul is longing for the Lord  
more than a watchman for daybreak.  
(Let the watchman count on daybreak  
and Israel on the Lord.) **R./**
4. Because with the Lord there is mercy  
and fullness of redemption.  
Israel indeed he will redeem  
from all its iniquity. **R./**

### Second Reading: *Romans 8:8-11*

People who are interested only in unspiritual things can never be pleasing to God. Your interests, however, are not in the unspiritual, but in the spiritual, since the Spirit of God has made his home in you. In fact, unless you possessed the Spirit of Christ you would not belong to him. Though your body may be dead it is because of sin, but if Christ is in you then your spirit is life itself because you have been justified; and if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, then he who raised Jesus from the dead will give life to your own mortal bodies through his Spirit living in you.

### Gospel Acclamation

***Praise to you, O Christ, King of eternal glory!***

***I am the resurrection and the life, says the Lord; whoever believes in me will never die.***

***Praise to you, Christ, King of eternal glory!***

### Gospel: *John 11:3-7.17.20-27.33-45*

The sisters Martha and Mary sent this message to Jesus, 'Lord, the man you love is ill.' On receiving the message Jesus said, 'This sickness will end not in death but in God's glory, and through it the Son of God will be glorified.'

Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, yet when he heard that Lazarus was ill he stayed where he was for two more days before saying to the disciples, 'Let us go to Judaea.'

On arriving, Jesus found that Lazarus had been in the tomb for four days already. Bethany is only about two miles from Jerusalem, and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to sympathise with them over their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus had come she went to meet him. Mary remained sitting in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'If you had been here, my brother would not have died, but I know that, even now, whatever you ask of God, he will grant you.' 'Your brother' said Jesus to her 'will rise again.' Martha said, 'I know he will rise again at the resurrection on the last day.' Jesus said:

'I am the resurrection and the life. If anyone believes in me, even though he dies he will live, and whoever lives and believes in me will never die.

Do you believe this?'

'Yes, Lord,' she said 'I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who was to come into this world.' Jesus said in great distress, with a sigh that came straight from the heart, 'Where have you put him?' They said, 'Lord, come and see.' Jesus wept; and the Jews said, 'See how much he loved him!' But there were some who remarked, 'He opened the eyes of the blind man, could he not have prevented this man's death?' Still sighing, Jesus reached the tomb: it was a cave with a stone to close the opening. Jesus said, 'Take the stone away.' Martha said to him, 'Lord, by now he will smell; this is the fourth day.' Jesus replied, 'Have I not told you that if you believe you will see the glory of God?' So they took away the stone. Then Jesus lifted up his eyes and said:

'Father, I thank you for hearing my prayer. I knew indeed that you always hear me,

but I speak for the sake of all these who stand round me,  
so that they may believe it was you who sent me.'

When he had said this, he cried in a loud voice, 'Lazarus, here! Come out!' The dead man came out, his feet and hands bound with bands of stuff and a cloth round his face. Jesus said to them, 'Unbind him, let him go free.'

Many of the Jews who had come to visit Mary and had seen what he did believed in him.

### Prayer over the Offerings

Hear us, almighty God,  
and, having instilled in your servants  
the teachings of the Christian faith,  
graciously purify them  
by the working of this sacrifice.  
Through Christ our Lord.

### Communion Antiphon *Cf. Jn 11: 26*

Everyone who lives and believes in me  
will not die for ever, says the Lord.

### Prayer after Communion

We pray, almighty God,  
that we may always be counted among the members of Christ,  
in whose Body and Blood  
we have communion.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

# ST MARY MAGDALEN

## MASS & SERVICE TIMES

Week commencing 29 March 2020

### Sunday 29 March 2020 – 5th Sunday of Lent

The Mass intentions for the weekend are:

Martin Peters	RIP
William Hosier	RIP
Patti & Robin Tobin & Family	Ints
Genonefa Werminska	Ints
Michael O'Shea	RIP

### Monday 30 March 2020 – Lent *Feria*

9:30am	Oliver Fay	Anniv
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### Tuesday 31 March 2020 – Lent *Feria*

9:30am	Marie Ivy Emma	RIP
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### Wednesday 1 April 2020 – Lent *Feria*

9:30am	William Hosier	RIP
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### Thursday 2 April 2020 – Lent *Feria*

9:30am	Souls in Purgatory	RIP
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### Friday 3 April 2020 – Lent *Feria*

9:30am	Nora Davin	RIP
6:30pm	Enda Byrne	Ints

### Saturday 4 April 2020 – Lent *Feria*

9:30am	Berhane Semere	Ints
6:30pm	John Connolly	RIP