

Presbytery

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Parish Website:

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

Parish Newsletter:

Parish Newsletters- 2020 | Roman
Catholic Church of St Mary
Magdalen

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/SMMWillesden

YouTube:

St Mary Magdalen's RC Church,
Willesden, London

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

Contact via email/telephone only



**ST MARY MAGDALEN
CATHOLIC CHURCH
MAY—MONTH OF
THE BLESSED VIRGIN
MARY
17 May 2020
6TH SUNDAY OF EASTER
YEAR A**

Our Cardinal Speaks Out

A couple of days ago I was taking my hour's allotted exercise, and was passing the front door of our church. There I saw a little toddler trying to open the huge doors of the church. I chatted with his parents who told me that he was trying to get into the church.

I often meet parishioners of all ages when I am taking my 10,000 steps. The question everyone asks me is 'When will the church be open again?' Children, teenagers, adults all ask me this. There is a real yearning among us all to be able to get into St Mary

Magdalen's once more, if only to be able to pray before the Blessed Sacrament, or light a candle, or just be still in the presence of the Lord. This is huge part of our life as Catholic Christians. We all acknowledge that it may be some time before full public Masses may be celebrated.

So I was pleased to hear on the wireless on Thursday our Cardinal, Vincent Nichols, speak very clearly and boldly about the need to open our churches.

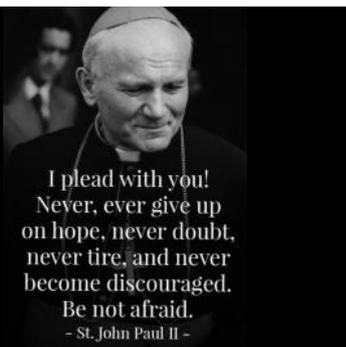
The interview opened with a comment from the journalist that while garden centres and council tips have been opened, churches and other places of worship remain closed. Our Cardinal said: "The issues of how people are able to practice their faith are profound and sensitive, and we'd like a bit more sensitivity from the government...there is a big, big feeling in the religious communities of wanting to get back to a fuller practice of their faith as long as we can do it safely."

The Cardinal continued: "I'd like to see churches available for people to go and kneel and say their prayers privately, individually and it would mean a routine of social distancing, a routine of cleansing – and all of that we believe we can do."

Let's pray that the Cardinal's plea does not fall on deaf ears.

Their full conversation can be listened to at [https://soundcloud.com/
catholicchurch/cardinal-nichols-on-safely-re-opening-churches-for-private-
prayer](https://soundcloud.com/catholicchurch/cardinal-nichols-on-safely-re-opening-churches-for-private-prayer)

Monsignor Roger



I plead with you!
Never, ever give up
on hope, never doubt,
never tire, and never
become discouraged.
Be not afraid.
- St. John Paul II -

Spiritual Quote of the Week

***"The nation doesn't simply need
what we have.
It needs what we are."***

St Teresa Benedicta of the cross (Edith Stein)

Those who have died recently: Joao Fernandes, Araya Silase, James Byrne, David Bornshin

Those who are sick: Carla Costa, Delton (John) Daroux, Cleveland Ellington, Esmie Ellington, Sylvia Roberts, Monica Lynch, Peter Corcoran, Mary Riordan, Catherine Chalaby

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Patrick & Rose Doran, Mary Sullivan, Bernadette McHugh, Matthew Crooke, Johanna O'Riordan, Amanuel Habtay, Habtay Aibu, Leroy Lewis

Parish News

Ascension, Holyday of Obligation, Thursday 21 May 2020. Parish Daily Mass is posted each day on our *YouTube* page [St Mary Magdalen's RC Church, Willesden, London](#) and *Facebook* page www.facebook.com/SMMWillesden. The nine days between Ascension Day and Pentecost have been traditionally set aside for us to pray for the gifts of the Holy Spirit. It is the first of the novenas of prayer. I suggest that we all join in prayer each day for the Fruits of the Holy Spirit in our lives, using the prayers below.

The Fruits of the Holy Spirit

The gifts of the Holy Spirit perfect the supernatural virtues by enabling us to practice them with greater docility to divine inspiration. As we grow in the knowledge and love of God under the direction of the Holy Spirit, our service becomes more sincere and generous, the practice of virtue more perfect. Such acts of virtue leave the heart filled with joy and consolation and are known as Fruits of the Holy Spirit. These Fruits in turn render the practice of virtue more attractive and become a powerful incentive for still greater efforts in the service of God, to serve Whom is to reign.

Prayer

*Come, O Divine Spirit,
fill my heart with Thy heavenly fruits,
Thy charity, joy, peace, patience, benignity,
goodness, faith, mildness, and temperance,
that I may never weary in the service of God,
but by continued faithful submission to Thy inspiration
may merit to be united eternally with Thee in the love of the
Father and the Son. Amen.*

Then pray the *Our Father*, the *Hail Mary* and the *Glory Be*.

Mass Intentions. We are still taking Mass intentions and are now taking bookings from July onwards. If you would like to book a Mass please telephone the parish office on 020 8451 4677 or email willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk. 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.

Facebook. Please take a look at our new Facebook page: www.facebook.com/SMMWillesden where we have posted Masses, articles, interviews, photographs, meditations and videos from a wide range of sources. We would also very much like to post your photographs/poems/ ideas on how you are coping with self-isolation and lockdown. Please email these to us at willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk or use Messenger. Thank you to everyone who has already visited the page and 'liked' us! Please spread the word!

Funeral Notice

The Funeral Service of the late Joao Fernandes will take place on Thursday 21 May 2020 at 1:00pm at Carpenters Park Cemetery

Funeral arrangements are made in accordance with the protocols necessary due to the coronavirus pandemic.

May he rest in peace

Diocesan News

A reflection on isolation during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic. This reflection on isolation during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic comes from Fr George Bowen, a member of the Community of Fathers of the London Oratory, and an old friend of *The Art of Dying Well*. You can listen to an [audio recording of Fr George's reflection on isolation](#) or read his words at <https://www.artofdyingwell.org/reflection-isolation-during-the-coronavirus-covid-19-pandemic/>

Day for Life is the day in the Church's year dedicated to raising awareness about the meaning and value of human life at every stage and in every condition. The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death. This year's *Day for Life* is celebrated on Sunday, 21 June 2020. Please visit www.dayforlife.org to find this year's resources and information on subjects which cover the journey of life. You can also read documents and publications released by the Catholic Church and bishops on the key issues. *Day for Life* is celebrated annually by the Catholic Church in Ireland, Scotland, England and Wales.

Readings at Mass

6th Sunday of Easter

First Reading:	Acts of the Apostles 8:5—8. 14—17
Psalms Response:	Cry out with joy to God all the earth.
Second Reading:	St Peter 3:15—18
Alleluia Verse:	Jesus said: 'If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him.'
Gospel:	John 14: 15—21



Sunday Readings and Prayers

Entrance antiphon

Proclaim a joyful sound and let it be heard; proclaim to the ends of the earth: The Lord has freed his people, alleluia.

Collect

Grant, almighty God,
that we may celebrate with
heartfelt devotion these days of joy,
which we keep in honour of the risen Lord,
and that what we relive in
remembrance
we may always hold to in what we do.
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: Acts 8:5—8. 14—17

Philip went to a Samaritan town and proclaimed the Christ to them. The people united in welcoming the message Philip preached, either because they had heard of the miracles he worked or because they saw them for themselves. There were, for example, unclean spirits that came shrieking out of many who were possessed, and several paralytics and cripples were cured. As a result there was great rejoicing in that town. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, and they went down there, and prayed for the Samaritans to receive the Holy Spirit, for as yet he had not come down on any of them: they had only been baptised in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial psalm: 65

R./ Cry out with joy to God all the earth.

1. Cry out with joy to God, all the earth,
O sing to the glory of his name.
O render him glorious praise.
Say to God: "How tremendous
your deeds!" *R./*

2. Before you all the earth shall bow;
shall sing to your name! Come and see the works of God,
tremendous his deeds among men. *R./*

3. He turned the sea into dry land,
they passed through the river dry-shod.
Let our joy then be in him;
he rules for ever by his might. *R./*

4. Come and hear, all who fear God.
I will tell what he did for my soul.
Blessed be God who did not reject
my prayer
nor withhold his love from me. *R./*

Second Reading: St Peter 3:15—18

Reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience,

so that those who slander you when you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring.

And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Why, Christ himself, innocent though he was, had died once for sins, died for the guilty, to lead us to God. In the body he was put to death, in the spirit he was raised to life.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Jesus said: "If anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we shall come to him",
Alleluia!*

Gospel: John 14: 15—21

Jesus said to his disciples:

'If you love me you will keep my commandments.

I shall ask the Father,

and he will give you another Advocate

to be with you for ever,

that Spirit of truth

whom the world can never receive

since it neither sees nor knows him;

but you know him,

because he is with you, he is in you.

I will not leave you orphans; I will come back to you.

In a short time the world will no longer see me; but you will see me,

because I live and you will live.

On that day you will understand that I am in my Father and you in me and I in you.

Anybody who receives my commandments and keeps them will be one who loves me; and anybody who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I shall love him and show myself to him.'

Prayer over the Offerings

May our prayers rise up to you, O Lord, together with the sacrificial offerings, so that, purified by your graciousness, we may be conformed to the mysteries of your mighty love.

Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon Jn 14: 15—16

If you love me, keep my commandments, says the Lord, and I will ask the Father and he will send you another Paraclete, to abide with you for ever, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

Almighty ever-living God,

who restore us to eternal life in the Resurrection of Christ, increase in us, we pray, the fruits of this paschal Sacrament and pour into our hearts the strength of this saving food.

Through Christ our Lord.

ST MARY MAGDALEN MASS & SERVICE TIMES

Week commencing 17 May 2020

Sunday 17 May 2020 – 6th Sunday of Easter

The Mass Intentions for the weekend are:

Mary Sullivan	Anniv
P H Phelen	RIP
Patrick & Rose Doran	Anniv
People of the Parish	
Bernadette McHugh & Matthew Crooke	Anniv

Monday 18 May 2020 – Easter *Feria*

9:30am	Michael Quinlan	RIP
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Tuesday 19 May 2020 – Easter *Feria*

9:30am	James, David & Carole Portsmouth	RIP
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Wednesday 20 May 2020 – Easter *Feria*

9:30am	Patrick Joseph Phelan	RIP
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Thursday 21 May 2020 – The Ascension of the Lord

9:30am	Myles Costello	RIP
7:00pm	Bridget McGirl	RIP

Friday 22 May 2020 – Easter *Feria*

9:30am	P.J. Phelan	RIP
6:30pm	Joan Coyne	RIP

Saturday 23 May 2020 – Easter *Feria*

9:30am	Joseph Mareu	RIP
6:30pm	Sheila Curran	Anniv