

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/SMMWillessden

YouTube:

St Mary Magdalen's RC Church,
Willessden, London

Parish Clergy

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Parish Office

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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
31 May 2020
PENTECOST SUNDAY
YEAR A**

The language of love.

At school I was useless at most things. No good at maths; no good at physics; no good at chemistry; not even allowed to try biology (I had to do Latin instead); no good at games. English literature, for the most part, was a closed book to me. Where I



was not completely useless was with languages – I studied Latin, French and German and found them fascinating. I had quite a good ear, and so could pick up the accent fairly well. When I went on holiday to France I tried out my French, and, much to my surprise, it worked.

We all know the frustration of not being able to make ourselves understood in another language. Whether it's just navigating our way through a menu, or trying to have a conversation with someone, it can be very difficult. So, the events on the first Pentecost when the apostles found themselves able to speak foreign languages have always fired my imagination. It must have been an amazing scene when confusion turned to understanding, as people began to comprehend what the apostles were talking about. They could understand in their own languages just what the apostles were saying about the marvels of God.

People talk about the language of power, or the language of business. There is the language of controversy, which some people use so much in texts and tweets. There is language which is used to make people feel bad, and which is used to mock much loved beliefs and values.

The language which the Holy Spirit teaches us from the first Pentecost is very different. It not always a language which uses words – it is a language of deeds and of action. It is the language of love. I know that in our congregation there must be many different languages spoken from countries all over the globe. And that, for me, is fascinating. But there is one language which should unite us all, and which we should all speak – the language of God's love.

Monsignor Roger



Spiritual Quote of the Week

*"As the soul is the life of the body, so
the Holy Spirit is the life of our
souls"*

St. Peter Damian

Those who have died recently: Susan Keane, John Doyle, Michael O'Callaghan, Sr Paschal Murray

Those who are sick: Maura O'Toole, Ann Stack, Monica Lynch, Julia Egan, Delton (John) Daroux, Cleveland Ellington, Esmie Ellington, Sylvia Roberts, Carol Carnegie

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Brigid Boland, Gerry & Josie Rice, William & Bill McGloin, Leroy Lewis

Parish News

Preparing for the reopening of our church (Update). When our churches first re-open, it will most likely be for 'individual prayer'. We do not have a firm date for this as yet. However, there are important preparations that can begin now to prepare the church. We will need to ensure that we have adequate volunteers to support the formalities and supervision this will entail. Volunteers should be deemed healthy and fit. At present this excludes those who are deemed vulnerable (over 70 years, and/or with certain pre-existing health conditions, self-isolating or shielding). This may change. This volunteering will involve a commitment of three hours per week, working in teams with times to be arranged. If you can help, please email the parish office at willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk with your name, contact details and availability. Thank you for your support.

Have you signed a Gift Aid form? We will soon be putting in a gift aid claim asking HM Revenue and Customs to give us the tax that you have paid on your donations. Please inform Kathleen in the Parish Office if your tax status has changed since you completed a gift aid declaration. Also, if you are now in a position to gift aid your donations or would like to change your planned giving donations to standing order during this lockdown please email Kathleen at willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk. Thank you.

Facebook Update. As you know, we have been posting Masses and information on our Facebook page – thank you to everyone who has 'liked' us and is following us. Many of you will also be aware, that there was already in existence another page for our church which back in March, we were unable to continue. Since then, we have been looking into merging the two pages and we think this may now be possible. The process involves transferring our existing posts to the 'old' page and if you are a follower of either page, Facebook may notify you of any new posts. Please be prepared for a large number of emails if this does happen! We anticipate, the current new page will be deleted and we will continue the 'old' page. The advantage of doing this of course, is that we continue the excellent record of events posted by Fr Kevin and ensure this electronic montage of the life of our parish remains in the one place. We will email you once the process is complete and update you of any changes. Thank you for your patience and cooperation.

Readings at Mass

Pentecost Sunday

First Reading:	Acts of the Apostles 2:1—11
Psalm Response:	Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.
Second Reading:	1 Corinthians 12:3—7. 12—13
Alleluia Verse:	Come. Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.
Gospel:	John 20:19—23

Diocesan News

The Holy Spirit - A Prayer Video for Pentecost. As we continue our journey towards Pentecost, Fr Pat Browne and Patrick Van Der Vost have prepared a video meditation on the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, using Christian art and music. The video was prepared to help us as we spend time in prayer on the Vigil of Pentecost, as the Cardinal has encouraged us to do. It can be found at <https://christian.art/videos.php> A link to the video is also available on the diocesan website at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ca6ccFiilc8>. The Holy Spirit is not a thing. The Holy Spirit is a Person. Someone we can relate to as one person to another. As human beings we use images to make the Holy Spirit understandable. We need to express the Infinite in a way for our finite minds to understand. These images are not just random. In sacred Scripture, the Holy Spirit gets described as water, breath, fire, a dove, a stream... each image telling us something about who the Holy Spirit is as a person. This rich texture of images that speaks to our mind and hearts help us take us to a deeper level within us where the Holy Spirit dwells. That is where art can help us understand the depths of our existence. Enjoy this art and prayer video. The Cardinal's video message for Pentecost is also available on the Diocesan website at: <https://vimeo.com/421046273>

Pentecost Sunday Rosary Rally 31 May 2020 - 5:00pm - 6:00pm.

Following the call of Pope Francis for families to pray the Rosary together during the month of May, a Rosary Rally has been organised inviting the faithful across England, Wales and Scotland to pray the Rosary on Pentecost Sunday from 9:00am to 9:00pm. The faithful in the Diocese of Westminster are invited to pray the Rosary from 5:00pm to 6:00pm on this day, alone, as a family, or as a group connecting virtually.

Take part in the Friends of Westminster Cathedral Lockdown

Online Quiz on Tuesday 2 June at 6:30pm on the Friends of Westminster Cathedral Facebook Page. The quiz is free to enter but they ask if you might make a £5 per head donation. All monies raised will help to support Westminster Cathedral. Parish virtual teams are welcome and may communicate using Zoom, Microsoft Teams, What's App etc. For more details and to enter email christinawhite@rcdow.org.uk. Please note that the Friends page is private, and you will need to join the page in advance to take part in the quiz.

Passage Virtual Garden Party. Join on Friday 5 June, from 6:00pm, to commemorate 40 years of *The Passage* and its work helping people to overcome homelessness. Hosted by BBC Gardener's World's, Adam Frost, live from his back garden, spend a peaceful summer's evening with *The Passage* as they celebrate gardening and mark their anniversary. Sit back and enjoy gardening tips and secrets from Adam, while tucking into a suggested menu at home from *The Passage's* Head Chef, Claudette Dawkins. Hear directly from the frontline, via staff at *The Passage* who have been supporting homeless people in a range of innovative ways during the pandemic, and take part in their auction. There is also live music and entertainment. To sign up and for details visit <https://passage.org.uk/get-involved/events/virtual-garden-party/> There is no charge for this event, donations are most welcome.

Sunday Readings and Prayers

Antiphon *Wisdom 1: 7*

The Spirit of the Lord has filled the whole world and that which contains all things understands what is said, alleluia.

Collect

O God, who by the mystery of today's great feast sanctify your whole Church in every people and nation, pour out, we pray, the gifts of the Holy Spirit across the face of the earth and, with the divine grace that was at work when the Gospel was first proclaimed, fill now once more the hearts of believers. 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.

Reading: *Acts 2:1-11*

When Pentecost day came round, they had all met in one room, when suddenly they heard what sounded like a powerful wind from heaven, the noise of which filled the entire house in which they were sitting; and something appeared to them that seemed like tongues of fire; these separated and came to rest on the head of each of them. They were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and began to speak foreign languages as the Spirit gave them the gift of speech.

Now there were devout men living in Jerusalem from every nation under heaven, and at this sound they all assembled, each one bewildered to hear these men speaking his own language. They were amazed and astonished. 'Surely' they said 'all these men speaking are Galileans? How does it happen that each of us hears them in his own native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; people from Mesopotamia, Judaea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya round Cyrene; as well as visitors from Rome – Jews and proselytes alike – Cretans and Arabs; we hear them preaching in our own language about the marvels of God.'

Responsorial psalm: *103*

*R./ Send forth your Spirit, O Lord,
and renew the face of the earth.*

1. Bless the Lord, my soul!

Lord God, how great you are.

How many are your works, O Lord!

The earth is full of your riches. *R./*

2. You take back your Spirit, they die,
returning to the dust from which they came.

You send forth your Spirit, they are created;
and you renew the face of the earth. *R./*

3. May the glory of the Lord last for ever!

May the Lord rejoice in his works!

May my thoughts be pleasing to him.

I find my joy in the Lord. *R./*

Second Reading: *1 Corinthians 12:3-7, 12-13*

No one can say, 'Jesus is Lord' unless he is under the influence of the Holy Spirit.

There is a variety of gifts but always the same Spirit; there are all sorts of service to be done, but always to the same Lord; working in all sorts of different ways in different people, it is the same God who is working in all of them. The particular way in which the Spirit is given to each person is for a good purpose. Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Alleluia!

Gospel: *John 20:19-23*

In the evening of the first day of the week, the doors were closed in the room where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you', and showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy when they saw the Lord, and he said to them again, 'Peace be with you.

'As the Father sent me,
so am I sending you.'

After saying this he breathed on them and said:

'Receive the Holy Spirit.

For those whose sins you forgive,
they are forgiven;

for those whose sins you retain,
they are retained.'

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, we pray, O Lord, that, as promised by your Son, the Holy Spirit may reveal to us more abundantly the hidden mystery of this sacrifice and graciously lead us into all truth. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon *Acts 2: 4, 11*

They were all filled with the Holy Spirit
and spoke of the marvels of God, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

O God, who bestow heavenly gifts upon your Church, safeguard, we pray, the grace you have given, that the gift of the Holy Spirit poured out upon her may retain all its force and that this spiritual food may gain her abundance of eternal redemption.

Through Christ our Lord.

ST MARY MAGDALEN MASS & SERVICE TIMES

Week commencing 31 May 2020

Sunday 31 May 2020 – Pentecost Sunday

The Mass Intentions for the weekend are:

People of the Parish

Finbar (Barry) O'Shea

RIP

James Doody

Anniv

Theresa Kilcoyne

Anniv

Phelan Family

Ints

Monday 1 June 2020 – The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church

9:30am

Ruby Gibbs

Ints

Tuesday 2 June 2020 – *Feria*

9:30am

Finbar (Barry) O'Shea

RIP

Wednesday 3 June 2020 – Ss Charles Lwanga and Companions, Martyrs

9:30am

Brigid Boland

Anniv

Thursday 4 June 2020 – Our Lord Jesus Christ, The Eternal High Priest

9:30am

Gerry & Josie Rice

Anniv

Friday 5 June 2020 – St Boniface, Bishop & Martyr

9:30am

Minguel Fernandes

RIP

6:30pm

Private Intention

Ints

Saturday 6 June 2020 – *Feria*

9:30am

Angela Rodrigues

Ints

6:30pm

People of the Parish