

Presbytery

Peter Avenue, Willesden Green,
London, NW10 2DD
Tel: 020 8451 4677

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

Facebook:
[https://www.facebook.com/
marymagwillesdengreen/](https://www.facebook.com/marymagwillesdengreen/)

Parish Clergy

Monsignor Roger Reader KHS
rogerreader@rcdow.org.uk

Father Mark Dunglinson
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Father Sudham Perera
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Parish Office

willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk

Office hours:
Tuesday—Friday
10:00am—2:00pm

Individual Prayer with Eucharistic Adoration

Sunday: 10:00am – 12 noon

Monday: 9:30am—10:30am

Tuesday: 9:30am—10:30am

Wednesday: 9:30am—10:30am

Thursday: Closed for ‘deep cleaning’

Friday: 9:30am—10:30am
6:00pm—7:30pm

Saturday: 9:30am—10:30am



ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

NOVEMBER—MONTH OF
THE HOLY SOULS
8 November 2020
32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
YEAR A

OUR DEAR DEAD.

I wonder how many of you remember the London Telephone Directory. For those of you who are under about 30 years old, these were enormous books, with hundreds of pages with lists of names of nearly every phone number in London. When I was a boy, I would sometimes just look through the pages of the directory and try to imagine the person of the family behind the name, especially if it was a foreign sounding name.

November is very much a month of lists. We have only to read the names on war memorials, especially on Remembrance Sunday. Last weekend I opened lots of the envelopes containing the lists of the dead to be remembered at the Holy Souls Masses during the month of November. It was a very moving experience for me. Some of the pages were absolutely filled with names from top to bottom. Other sheets had just a couple of names on them, or just said ‘My mother and father’, or ‘my son or daughter’. It is a miracle of our loving Father in Heaven that behind each one of those names lies an individual created and made by God, each with their own personality, character, loves and lives. Each name is a unique human being made in the image of God, who had played an important part in the life of the person who wrote their name.

Whenever we pray for somebody, we are surrounding them with love. We are bringing that unique person into the Lord’s presence and asking what is best for them. When we pray for those who have died, we pray for them also out of love. We pray that the God of Love, who created them, may forgive them their sins and bring them into his presence. We pray that they may know Love in eternity.

Readings at Mass

32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading: Wisdom 6:12—16

Psalm Response: For my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.

Second Reading: St Paul to the Thessalonians 4:13—18

Alleluia Verse: Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming.

Gospel: Matthew 25:1—13

Those who are sick: Kit Mahoney, Mary Gavahan

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Pat Joe Daly, Tom Mahoney, Michael Scanlon, Michael & Nora Macken

Parish News

Collection. Last week's collection was £970.02 (excluding standing orders). Standing orders for September amounted to £3,504.00. Thank you for your generosity.

National Lockdown in England. In order to comply with the latest Government regulations, from Thursday 5 November churches in England had to close for public Masses but could remain open and in use for activities other than communal worship, including individual prayer and support for those in need. Funeral Masses and funeral services may be held. Our church is open for Individual prayer and the scheduled times can be found overleaf.

The following message has been subsequently issued from the President and Vice-President of the Bishops' Conference:

"Today, Parliament passed into law the Regulations governing many aspects of activity in the whole of England until 2nd December. These Regulations prohibit the gathering of people for communal worship in churches and other religious buildings. Churches remain open and in use for activities other than communal worship, including personal prayer and support for those in need. Funeral Masses and funeral services may be held. Please refer to the Regulations (for places of worship see paragraph 18) and associated Guidance.

Despite profound misgivings it is important that we, as responsible citizens, observe these Regulations, which have the force of law: 'Remind them to be obedient to the officials in authority; to be ready to do good at every opportunity' (Titus 3:1). We do this in solidarity with so many others on whom are being imposed restrictions which impact severely on their lives and livelihoods.

It is also important to recognise that these Regulations are not an attack on religious belief. However, they do demonstrate a fundamental lack of understanding of the essential contribution made by faith communities to the well-being, resilience and health of our society.

At this difficult moment, we ask that, as a Catholic community, we make full use of our churches as places of individual prayer and sources of solace and help. We must sustain each other in our patterns of prayer, joining a national shared moment of prayer each day at 6pm, and observing the Vigil of Christ the King (21st November) as a day of prayer for the ending of this pandemic. And we encourage you all in your practical service and support of each other and those around you in need.

This pathway of prayer and service is the royal road we are to take as a gracious witness in our society today."

The Cardinal has also written and renews his assurance of his prayers for us all, particularly as we all seek to do our best to live our lives under the current restrictions in the coming weeks. Paper copies of his letter are available for you to take away as you leave church. A video recording of the message will also be available on the diocesan website this weekend.

The Sick and Retired Priests' collection. Please give generously and help ensure our sick and older priests are financially supported, having given us a lifetime of dedicated service. They have baptised us, welcomed us into the church, and offered

comfort and prayer at times of sorrow. Now we have a chance to give back and ensure they have peace of mind during their senior years, when they may be facing failing health and declining mobility. Please give generously using the envelopes in the church. Envelopes should be placed in the baskets as you leave church. You can also donate online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations - the envelopes and posters feature a 'QR Code' that you can scan with a phone camera to give online, reducing the risks to everyone of handling cash. Thank you in advance for your kindness.

Mass Online. You can follow a live-streamed Mass at 8.45 am every day on our Facebook site: <https://www.facebook.com/marymagwillesdengreen/> at which you might like to pray... An Act of Spiritual Communion:

*My Jesus,
I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar.
I love you above all things
and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul.
Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally,
come spiritually into my soul
so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever.*

Amen

November Dead Lists. During November four Masses a week will be said for the Holy Souls. Please write the names of your deceased relatives and friends on one of the sheets which can be found on the table as you leave church, place the sheet in the envelope provided along with any offering you might like to make, and place in the basket as you leave church or post it through the presbytery letterbox. The sheets will be kept in a special box on the sanctuary.

Blessings of graves. The annual blessing of graves this year cannot happen because of the level of COVID-security prerequisites that would have to be in place. There is a printed prayer on the table as you leave church to take away and go privately or as a family to the cemetery to pray at the grave. The booklet is also available to download on the parish website.

Bethany Bereavement Group Mass, for all those whose funerals have taken place in the parish, particularly in the past year, will be postponed until 2021.

First Holy Communion/Confirmation 2021 registration deadline has now been extended to 12noon on Tuesday 24 November 2020. Please visit the parish website at: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/willesdengreen/> and click the tab on the left hand side marked First Holy Communion or Confirmation application 2021 for full details.

We are still looking for parent helpers to assist with both our First Holy Communion and Confirmation programmes in 2021 and would encourage parents whose children are preparing for these sacraments to consider putting their names forward. Please email the parish office as soon as possible with your details.

Mass Intentions. We are still taking Mass intentions and are now taking bookings from January 2021 onwards. If you would like to book a Mass please telephone or email the parish office.