



**ST MARY MAGDALEN  
CATHOLIC CHURCH**  
**DECEMBER—MONTH OF  
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION**  
**12 DECEMBER 2021**  
**3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**YEAR C**

### **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/)

*YouTube:* [St Mary Magdalen's RC  
Church, Willesden, London](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCmYmYmYmYmYmYmYmYmYmYmY)

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

### **Parish Clergy**

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

Father Allan Alvarado Gil  
[allanalvarado@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:allanalvarado@rcdow.org.uk)

Father Ruwan Deshapriya  
[ruwanhp@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:ruwanhp@rcdow.org.uk)

### **Parish Office**

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

Office Hours

Tuesday—Friday:  
10:00am—2:00pm

### **BE HAPPY!**

**What makes you happy?** I suspect it isn't owning a Porsche; I suspect it isn't putting an extension on the house; I suspect it isn't owning the latest iPhone – although these may have a passing delight. Some of the things which make me happy are very simple, for example, I love listening to old detective dramas on Radio 4 Extra – Paul Temple is the best for me, first broadcast before I was born, and it harks back to simpler days, no computers, no mobile phones and good old fashioned villains. Maybe for you it is a football match (playing or watching), music of any sort (playing or listening), or home cooked food (eating or preparing).

We sometimes lose sight of the truth that God wants us to be happy. We may picture him as a judge, or as almighty, or as a lawgiver – and all of this is true. But he also wants our happiness, but he wants us to find it in the right places.

St Paul's letter to the Philippians is one of the most moving of all his letters. He clearly loves these people, and they have a special place in his heart. He is writing to them from prison, maybe in chains, maybe under guard, and yet it is a letter full of happiness and love, no more so than in our second reading.

**Where can we find happiness?** I would suggest in three ways: The first in our families – of course, there is always a mixture of ups and downs, but family is a place where we can be ourselves and value those God has given us. Second, in our friends – those we have chosen ourselves, maybe at work, at school or in the parish. Friends can listen to us, and we can listen to them. We can laugh and cry with them. Third, in our faith. We should draw happiness from the love which God has shown us in Jesus Christ.

As you prepare for Christmas, open your hearts to find happiness in family, friendship and faith.  
Monsignor Roger

### **Mass Times**

Saturday 6:30pm (Vigil Mass of  
Sunday)

Sunday: 9:00am, 10:30am (includes  
Children's Liturgy), 12noon & 6:30pm

Monday— Friday 9:30am

Saturday: 9:30am & 6:30pm

### **Individual Prayer with Eucharistic Adoration**

Weekdays and Saturday:  
One hour before morning Mass

### **Confession**

Saturdays: 10:00am—10:30am  
5:30pm— 6:15pm

**Those who are sick:** Ruth Lightfoot, Muriel Charles

**Those who have died recently:** Fr Dominic Arthur Byrne,  
May Finnegan, Natasha Lucinda Thompson, Rodolfo Castaneda, Curtis  
Plaza

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Crecy Harrison,  
Vivienne Mangan, Anthony & Agnes McDermott, Patrick &  
Delia O'Sullivan, Mollie & Patrick Moriarty



## Parish News

**Collection 28 November 2021** amounted to £1,532.56. Standing orders for November amounted to £3,744.00. Thank you.

**COVID Update.** The Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have advised that with respect to the current situation with the omicron variant it is important that the following points are followed (continue) in our churches:

- *That people displaying any symptoms of covid-19 should stay at home and not travel to church or participate in person.*
- *Hand sanitiser is used upon entering and exiting the Church.*
- *That people continue to wear a face covering (both nose and mouth) during the act of worship.*
- **That there is good ventilation and air throughput in the building; because of climatic conditions, it would be important to wrap up well in church!**
- *We are encouraging all people to get vaccinated and have the booster jab as soon as possible.*
- *That people who are engaged in a form of pastoral ministry which involves ministry to the housebound, sick and vulnerable, should take regular lateral flow tests to ensure they are safe to do so. These are free from the NHS.*
- *There is now very strong evidence to support that the main mode of transmission is through breath and nasal aerosols, and that the risk from surface and touch transmission is very small indeed. General church cleaning is now sufficient. Therefore, there will no longer be cleaning after weekday Masses.*

If these guidance points continue to be supported, then the churches will continue to be safe places for people to gather for acts of public worship, including over the Christmas period, and help us to remain open.

**Children's Nativity Play.** Due to the increasing concerns regarding the omicron variant Monsignor Roger feels it would be wise to change the format this year. All children are invited to come to the 6:00pm Vigil Mass (First Mass of Christmas), on Friday 24 December dressed as either a shepherd (tea towels), dressed as an angel (tinsel), dressed as Joseph (dressing gown), dressed as Mary (something blue), dressed as Kings (crowns). We will still make sure that the children are very much involved in the celebration of this Mass.

**Christmas Offering Envelopes** are available on the table as you leave church today. Your Christmas offering is not taxed by the Diocese and goes towards clergy salaries and supply priests.

**Christmastide 2021 and New Year 2022.** Leaflets giving the times of Masses and other services over this period are now available in the racks at the back of the church or in the porch.

**Christmas Rotas.** If you have not already done so Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and readers should indicate their availability on the lists at the back of the church today. Servers should check with their parents and indicate their availability on

the list in the sacristy. Thank you for your Ministry.

**Bethany -Tree of Light** is in place opposite the Lady Chapel. The Tree of Light is a perfect way this Christmas, after another difficult year, to remember a loved one who has passed away, to wish someone good luck for the New Year or for any other intention you may wish to pray for. Due to COVID please bring your own completed label with you, to attach to the tree.

**Crib Offering 2021.** This Christmas our crib offering will be donated to the *Catholic Children's Society* to support their work with disadvantaged children and families. This will help provide family support, emergency grants and mental health services for vulnerable children in our Diocese.

**First Holy Communion 2022.** There will be a first meeting in St Mary Magdalen's Roman Catholic Junior School on Monday 17 January 2022 at 5:30pm, for First Holy Communion parents/guardians and children, who have registered.

**Adult Reception into the Church and Confirmation.** If you are an adult who is not Catholic or who has not made their Confirmation and would like to be prepared for the sacraments in the RCIA process, please contact Fr Allan.

**'Operation Elf'.** Huge thank you to all those who gave Gift Cards and supported our friends at PACT. Hundreds of children of prisoners will receive gifts thanks to your support.

## Diocesan News

**Caritas Westminster Advent Volunteer Gathering – "Rejoice the Lord is near"** on Tuesday 14 December, 4:00pm until 5:00pm—Online. 'Come away for a while' and spend an hour together this Advent. Open to all volunteers in the Diocese of Westminster. Bring your own mince pies! [Sign up on Eventbrite](#)

**St Roses Carol Service,** 'in celebration of our journeying together so far', takes place on Sunday, 19 December from 3:00pm until 4:30pm at St Roses 160 Anson Road, Cricklewood NW2 6BH. This will be an open air Carol Service in celebration of their Synodal Journey so far, and as part of their preparation for Christmas. Please come well wrapped up!

**Right To Life UK.** - "Today we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, patron saint of the unborn. We ask for her guidance and inspiration as we, the Church, seek to support all pregnant mothers and unborn children, and that we would become models of support to all in society. Lord hear us."

## Mass Intentions Week commencing 12 December 2021

Saturday	6:30pm	Anthony & Agnes McDermott	Anniv
Sunday	9:00am	Kenneth Ward	RIP
	10:30am	The Varley Family	Ints
	12:00pm	Patrick & Delia O'Sullivan	Anniv
	6:30pm	People of the Parish	Ints
Monday	9:30am	Pat Daly	RIP
Tuesday	9:30am	Vivienne Mangan	Anniv
Wednesday	9:30am	Mary Statham	Ints
Thursday	9:30am	Ann Collins	RIP
Friday	9:30am	Patrick Daly	RIP
Saturday	9:30am	Dennis Durham	Anniv