

## 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/UCR1G1B8C8G8G8G8G8G8G8G8G8)

*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)

Tuesday

10:00am—2:00pm

## 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



**ST MARY MAGDALEN  
CATHOLIC CHURCH  
ST JOSEPH'S MONTH  
27 MARCH 2022  
4TH SUNDAY OF LENT  
YEAR C**

## The prodigal Son

### ***The merciful Father who welcome home his lost son***

Jesus illustrates this *Passover* from slavery to sin and condemnation to freedom and new life in Christ with the longest parable recorded in the Gospels (Luke 15:11-32). What is the main point of Jesus' story about two ungrateful sons and their extravagant loving father? Is it the contrast between a grudging obedient son and a rebellious son who had wished his father was dead? Or the warm reception given to a spendthrift son and the cold reception given by the eldest son?

Jesus does contrast the eldest son's cold and aloof reception for his errant brother with the father's warm embrace and lavish homecoming party for his repentant son. While the errant son had wasted his father's money, his father, nonetheless, maintained unbroken love for his son. The son, while he was away, learned a lot about himself. And he realized that his father had given him love which he had not returned. He had yet to learn about the depth of his father's love for him.

His deep humiliation at finding himself obliged to feed on the husks of pigs and his reflection on all he had lost, led to his repentance and decision to declare himself guilty before his father. While he hoped for reconciliation with his father, he could not have imagined a full restoration of relationship. The father did not need to speak words of forgiveness to his son; his actions spoke more loudly and clearly! The beautiful robe, the ring, and the festive banquet symbolize the new life - pure, worthy, and joyful - of every person who returns to God.

### ***Forgiven and restored to new life***

The prodigal could not return to the garden of innocence, but he was welcomed and reinstated as a son who had been missed much and greatly loved by his father. The errant son's dramatic change from grief and guilt to forgiveness and restoration express in picture-language the resurrection from the dead which Jesus makes possible to everyone who believes in him, a rebirth to new life from death.

The parable also contrasts mercy and its opposite - unforgiveness. The father, who had been wronged, was forgiving. But the eldest son, who had not been wronged, was unforgiving. His unforgiveness turns into spiteful pride and contempt for his brother. And his resentment leads to his isolation and estrangement from the community of forgiven sinners.

### ***God's mercy and kindness knows no bounds***

In this parable Jesus gives a vivid picture of God and what God is like. God is truly kinder than any of us. He does not lose hope or give up when we stray from him. He is always on the lookout for those who have a change of heart and want to return. He rejoices in finding the lost and in welcoming them home. Do you know the joy of repentance and the restoration of relationship as a son or daughter of your heavenly Father?

*Fr Allan*

**Those who are sick:** Jim Feeney, Tony Rowland, Carmel Hollowed

**Those who have died recently:** Oliver Gomes, Fr Kevin McDevitt

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Theresa Kilcoyne, Peter McHugh, Oliver Fay, Michael Dempsey

## Parish News

**Collection 6 March 2022** amounted to £1,901.86. Standing orders for February amounted to £3,555.00. Thank you.

**Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2022.** HEAT or EAT? Help those facing this choice. Funds raised in this year's Cardinal's Lenten Appeal will be shared between parishes and *Caritas Westminster*. *The effects of the pandemic are making daily life harder for all. Price rises mean many families face an impossible choice: HEAT or EAT? The Church is responding, with thousands of people putting their faith into action by serving those in need. Cardinal Nichols has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. Just as a mosaic is made up of many different coloured pieces, each one unique, each person's contribution to this mosaic of hope will bring light into the lives of people across our Diocese. Please take a donation envelope which are on the tables as you leave church today. You can use the QR code to make your donation online.*

**Planned Giving Envelopes for the new tax year 2022/2023** for existing users are available for collection from the sacristy after Mass. The new envelopes should be used commencing Sunday 10 April 2022. Please consider using envelopes or standing order for your offertory donations, and Gift Aid your contribution which benefits the parish by 25p for every £1 you give at no extra cost to you. Thank you.

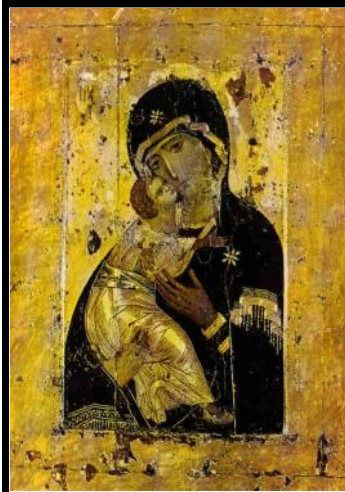
**Altar Servers Training** — There will be two training sessions for our excellent teams of altar servers on Saturday 2 and 9 April at 12 Noon. If you have made your First Holy Communion and are at either primary or secondary school, you are more than welcome to join our teams. Please ask Mgr. Roger.

**Emergency Appeal for Ukraine.** The Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral and community organisations have united to work with accredited and registered Ukrainian charities to provide medicines, food and critical services to support the most vulnerable to overcome the consequences and trauma of war. Donations can be made by cheque (payable to AUGB LTD - Central Appeal Fund and sent to Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of the Holy Family of London, Chancery Office, 21-22 Binney Street, London W1K 5BQ), directly to the central appeal fund (AUGB Ltd, Account Number: 80038237, Sortcode: 20-65-89, with reference HelpUkraine) or online: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/helpukraine>

**Parish Penitential Service:** On Monday in Holy Week there will be a Parish Service at St Mary Magdalen's at 7:00pm. I will encourage you to come to this service so we can prepare together to celebrate the Lord's Passion.

## Parish Diary

Monday 28 March	6:00pm– 7:00pm	Confirmation—Session 10 Transfiguration, Kensal Rise
Monday 28 March	5:30pm– 6:30pm	First Holy Communion— Session 10 at St Mary Magdalen's Catholic
Friday 1 April	6:30pm	Stations of the Cross—Church



## Prayer for Ukraine

Mary, Our Lady of Kiev, the God Carrier, (Theotokos) we ask your intercession for the suffering people of the Ukraine, their government and their people attempting to resist the attack which primarily comes from evil.

Be with Ukraine today as you stood beside your suffering son on Calvary. Give those people faith and hope and strengthen them in their belief that by the Grace of God and the involvement of men

and women of good will everywhere, their lives and country will be preserved and that there will be peace after war.

## Diocesan News

**Synodal Pathway - updates** If you would like to access feedback from the recent Synodal Listening sessions in Westminster please go to: <https://rcdow.org.uk/synod/>

**'Encountering the Spirit'** – we invite you to participate in our faith sharing Lent resource, which provides material for reflection on the five Lent Gospels & material on the Synodal Pathway <https://rcdow.org.uk/evangelisation/mission-and-discipleship/small-communities/>

### Resource ideas for the Lent & Easter

**SYCAMORE:** are you looking to renew & refresh your faith this Lent in an informal setting, or support for parents with children in sacramental programmes? If so, click: <https://www.sycamore.fm/pathways/b-formation-pathways/lent-course/>

**The God Who Speaks** – are providing a range of free resources for use in the home, churches & schools to feed our Lent & Eastertide journey <https://www.godwhospeaks.uk/the-god-who-speaks/focus/preparing-for-lent-and-eastertide/>

**Wintershall comes to Trafalgar Square** – be part of something amazing <https://www.wintershall.org.uk/one-good-friday>

## Mass Intentions Week commencing 27 March 2022

Saturday	6:30pm	Mary Creighton	<b>Ints</b>
Sunday	9:00am	Peter McHugh	<b>Anniv</b>
	10:30am	Marian Murry	<b>RIP</b>
	12 noon	People of the Parish	
	6:30pm	Gerry Quinn	<b>RIP</b>
Monday	9:30am	Patrick Damien O'Grady	<b>RIP</b>
Tuesday	9:30am	Cecila McManus	<b>RIP</b>
Wednesday	9:30am	Paul Brusnan	<b>RIP</b>
Thursday	9:30am	Pat O'Rourke	<b>RIP</b>
Friday	9:30am	May Finegan	<b>RIP</b>
Saturday	9:30am	Chris Sheehan	<b>RIP</b>
	6:30pm	Andy, Eileen & Family	<b>Ints</b>