Presbytery

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

Parish Website: <u>https://</u> parish.rcdow.org.uk/willesdengreen/

YouTube: <u>St Mary Magdalen's RC</u> Church, Willesden, London

Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/</u> <u>marymagwillesdengreen/</u>

Parish Clergy Monsignor Roger Reader KCHS rogerreader@rcdow.org.uk

Father Allan Alvarado Gil <u>allanalvarado@rcdow.org.uk</u>

Father Ruwan Deshapriya <u>ruwanhp@rcdow.org.uk</u>

# Parish Office

Parish Administrator: Kathleen Reddington <u>willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk</u> Parish office open: Tuesday-Friday 10:00am - 2:00pm

This Parish is part of Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No: 233699

## 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

## **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 November—Month of The Holy Souls 1st Sunday of Advent 27 November 2022 Year A

## Thoughts at the 98 'Bus Stop

The other day I went to the 'bus stop outside the Baptist church to catch a 98 to take me to the bank. It was clearly not a good day for London Transport as there was a large crowd at the 'bus stop, and, most frustratingly, the display board with the waiting times was not working. I have become so used to these, that not knowing how long I would have to wait for my 'bus was most frustrating. It was like going back to the old days when you had no idea whether you would have to wait one minute or fifteen for the 'bus.

For children, especially but not exclusively, December is a month of waiting. They are waiting for Christmas and all that it brings – presents, of course, but family time, fun and feasting. I was not good at waiting as a child, and the days seemed endless leading up to the 24th, when we opened our presents. The Advent calendar helped the countdown a bit, but not much.

It can sometimes seem as if we spend our whole lives waiting, and that can lead to the temptation to put off important decisions. Couples will postpone marriage, waiting until the time is right. They may not start a family, waiting for the time to be right. There may be a truth you need to tell someone close to you, and you are waiting for the right time to tell them. Many are experiencing increased waiting time for medical matters.

As Christians, we are people who are waiting. This season of Advent is all about waiting. As Jesus tells us in today's gospel, we must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour we do not expect. We can either wait passively, not doing anything, as if we were at a 'bus stop, or we can use this time to make ourselves ready. Do not put off big decisions! We should see that our relationships are healthy and loving; that we are honest in all that we do; above all that, through the Sacraments of the Mass and Confession, our hearts are waiting to welcome Jesus Christ.

Monsignor Roger.

**Those who are sick:** Jim Feeney, Tony Rowland, Monica Lynch, James & Gareth Hayes, Peter Corcoran

**Those who have died recently:** John Daroux, Kevin (Brendan) Duncan, Daniele Torriere, Virgilio Di Paola

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Alexandrina Gachette, John Boland, Edward Leeson, James McGrath

## Parish News

**Collection 13 November 2022** amounted to £1,646.92. Standing orders for October amounted to £3,814.00. Thank you.

**Confirmation 2023.** There will be a first meeting in the church on <u>Monday 5 December 2022 at 7:00pm</u>, for Confirmation parents/ carers and candidates, who have registered. Dates, times and venue of the Confirmation sessions etc...will be provided at this meeting. We look forward to seeing you all there.

We Need You! Our Christmas tree has been ordered, and we will need some help to put it in place and to decorate it, after 9:30am Mass on Saturday 17 December. This will also be an ideal time to help our regular team of cleaners to get our church looking pristine, as always, for Christmas. Mgr Roger will provide the mince pies and play some Christmas tunes. All are welcome.

**Christmas International Party** on Saturday 17 December 2022 from 6:00pm - 10:00pm at St. Mary Magdalen School Hall. Plenty of food and drink to tickle your palate, music to put you into the festive mood, prizes galore with raffle tickets and Santa to greet you all. A family evening to bring in the Spirit of Christmas!

**Christmas Mass Times**. Please note that Christmas Masses will be as follows:

- Saturday 24 December 2022—6:30pm Mass (First Mass of Christmas) with Nativity play.
- Saturday 24 December 2022—Carols at 9:30pm followed by Mass at 10:00pm.
- Sunday 25 December 2022, Masses at 9:00am, 10:30am and 12 noon. There is no evening Mass.

Any of the above Masses will fulfil the Christmas obligation.

**Christmastide 2022 and New Year 2023.** 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.** 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 then indicate their availability on the list in the sacristy. Thank you for your ministry throughout the year.

#### Job Opportunity

#### Temporary Outreach Worker – St Mary Magdalen Parish

In response to the Synodal Consultation in the parish, we are seeking to appoint an outreach worker to co-ordinate the life of the parish is three areas: Adult Formation, work with the Marginalised and Young People. The post is for 8 hours a week, temporary, 6 months, Salary: Per Diocesan pay scale. For further information, please contact the Parish Priest, Monsignor Roger Reader: <u>rogerreader@rcdow.org.uk.</u> For more details and to apply please visit this link: <u>https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/temporary-outreach-worker-st-marymagdalen-parish/</u>

Closing date: Friday 2 December 2022 at 12noon



St Mary Magdalen Parish Special Needs Group

would like to say **THANK YOU** to all those who supported the 'Horse Race Night' recently. A particular thank you to all at Tony's Bar, High Road, Willesden who hosted the event and showed us such kindness and generosity. The evening raised the magnificent sum of £1,450.00 which will be used to pay for a Christmas lunch and gifts for people in and around the parish with learning disabilities.

## **Funeral Notice**

The Funeral Service of the late John Daroux will take place on Monday 28 November 2022 at 11:30am at West London Crematorium

May he rest in peace

### **Diocesan News**

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for November 2022. For children who suffer: We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.

**Operation Elf** is the campaign by *PACT*, the Prison Advice and Care Trust, to enable prisoners to give a Christmas gift to their child. This year they are asking supporters to buy a gift card with a £15 value only. If you want to donate more please buy multiples of £15 cards. A good choice is a One4All gift card from the Post Office or online which can be used in lots of shops. No e-cards or e-vouchers as these are difficult to distribute. All cards need to reach *PACT* by 30 November ready for Christmas Family Visit days in December. Please send to: Operation Elf, Pact, 29 Peckham Road, London SE5 8UA.

*SVP.* The SVP are distributing over 10,000 Vinnie Packs containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.10 per pack? Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to *SVP* or by bank transfer to NatWest sort code 60-60-04, account no. 46088237. Thank you so much for your support.

#### Mass Intentions Week commencing 27 November 2022

Saturday	6:30pm	Jimmy Braganza	Anniv
Sunday	9:00am	Julia & Thomas Egan	RIP
	10:30am	People of the Parish	Ints
	12 noon	Patrick Killian	RIP
	6:30pm	Sarah Hughes	Anniv
Monday	9:30am	Holy Souls	RIP
Tuesday	9:30am	Rita Hegarty	Ints
Wednesda	y 9:30am	Francie Lennon	RIP
Thursday	9:30am	John Boland & Edward Leeson	
		& James McGrath	Anniv
Friday	9:30am	Teresa McNally	RIP
Saturday	9:30am	Cathy Kirwan	RIP