

## Presbytery

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

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

YouTube: [St Mary Magdalen's RC Church, Willesden, London](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCqWz8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8v8)

Facebook: <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

Parish Administrator:  
Kathleen Reddington  
[willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk)

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**  
DECEMBER —MONTH OF  
THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION  
3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
11 DECEMBER  
YEAR A

A friend of mine 'phoned me last week with the news that the recent Census has revealed the statistic that 46.2% of people in the United Kingdom define themselves as Christian. 'As many as that!' I replied, only half in jest. Religion, and I think especially Christianity, comes under attack from so many sources these days that I am surprised that any person under the age of 30 has any faith at all. There are people like Richard Dawkins who seek to deny the existence of God. There are fiction writers who seek to demonise the Church. When did you last see a normal Catholic family as part of a drama on television? People with faith are often portrayed as slightly mad, or as criminals.

The statistics from the Census are interesting. It is among white British people that there is the most marked decline in Christianity. Among Black British people 72% are Christian and the non-British White community is 60% Christian\*. This is certainly reflected in the life of the Catholic Church in London. Just look around you at Mass and see the wonderful diversity of our congregations, the faith which is here, and the young people who are still coming to Mass. I think the media would be astonished to see the numbers at Mass in our parishes, and also the diversity of age and background. That will never get reported of course. I don't think we will ever see a Catholic family on EastEnders.

These statistics mean we have work to do. Our sacramental programmes, getting under way in January, should strengthen the faith of our children and young people. But adults also need to be formed in their faith, and I am currently looking into programmes which will help us all deepen our faith in Jesus Christ and in His Church.

May God keep us all strong in our faith!

Monsignor Roger.

\*Matthew Syed Sunday Times 04/12/22

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

**Those who have died recently:** Virgilio Di Paola, Tony Rowland, Seamus Quinlan

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:**

Maureen Hennessy, Olga Daly, Vitale Giraud, Habtay Aibu, Kay O'Shea, Crecy Harrison, Vivienne Mangan, Benny Kilcoyne, Julia & Thomas Egan, Mary & Alan Statham, Mary Langham

## Parish News

**Collection 27 November 2022** amounted to £1,483.37. Standing orders for October amounted to £3,814.00. Thank you.

**First Holy Communion 2023.** An email was sent earlier in the week to all parents/carers who have registered for the First Holy Communion Programme 2023. If you did not receive one please inform the Parish Office to ensure we have your correct email details going forward.

**Christmas Offering Envelopes** are available on the table as you leave church today. Your Christmas offering goes towards paying the stipends of your priests.

Donations for 'Christmas Offering' along with 'General' donations and payment for 'Candles' can be made on our contactless terminal located at the back of the church.

**"WE NEED YOU!"** Our Christmas trees have been ordered, and we will need help to put them in place and to decorate them, after the 9:30am Mass next Saturday 17 December. It 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.

**Christmastide 2022 and New Year 2023.** Leaflets giving the times of Masses and other services over this period are 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. 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.

**Good Shepherd Company from the Holy Land (Bethlehem)** which is based in Nottingham, and whose goal it is to support and help the Christian families in the Holy Land to stay at work as olive wood carvers; one of the most important sources of income for them, as 90% of the Christians rely on this sale. By selling their products it helps to prevent the Christians from leaving the country in search of better work opportunities, as a test survey from the bishops of Jerusalem has highlighted there are only 41,000 Christians left in the area. The Good Shepherd Company will be at our church to sell the olive wood carvers products, **this weekend 10/11 December.**

**Parish Database.** All parishioners, both old and new, should complete a parish registration form. If you have registered previously, and your personal contact information has changed, please complete another form as General Data Protection Regulations requires us to ensure all data held is up to date and accurate. Registration forms can be found in the rack in the side porch or at the back of the church. Completed forms should be posted through the door of the Presbytery. Thank you.

**Parish Newsletter.** All notices for the weekly newsletter should be received no later than 12 noon Wednesdays. Please take your newsletter home with you after Mass and share it with friends and family. It can also be viewed online at: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/willesdengreen/parish-newsletters-2022/>



## Parish Christmas International Party

Saturday 17 December 2022

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!

We look forward to seeing you all there!

**Please sign up on the food lists at the back of the church**

## Diocesan News

**The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for December 2022. For voluntary not-for-profit organisations:** We pray that volunteers and not-for-profit organisations committed to human development may find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international co-operation.

**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.

**Mary's Meals.** Join their [Big Family Christmas](#) and help feed hungry children with *Mary's Meals*. For just £15.90 you can set a place for yourself or a loved one at a virtual Christmas dinner table. Your name will appear online and you'll receive a beautiful PDF placemat to pass on as a gift. [Double The Love](#), donations to *Mary's Meals* until 31 January 2023 are being matched by a group of generous supporters – up to £1.5 million. This means each place set will feed two children with life-changing school for a whole year! Full details at:

<https://bigfamilychristmas.marysmeals.org.uk/big-family-christmas-table/>

## Mass Intentions Week commencing 11 December 2022

|           |         |                            |              |
|-----------|---------|----------------------------|--------------|
| Saturday  | 6:30pm  | Julia & Thomas Egan        | <b>RIP</b>   |
| Sunday    | 9:00am  | Gabriella Misghinna        | <b>RIP</b>   |
|           | 10:30am | Benny Kilcoyne             | <b>Anniv</b> |
|           | 12 noon | Patrick & Delia O'Sullivan | <b>RIP</b>   |
|           | 6:30pm  | People of the Parish       | <b>Ints</b>  |
| Monday    | 9:30am  | Mary & Alan Statham        | <b>RIP</b>   |
| Tuesday   | 9:30am  | Janelle Nelson             | <b>RIP</b>   |
| Wednesday | 9:30am  | Vivienne Mangan            | <b>Anniv</b> |
| Thursday  | 9:30am  | Braganca Family            | <b>RIP</b>   |
| Friday    | 9:30am  | Annam Antony               | <b>Anniv</b> |
| Saturday  | 9:30am  | Mary Langan                | <b>Anniv</b> |