



ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH
JANUARY —MONTH OF THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS
4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
29 JANUARY 2023
YEAR A

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity Number 233699

Presbytery

Peter Avenue, Willesden Green, 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/watch?v=StMaryMagdalenRCChurchWillesdenLondon)

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

Parish Clergy

Parish Priest

Monsignor Roger Reader KCHS
Email: rogerreader@rcdow.org.uk

Assistant Priest

Father Allan Alvarado Gil
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Email: kensalrise@rcdow.org.uk
Telephone Number: 020 4542 3716

Sri Lankan Chaplain

Father Ruwan Deshapriya
ruwanhp@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Office

Email: willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator

Kathleen Reddington

Parish office opening times:

Monday: Closed

Tuesday - Friday: 10:00am - 2:00pm

Mass Times This Week

Saturday: 6:30pm (Vigil Mass of Sunday)

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

Monday— Saturday: 9:30am*
*Livestreamed

Eucharistic Adoration

Weekdays and Saturday:
One hour before morning Mass

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

How happy are the poor in spirit (Mt 5:1-12)

Meditation: What is the good life which God intends for us? And how is it related with the ultimate end or purpose of life? Is it not our desire and longing for true happiness, which is none other than the complete good, the sum of all goods, leaving nothing more to be desired? Jesus addresses this question in his sermon on the mount. The heart of Jesus' message is that we can live a very happy life. The call to holiness, to be saints who joyfully pursue God's will for their lives, can be found in these eight beatitudes. Jesus' beatitudes sum up our calling or vocation - to live a life of the beatitudes. The word beatitude literally means "happiness" or "blessedness".

God gives us everything that leads to true happiness

What is the significance of Jesus' beatitudes, and why are they so central to his teaching? The beatitudes respond to the natural desire for happiness that God has placed in every heart. They teach us the final end to which God calls us, namely the coming of God's kingdom (Matthew 4:17), the vision of God (Matthew 5:8; 1 John 2;1), entering into the joy of the Lord (Matthew 25:21-23) and into his rest (Hebrews 4:7-11). Jesus' beatitudes also confront us with decisive choices concerning the life we pursue here on earth and the use we make of the goods he puts at our disposal.

Jesus tells us that God alone can satisfy the deepest need and longing of our heart. Teresa of Avila's (1515-1582) prayer book contained a bookmark on which she wrote: Let nothing disturb you, let nothing frighten you. All things pass - God never changes. Patience achieves all it strives for. Whoever has God lacks nothing -God alone suffices.

Is God enough for you? God offers us the greatest good possible - abundant life in Jesus Christ (John 10:10) and the promise of unending joy and happiness with God forever. Do you seek the highest good, the total good, which is above all else?

The beatitudes are a sign of contradiction to the world's way of happiness

The beatitudes which Jesus offers us are a sign of contradiction to the world's understanding of happiness and joy. How can one possibly find happiness in poverty, hunger, mourning, and persecution? Poverty of spirit finds ample room and joy in possessing God as the greatest treasure possible. Hunger of the spirit seeks nourishment and strength in God's word and Spirit. Sorrow and mourning over wasted life and sin leads to joyful freedom from the burden of guilt and spiritual oppression. God reveals to the humble of heart the true source of abundant life and happiness. Jesus promises his disciples that the joys of heaven will more than compensate for the troubles and hardships they can expect in this world. Thomas Aquinas said: "No one can live without joy. That is why a person deprived of spiritual joy goes after carnal pleasures." Do you know the happiness of hungering and thirsting for God alone?

Prayer

Lord Jesus, increase my hunger for you and show me the way that leads to everlasting peace and happiness. May I desire you above all else and find perfect joy in doing your will.

Fr Allan

Parish News

Collection 22 January 2023: £1,654.58.

Standing orders for December: £3,427.00.

Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

Crib Offering 2022. Your generosity for the *Catholic Children's Society* has already raised £912.60 which will be most welcome for families struggling this winter. This will be the last weekend that the crib will remain in church. Let's see if we can raise that magical 4 figure sum! Thank you for your support.

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 Diary Notices

Date	Time	Group/Location
Monday 30 January 2023	5:30pm - 6:30pm	First Holy Communion 2023 Ch 2: 'Lord Have Mercy' at St Mary Magdalens School
Monday 30 January 2023	6:30pm - 7:30pm	Confirmation 2023 - Session 3 'Why the World is Broken' at Church of the Transfiguration, Kensal Rise

Mass Intentions Week Commencing Sunday 29 January 2023

Saturday:	6:30pm	Ben & Margaret McDade	Anniv
Sunday :	9:00am	Edward & Ann Ryan	Anniv
	10:30am	People of he Parish	Ints
	12 noon	Elizabeth Cronin	Anniv
	6:30pm	Francis McGeown	RIP
Monday:	9:30am	Jovial Emmanuel Fernandes	Ints
	12noon	Funeral - Francis Maguire	RIP
Tuesday:	9:30am	Wendy Mody	RIP
Wednesday:	9:30am	Holy Souls	RIP
Thursday:	9:30am	Patrick Punch	Ints
Friday :	9:30am	John Boland	Anniv
Saturday:	9:30am	Zofia Nowicka & Henryk Nowicki	RIP

Funeral Notices

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late
Francis Xavier Maguire
will take place on Monday 30 January at 12 noon
followed by Cremation at Golders Gren Crematorium at 1:30pm

May he rest in peace

Diocesan News

World Day of the Sick. On Saturday 11 February 2023, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, and the 31st World Day of the Sick, Cardinal Vincent Nichols will celebrate Mass in Westminster Cathedral at 2:30pm. During this Mass anointing of the sick will be offered. For tickets please email Kathleen in the Parish Office at: willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk advising if you are booking for wheelchair users who require anointing, walking sick who require anointing or assisting the sick, who do not require anointing. Tickets are limited so please let us know as soon as possible if you would like to attend.

Bach's St John Passion. As part of its Lenten devotions, Westminster Cathedral Choir, directed by Simon Johnson, will perform Johann Sebastian Bach's the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John, on Thursday 16 March at 7:30pm. Tickets (£45/35/25/15) for this seasonal performance in aid of Westminster Cathedral are available from Ticketmaster. For more information please visit: <https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/event/passion2023/>

Annual Mass for Matrimony this year will be celebrated in the Cathedral by the Cardinal on Saturday 13 May 2023 at 2:30pm for couples celebrating significant wedding anniversaries. Full information will follow shortly on how to register your details for this Mass.

CAFOD, Volunteers needed. The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are looking for people to join as volunteers here in the Westminster diocese. Could you help raise awareness about CAFOD's work across the developing world tackling poverty and injustice? Find out by joining a meeting this Wednesday 1 February from 2:30pm - 4:30pm in Oakwood, North London, N14 4HE. Please contact Tony at CAFOD for further details. Email: westminster@cafod.org.uk or telephone 020 8449 6970.

Marriage Encounter is a Catholic movement to help enrich marriage, nurture healthy family relationships and bring God to the heart of your marriage and family. Next residential is on 3-5 March in Swindon, or 13-14 May Online at: <https://wwme.org.uk>

Please Pray for

Those who are sick: Valerie Fredrick, James & Gareth Hayes, Peter Corcoran

Those who have died recently: Fr Tommy Murphy, Francis Maguire, Denis O'Donovan, Mary O'Connell, Phils Modeste, Matilda Blaize, Catherine Delsol, Raymond Modeste, Izogie Francis Omoregie

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bosedo Modinatu Yesufu-Eke, Isiaka Deboy Amayo, Francis Benoît, Anthony Gouveia, Edward & Ann Ryan, Ben & Margaret McDade