



ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH
FEBRUARY — MONTH OF THE HOLY FAMILY
1ST SUNDAY OF LENT
26 FEBRUARY 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](#)

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
 Email: allanalvarado@rcdow.org.uk
 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:

**Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays and
 Fridays :**
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

LENT - Prayer - Fasting - Almsgiving

It was very good to see so many of you at Mass in both Kensal Rise and Willesden Green for Ash Wednesday. I was also in St Mary Magdalen's Junior School and everywhere the ashes were reverently received. Let's now ensure that this good beginning continues throughout Lent.

I hope that, as always, Lent will be a time for you grow closer to Jesus Christ. You can think of it as a time for a spiritual spring clean, to get rid of the grime in our lives and follow Jesus more faithfully. Many of you will know the 3 things we try to do in Lent are:

FASTING – on Good Friday for adults aged between 18 & 59 (others as well out of devotion) to eat only one full meal. We also abstain from meat on all other Fridays. Many people also give something up for Lent – no chocolate for me! - and this is a form of fasting. It's a way of learning self-discipline. Pope Francis also has some inspiring words to say about other ways to fast quoted below...

PRAYER – This is a good time to get into the habit of daily prayer, at the beginning and the end of each day. The Rosary can help us to pray, the Psalms can help us to pray. It's especially good to pray the Stations of the Cross. You can look at the *YouCat* App every day, or join your priests as they offer the Prayer of the Church on the *Universalis* app.

CHARITY – if we give something up, we can also put something positive in its place. This is a good time to help those in need both by giving money and also by giving time – may-be time away from the iPhone, TV or Device and given to family and friends in real time. As you give, please consider both the *Cardinal's Appeal* and the *CAFOD* family fast day.

I pray that Lent will be a time of grace and growth for us all in the parishes of the Transfiguration and Willesden Green.

Monsignor Roger

Fast from hurtful words and speak kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

Pope Francis.

Parish News

Collection (loose plate & envelopes) 19 February: £1,867.56

Standing orders for January: £3,371.00

Contactless Income for January: £849.07

Dona Contactless Device has unfortunately been stolen. It will be replaced as soon as possible.

CAFOD Family Fast Day Friday 3 March– Lent Appeal. A second collection will take place after all Masses next weekend when your donations this Lent to CAFOD's Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies, like the recent earthquake in Syria and Turkey. Envelopes are also available or you can donate online at: cafod.org.uk/give. Please join us in praying for CAFOD's development and emergency response work all over the world. Abrianna our Parish CAFOD volunteer, will speak after all Masses today.

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2023. Parishioners can pick up a *Cardinal's Lenten Appeal* donation leaflet at the back of church. Funds raised this year will be shared between the four pillars of the *Cardinal's Lenten Appeal*: Marriage & Family Life; Youth & Evangelisation; The Education Service and *Caritas* Westminster.

FLAME 2023. *Flame* is the biggest Catholic youth event in the UK and will take place this Saturday, 4 March 2023, at OVO Wembley Arena, 12 noon until 5:40pm. It is open to everyone aged school Year 9 (usually 14 years old) through to University age. The cost is £24. Should you wish to join us on this fantastic day out, with live music, speakers and workshops please email the Parish Office at: willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk.

Parish Diary Notices

Date	Time	Group/Location
Monday 27 February	5:30pm - 6:30pm	First Holy Communion 2023 Ch 4: 'God Helps me get it right' at St Mary Magdalens Church
Monday 27 February	5:30pm - 6:30pm	First Holy Communion 2023 Parents Meeting at St Mary Magdalens Church
Monday 27 February	6:30pm - 7:30pm	Confirmation 2023 - Session 6 'The Comeback of Jesus...' at Church of the Transfiguration, Kensal Rise
Friday 3 March	6:00pm	Stations of the Cross - Church
Saturday 4 March	11:00am	Penitential Service for First Holy Communion 2023 - SMM Church

Funeral Notice

The Reception of the late **Kathleen Higgins** will take place on Monday 27 February at 5:00pm and the Requiem Mass will take place on Tuesday 28 February at 12 noon followed by Burial at Willesden New Cemetery at 1:30pm

May she rest in peace

Mass Intentions Sunday 26 February 2023

Saturday:	6:30pm	Teresa Roberts	Anniv
Sunday :	9:00am	Wendy Mody	RIP
	10:30am	Theresa Kilcoyne	Anniv
	12 noon	People of the Parish	Ints
	6:30pm	Peter Mangan	RIP
Monday:	9:30am	Anne Monaghan & Family	Ints
	5:00pm	Reception - Kathleen Higgins	RIP
Tuesday:	9:30am	Mary Daly & Family	Ints
	12 noon	Funeral - Kathleen Higgins	RIP
Wednesday:	9:30am	George & Beatrice Wallace	Anniv
Thursday:	9:30am	Sean Fox	RIP
Friday :	9:30am	Colleen & Redge Carpen	Ints
Saturday:	9:30am	Cirilo Guerobino Carvalho	Anniv

Diocesan News

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention February 2023. For parishes:

We pray that parishes, placing communion at the centre, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.

CAFOD's online Lent calendar 2023 of daily prayer and reflection offers an opportunity to pause, reflect, pray and take action as we prepare for Easter. Each day the emails will share a reflection on one of the readings of the day, stories of our global family, a prayer and a suggested action you might like to take as we prepare for Easter. Join CAFOD in this journey by signing up at: <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/lent-calendar>. Please do also spread the word and encourage your family and friends to sign up and join in this Lenten journey too. Wishing you a blessed Lent.

Lent Retreat. Irish Chaplaincy is running a Lent Retreat via Zoom from 6 - 10 March, and it's free! There will be a daily conference at 9:30am lasting 30/40 mins, with a reflection from a range of great speakers. Contact: eddie.gilmore@irishchaplaincy.org.uk

Lourdes Pilgrimage—Friday 21 to Friday 28 July 2023. Please register your 'Expressions of Interest' at: <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/>

Please Pray for...

Those who have died recently: Fr Seamus Joseph Fullam, Elizabeth (Betty) Lyons, Kathleen Higgins, Mark Conroy

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Oliver Gomes, Teresa Roberts, Theresa Kilcoyne, Brian Patrick Monahan, Tracey Hartwell