



ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MARCH — MONTH OF THE HOLY FAMILY

5TH SUNDAY OF LENT

26 MARCH 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/](https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/willesdengreen/)

YouTube:

[St Mary Magdalen's RC Church, Willesden,
London](#)

Facebook:

[https://www.facebook.com/
marymagwillesdengreen/](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

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

UNITED WITH CHRIST

Time seems to have flown so quickly during this season of Lent – although that may be just because I am getting older. We are now entering the most solemn time for Catholic Christians as we prepare ourselves, our families and our church to follow Jesus Christ in his passion, death and resurrection. Many of the statues and images in the church will be covered in purple cloth; the hymns will reflect on the suffering of Jesus and above all the readings from St John's gospel will open up for us God's love in Jesus.

What we have to know is that Jesus suffered and died on the cross for us in order to open up heaven for us. His death makes forgiveness possible. It is because we have sinned that he had to suffer in the first place. As we look at a crucifix, it should inspire us to sorrow for our sins.

Please make use of the sacrament of penance, reconciliation – or confession as it is often called – this Easter. It is the time of year when all Catholics should come to confession, seeking to rise from sin as Jesus Christ rose from death. There will be a Penitential Service at St Mary Magdalen's church at 7:00pm on Monday in Holy Week, 3rd April. There will be a reading of scripture, prayer and a chance to reflect on our lives and then time for individual confession to a priest. There will be six priests with us, the home team plus some visitors with Polish, Spanish and Italian native speakers. You can choose whom to see.

I encourage you very much to come this service. Of course, there will be other times for confession in both Kensal Rise and Willesden Green parishes if you cannot manage this time, but this will be our principal act of penance as a community before Easter.

You might like to meditate on these beautiful words:

Drop, drop slow tears

And bathe those beautiful feet

Which brought from Heav'n

The news and Prince of Peace

Monsignor Roger

Parish News

Collection (loose plate & envelopes) 19 March: £1,639.45

Standing orders for February: £3,288.00

Contactless Income for February: £399.50

Planned Giving Envelopes for the new tax year 2023/2024 for existing users are available for collection from the sacristy after Mass. The new envelopes should be used commencing Sunday 9 April 2023. 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. Please contact the Parish Administrator if you need any help with Planned Giving. Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

Holy Week and Easter Week Timetables are available on the tables and racks at the back of the church or in the side porch to take home with you today. Please give them out to anyone who may be thinking of coming to the parish over Easter.

Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. If you have not already done so, can you please sign the rota on the table at the back of the church indicating your availability for the Holy Week liturgies. Thank you.

Altar Servers Practice for the Holy Week ceremonies and special Masses will take place on Saturday 1 April at 1:30pm in the church. It is very important that all Altar Servers attend, so that everyone can be given jobs for the most important week of the church's year.

Penitential Service: On Monday in Holy Week, 3 April, there will be a Penitential Service at St Mary Magdalen's at 7:00pm. I will encourage you to come to this service. Please see editorial on the opposite page.

Trial Alpha Course. In response to the suggestion from the Synod consultation for adult faith formation, we will be beginning a trial *Alpha* Course with a small number of parishioners. They have been invited to a pilot course beginning in April. In due course, all being well, I would love to run an *Alpha* to which the whole parish will be invited. Please do pray for God's blessing on this new initiative; that, through it, parishioners may have a deeper experience of the Father's love and a renewed friendship with Jesus Christ. For more details about *Alpha* for Catholics go to: www.alpha.org.uk/catholic

Parish Newsletter. All notices for the weekly newsletter should be received no later than 12 noon Wednesdays. Thank you for your cooperation.

Please Pray for...

Those who are sick: Peter Corcoran, Monica Lynch, Breda Foley

Those who have died recently: Maureen Humphries, Mary Brady, Fr Henry Young

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Thomas Egan, Kamala Brereton

Funeral Notice

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late
Maureen Josephine Humphries
will take place on Monday 27 March 2023 at 12 noon followed
by burial at Paddington Old Cemetery at 1:30pm

May she rest in peace

Parish Diary Notices

Date	Time	Group/Location
Monday 27 March	5:30pm - 6:30pm	First Holy Communion 2023 Ch 10: 'Body of Christ' at <u>St Mary Magdalen's Church</u>
Monday 27 March	5:30pm - 6:30pm	First Holy Communion 2023 Parent Meeting at <u>St Mary Magdalen's Church</u>
Monday 27 March	6:30pm - 7:30pm	Confirmation 2023 - Session 10 'Eucharist - the Generosity of God' at Church of the Transfiguration, Kensal Rise
Monday 27 March	7:30pm	Social Committee - Sacristy
Friday 31 March	6:00pm	Stations of the Cross- Church

Mass Intentions Sunday 26 March 2023

Saturday:	6:30pm	Kamala Brereton	Anniv
Sunday :	9:00am	Martin Cleary & Mary Agnes Cleary	RIP
	10:30am	People of the Parish	Ints
	12 noon	Francis O'Donnell	RIP
	6:30pm	Maureen Healy Manning	RIP
Monday:	9:30am	Brian Gavahan	Ints
	12noon	Funeral - Maureen Humphries	RIP
Tuesday:	9:30am	Festus Sumoila Yesufu-Eke	RIP
Wednesday:	9:30am	Oliver Fay	Anniv
Thursday:	9:30am	Thomas Egan	Anniv
Friday :	9:30am	Margaret Mitchell	Ints
Saturday:	9:30am	John Martin	Ints

Diocesan News

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention March 2023. For victims of abuse: We pray for those who have suffered harm from members of the Church; may they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering.

The Passion—Trafalgar Square 7 April 2023. Wintershall performances at 12noon and 3:15pm. For more information visit: <https://www.wintershall.org.uk/passion-jesus-london>

Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes led by Cardinal Vincent Nichols from 21 to 28 July 2023. Book now to avoid disappointment as places are limited: <https://www.tangney-tours.com/pilgrimages/lourdes/westminster-lourdes>