



ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MAY—MONTH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

14 MAY 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

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) 12 noon & 6:30pm

Monday - Wednesday: 9:30am*

Thursday: 9:30am* & 7:00pm

Friday & Saturday: 9:30am*

*Livestreamed

Eucharistic Adoration

Weekdays and Saturday:

One hour before morning Mass

Confession

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

VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE

Last Thursday I visited the Convent of Jesus and Mary Infant school, and spoke with the children in year 1. I brought in with me an old Paschal candle and we went through the symbolism of it – a light in darkness, the five wounds of Jesus, the Alpha and the Omega. Most importantly, I told them that it symbolises the presence of the Risen Christ among us. They appeared to have no problem with this – for young children the difference between what is visible and what is invisible is not very significant. But as they get older, it will become a bigger problem for them.

In the Nicene Creed we all say 'I believe in one God...maker of all things visible and invisible.' For many people in the modern world, brought up on science and its use of the material world, it is hard to believe in things which are invisible. I wonder what many of the 18 million or so who watched the Coronation Service made of the Anglican Communion service, which was at its heart. Maybe it gave some of them pause for thought, and a chance to realise that there is more to the world than just what we can see, touch, hear and taste.

In the gospel today, Jesus is gently moving his friends from being able to see him to a time when he will be invisible. On Thursday we will be celebrating the Ascension of Jesus, when he physically left the created order, and promised us the Holy Spirit. We move from the world of the visible to the world of the invisible. We truly move into the world of faith, one which we as people of faith, as Catholics, accept, but many around us do not.

Of course, Jesus is visible to us in the life of the Church, and above all in the Host, the Body of Christ, in the Mass. But we have a responsibility to make him visible to those around us through our own words and actions. In this great prayer of St Teresa of Avila we can see how we can make Christ visible to our own world:

*Christ has no body but yours,
No hands, no feet on earth but yours,
Yours are the eyes with which he looks with compassion on this world,
Christ has no body but yours.*

Monsignor Roger

Please Pray for...

Those who are sick: Breda Foley, James Hayes, Mary O'Beirne, Richard Pogson, Kathy Doyle

Those who have died recently: Fr Richard Marriott

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Amanuel Habtay, Mary Sullivan, Ernie & Catherine Lindford, Agnes McNamara, Bernadette McHugh & Matthew Crooke

Parish News

Collection (loose plate & envelopes) 7 May: £1,442.22

Standing orders for March: £3,330.00

Contactless Income for April: £882.49

Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

Priest Training Fund. Thank you very much for your generosity to the Priest Training Fund collection. To date this Parish has raised a marvellous £1,148.88. For more information, or to make a donation, visit: www.rcdow.org.uk/donations Please also continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood.

Confirmation 2022. On Tuesday 16 May, 38 of our young people will be confirmed. Please pray for them and their families as they make this big step in their lives as Catholic Christians.

The Solemnity of the Ascension of the Lord, Thursday 18 May is a Holy Day of Obligation when all Catholics should be at Mass. Masses will be celebrated at 9:30am and 7:00pm.

Cash Counters rota. A new rota have been emailed to all counters. A paper copy is available upon request.

Praying the Rosary. The Rosary Group meet every weekday morning in the Lady Chapel after Mass. Why not join them and pray the Rosary to Mary throughout the month of May, as it is a time when the People of God express with particular intensity their love and devotion for the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Young People's Questionnaire - many thanks to all the young people who have filled this in already. Over thirty responses have come in so far, and we are looking through them carefully. If you have not filled one in yet, and you're in year 9 - 13, there's a last chance this weekend.

Volunteers Needed! If you would like to see our young people more involved in the church and have a couple of hours to spare once a month, please think of helping out and supporting our Parish Outreach Worker in helping to run our Youth Group, starting next month. If you have any questions or would like to put yourself forward, please contact Maria at: wgvolcoordinator@rcdow.org.uk. A DBS check will be required.

Mass Intentions commencing Sunday 14 May 2023

Saturday:	6:30pm	Mary Sullivan	Anniv
Sunday :	9:00am	People of the Parish	Ints
	10:30am	Agnes McNamara	Anniv
	12 noon	Helena McGivern	Anniv
	6:30pm	Ernie & Catherine Lindford	Anniv
Monday:	9:30am	Joao B Fernandez	RIP
Tuesday:	9:30am	Paul Burke	RIP
	7:00pm	Confirmation Mass	
Wednesday:	9:30am	Richard Hatwell	RIP
Thursday:	9:30am	Sarah Slattery	RIP
	7:00pm	David Carroll	Ints
Friday :	9:30am	Anne Lane	RIP
Saturday:	9:30am	Paddy Mahoney	RIP

Parish Diary

Monday 15 May	6:30pm	Confirmation Rehearsal - in the Church
Tuesday 16 May	7:00pm	Confirmation Mass

Diocesan News

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for May 2023. For Church movements and groups: We pray that Church movements and groups may rediscover their mission of evangelization each day, placing their own charisms at the service of needs in the world.

The annual May Procession in honour of Our Lady will take place at the diocesan Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden at 3:00pm today, Sunday 14 May. The preacher will be Fr Alan Robinson, Rector of the diocesan Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament.

Vocations Evening. On Wednesday 17 May 2023, there will be an open evening at St James, Spanish Place, for any men interested in learning about or discerning a vocation to the priesthood. The regular evening Mass at 6:00pm will be followed by a gathering in the social centre for a short presentation, informal conversations and refreshments. Nearest tube: Bond Street/Baker Street.

Universe Catholic Weekly. Friday 19 May sees the launch of the new print edition of the Universe Catholic Weekly. Hassle free delivery direct to your door and individual subscription rates are available. If you wish to order or for further information, please contact Michelle Jones on 07436 617 650 or email at: michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk

Visit of Blessed Carlo Acutis's Mother. Antonia Salzano, the mother of Blessed Carlo Acutis, will be visiting the Church of Corpus Christi, Maiden Lane, on Thursday 1 June at 6:30pm. Following a Sung Mass, Antonia Salzano will give a talk about her recently-beatified son, his life and his relationship with Our Lord. There will also be the opportunity to venerate a relic of Blessed Carlo.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The annual Pilgrimage to the Holy Land will take place from Sunday 19 November to Monday 27 November, led by Bishop John Sherrington and Fr John Farrell OP. It will include visits to Galilee, Jerusalem and Bethlehem. Flights will be from Heathrow Airport. Costs are £2265 per person sharing, £682 single room supplement; travel insurance essential. You can book online at <http://www.tangney-tours.com/WHL> or call Gill at Tangney Tours 01732 886 666 or Elizabeth at the Pilgrimage office 020 7798 9173.

CAFOD. Did you know that Church teaching says that we should not only support those in poverty but also tackle the root causes of poverty? Pope Benedict XVI said that "Love — caritas — is an extraordinary force which leads people to opt for courageous and generous engagement in the field of justice and peace." For decades CAFOD has spoken out against injustice. To find out more and get involved in tackling the root causes of poverty, please go to cafod.org.uk/latestcampaigns