

## Remembrance Sunday



## ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

NOVEMBER —MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

12 NOVEMBER 2023

32ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR A

### Presbytery

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

Parish Website: [Roman Catholic Parish of Willesden Green – Church of St Mary Magdalen \(rcdow.org.uk\)](http://Roman Catholic Parish of Willesden Green – Church of St Mary Magdalen (rcdow.org.uk))

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

Facebook: [St Mary Magdalen RC Church, Willesden Green | London | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/StMaryMagdalenRCChurchWillesdenGreenLondon)

### 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)  
Office: 020 4542 3716

Father Ruwan Deshapriya  
[ruwanhp@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:ruwanhp@rcdow.org.uk)

### Parish Office

[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 (WRCDT)  
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— Saturday: 9:30am\*

### Eucharistic Adoration

Weekdays and Saturday:  
One hour before morning Mass

### Confession

Saturdays: 10:00am—10:30am  
5:30pm— 6:15pm  
& At Call  
\*Livestreamed

On Sunday October 22<sup>nd</sup> I was privileged to preside at Mass at St Sebastian's Church in Negombo, Sri Lanka. I was staying with Fr Sudham, who had been in residence at Willesden Green as Chaplain to the Sinhalese Sri Lankan Chaplaincy, and is now Rector of St Thomas Catholic International Catholic College, Seeduwa. It is a very lively school for children and young people from 5 years old to 19 years old. On Sunday, I asked if I could go to Mass in a local parish.

Fr Sudham took me to St Sebastian's. It is a large parish in the mainly Catholic town of Negombo. The Sunday Mass started at 8.30am, and was attended by hundreds of children and young people from the parish Sunday School. Flags proudly fluttered in the air, and the children were all very smartly turned out in their uniforms. While I said my part of the Mass in English, the readings and the sermon were in Sinhala. The church was absolutely packed with families, and there was some enthusiastic singing.

It was a very different scene in this church on Easter Day 2019. It was one of the churches and hotels targeted by suicide bombers. The church was full and beautifully decorated as families came to celebrate the Resurrection of Christ, when the bomber struck. Over 100 people were killed and many more grievously injured. Looking at the memorial, I could see that whole families were wiped out. Most movingly, I was shown the statue of the Risen Christ which was covered in the blood of the dead and injured.

Today is Remembrance Sunday. It is a day when we recall those who have fallen in war, and those who bear the scars of violence in their minds and bodies. As well as praying for all those in our Armed Forces who have died in war, my mind goes to St Sebastian's Church. After the bombing, the parish priest told me, Cardinal Ranjith was very clear that there should be no retaliation from the devastated Catholic community – and there wasn't. The futility of violence was only too clear. I met some who had been injured and lost family members. Tragically, we are now witnessing a resurgence of violence in Israel and Gaza, and once more, it is the innocent who are suffering. Another thing, however, was very clear to me. The people of St Sebastian's parish were undefeated by the violence in their midst. The parish is strong and vibrant once more. We must pray that violence will never win, and that communities and peoples may once more live in security and peace all over the world.



**Monsignor Roger**

## PARISH NEWS

**Collection 29 October 2023** amounted to £1,161.48  
**Collection 5 November 2023** amounted to £1,612.58

**Standing orders for September:** To be announced  
**Contactless Income for September:** £475.54

Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

**Parish Mass of Remembrance** for all those whose funerals or memorials have taken place in our church, particularly in the last year, will be celebrated at **7:00pm on 22 November**.

At this Mass there will be special music to help us remember the late Bert Burby who contributed so much to the musical life of this parish.



St Mary Magdalen Youth Group meeting today  
**Sunday, November 12th, at 5:00pm** in the annexe.

We welcome a speaker from 'Catholic Voices' who will explore the reality of being a young Catholic in today's world.

*YOUTH GROUP - from Year 9 to 13.*

*New to the group? Please register using the form at the back of the church.*

**School and Parish** At 9:30am on Tuesday 14 November, we will be welcoming students from Newman Catholic College to join us at the morning Mass.  
Please note, this Mass will not be live-streamed.

**Mass for deceased priests of the Brent Deanery** will take place on Tuesday 14 November at 11:30am at The Church of the Transfiguration, Kensal Rise.

**Baptism Preparation** The next course preparing parents for the baptism of their child, will be held on Saturday 13 January at 11:00am. Please contact the office to book a place.

### **Nursery, Infant, and Primary School Applications.**

Monsignor Roger will be available to sign the Certificate of Catholic Practice for Nursery, Infant and Primary School applications on:

- ◆ **Saturday 18 November 1:00pm—3:00pm**
- ◆ **Sunday 19 November 3:30pm—5:00pm**
- ◆ **Saturday 25 November 1:00pm—3:00pm**

You will be seen on a 'first come, first served basis.' Meetings will take place in the Sacristy. Before your appointment please complete a CCP Application form, and a Certificate of Catholic Practice form for each school you are applying for (top half of each certificate should be pre-completed). These forms can be found on our parish website at: [Certificate of Catholic Practice Applications – Roman Catholic Parish of Willesden Green \(rcdow.org.uk\)](https://www.rcdow.org.uk)

Thank you to everyone who donated to the **CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal** last month. We raised **£981.34**.

**Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**. If you are an adult who is not Catholic, or who has not made their Confirmation, and would like to be prepared for the sacraments in the RCIA process, please contact Fr Allan: [allanalvarado@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:allanalvarado@rcdow.org.uk)

**NEW TO THE PARISH...** please fill out a registration form to be added to our database and mailing list. You will find the form in the entrance area (by the annexe). *Thank you.*

**St Rose's Chapel, Anson Road**, are having Adoration and Reflection every Thursday from 2.00pm to 3.00pm beginning on 16th November and ending on 21st December.

### **Friends of the Holy Land.**

On 18/19 November, Peter Rand, a volunteer with Friends of the Holy Land (FHL), will be sharing the impact on the Christian community in Gaza and elsewhere of the horrific developments in the last few weeks. Peter has visited Gaza on a number of occasions, most recently in March, so brings a real insight into the situation. There will be a retiring collection and Peter will bring some leaflets about the work of FHL. For more information, visit [www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk](http://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk)

### **The Sick & Retired Priests' Fund Collection.**

Thank you to everyone who donated to the Sick & Retired Priests' collection last weekend. Your generosity means our sick and retired priests will receive the care and support they need.

If you haven't had the chance to make your donation, there is still time. You will find envelopes at the back of the church or you can donate online through the Diocese website – look out for the 'QR Code' on the envelopes and poster. Alternatively, take a Patron's leaflet and consider giving on a regular basis, assuring the care of our priests in their old age, or at a time of illness. This fund is a priority of the Church, and it provides us a chance to come together and say 'Thank you' to the priests who have served us. May God bless you for your kindness.

### **Mass Intentions Week commencing Sunday 12 November 2023**

Saturday	6:30pm	Mary Brady	<b>RIP</b>
Sunday	9:00am	Edward and Ann Ryan	<b>Anniv</b>
	10:30am	Michael and Nora Macken	<b>Anniv</b>
	12 noon	Conceicao Coutinho	<b>Anniv</b>
	6:30pm	Holy Souls	<b>RIP</b>
Monday	9:30am	William Fernandes	<b>Ints</b>
Tuesday	9:30am	Phyllis Naughton	<b>RIP</b>
		Holy Souls ( <i>Fr Ruwan</i> )	<b>RIP</b>
Wednesday	9:30am	Muriel and George Wilson	<b>Anniv</b>
Thursday	9:30am	Teresa Sheridan	<b>RIP</b>
Friday	9:30am	Barney, Katrina and family	<b>Ints</b>
Saturday	9:30am	Holy Souls	<b>RIP</b>

**Those who are sick:** Noreen Joy, Martin Doyle, Phobe Fernandez, Kathleen McGloin

**Those who have died recently:** Carl Gomes, Anthony Joseph Clark

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Michael and Nora Macken, Edward and Ann Ryan, Filomena Rego, Conceicao Coutinho, Mary Ann Quinn