



ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

NOVEMBER — MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

26 NOVEMBER 2023

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST KING OF THE UNIVERSE

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/UC...)

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

Parish Clergy

Monsignor Roger Reader KCHS
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Father Ruwan Deshapriya
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Parish Office

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

I wonder whether any of you managed to watch the State Opening of Parliament this year. I only saw the highlights of it on the evening news: it was an occasion of magnificent pageantry and precise choreography. It comes in three parts – the procession of the King to the Palace of Westminster, the Assembly of both of the Houses of Parliament, and the delivery of the Speech from the Throne. The bit I like the best is when the official called Black Rod goes to the House Commons to summon the MPs and the door is slammed in his face. This has profound symbolism, emphasising the independence of the House of Commons from the Sovereign. The key elements in this year's King's Speech were Growing the Economy; Strengthening Society; and Keeping People Safe. The State Opening of Parliament demonstrates how this country works, by what authority government operates, and is a symbol of authority vested in earthly rulers.

Today, the Church celebrates the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe. It is a relatively new addition to the Universal Calendar of the Church, being instituted by Pope Pius XI in 1925. He was reacting to the increasing ultra-nationalism of those times, which would culminate in Fascism and Nazism. It has to be said that ultra-nationalism has not gone away, and we need to be aware of its dangers as much now as a century ago.

This celebration elevates our gaze beyond earthly thrones to the divine sovereignty of Jesus Christ. His authority is a very different one, one rooted in love, mercy and justice. Take time to reflect this week on the words of the Gospel: think about and pray about when you can feed the hungry and thirsty, welcome the stranger, visit the sick and imprisoned. You may already be doing some of these things without even knowing it.

These are the key elements of God's kingdom. We need to take them to heart and put them into practice. The kingship of Christ is not so much about lording it over others as about serving them. 'The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve' (Mark 10:45).

As we navigate the complexities of the spiritual and political landscapes, we should try to build a society where earthly and heavenly values come together. May our leaders be inspired by the selfless example of Christ, and may we all as citizens and believers actively contribute to Christ's kingdom of mercy, justice and love.

Monsignor Roger

PARISH NEWS

Collection 19 November 2023 amounted to £1,235.10

Standing orders for October: £3,432.00

Contactless Income for October: £344.65

Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

QUIZ NIGHT!

Friday, December 8th at 7pm

In St Mary Magdalen's School Hall

Don't miss out on the fun—come and join the excitement of the ultimate quiz experience!

Altar Servers from Year 4 and above

Training for all altar servers will take place on Saturday **16 December at 2pm** in the church.
New servers welcome!



Children's Nativity Play

Rehearsals for this year's Nativity play will take place during the Children's Liturgy group at the 10:30am Sunday Mass during Advent.



Further dates to follow.

The Nativity play will be performed during Mass on Sunday 24th December at 6:30pm.

Reception and above—all welcome!

CONFIRMATION 2024

The first meeting for Confirmation candidates and parents will be held on **Monday 11 December at 7pm** in St Mary Magdalen Church. Important information regarding the course will be shared at this meeting. All those who have registered are required to attend.

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.

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

DIOCESAN NEWS

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention:

In November, we pray that the Holy Father, in fulfilling his mission, may continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him with the help of the Holy Spirit.

The Divine Mercy Apostolate

London is holding a Divine Mercy Advent Reflection 2023 at Sacred Heart RC Church New Priory Quex Road, Kilburn London NW6 4PS on Saturday 10 December 2023 from 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm led by the Marian Fathers.

The Retreat will include teachings on the Message of Mercy, Stations of the Cross, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus.

All Welcome.

Please call Millie on 07957 594646 for more information

Westminster Cathedral the mother Church of our diocese has improved the lighting of its main sanctuary. The previous aged and inefficient system had to be replaced as spare parts were no longer available. The improved lighting is of great benefit on major occasions particularly if they are being broadcast or live streamed. The improvements are being funded by the Friends of Westminster Cathedral. They are asking for our help by supporting their **Big Give Campaign** with online donations. For donations made from 12.00 noon on Tuesday 28 November and before 12.00 noon on Tuesday 5 December every £1 given is worth £2 with matched funding and £2.25 if you can tick the Gift Aid box. The link to the donation site is <https://bit.ly/FriendsBG23>

Or you can use the QR code:



Mass Intentions Week commencing Sunday 26 November 2023

Saturday	6:30pm	Michael Scanlon	RIP
Sunday	9:00am	Stanislaw Klis	Anniv
	10:30am	Michael McAndrew	Anniv
	12 noon	People of the Parish	Ints
	6:30pm	Marie Claire Chappet & William Beresford Davies	Ints
Monday	9:30am	Patrick Killian	Ints
Tuesday	9:30am	Holy Souls	RIP
Wednesday	9:30am	Holy Souls	RIP
Thursday	9:30am	Holy Souls	RIP
Friday	9:30am	John Boland, Edward Leeson & James McGrath	Anniv
Saturday	9:30am	Catherine Kirwan	Anniv

Those who are sick: Noreen Joy, Martin Doyle, Kathleen McGloin, Yvonne Dike, Eileen Gilgun, Rose John-Francis

Those who have died recently: Lorraine Sherlock, Rosalie Formaggio, Charles Joseph, Alice Keenan, May Hetherton

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Michael McAndrew, Alexandrina (Avou) Gachette