



ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH
DECEMBER —MONTH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT—YEAR B
24 DECEMBER 2023

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

Facebook: St Mary Magdalen RC Church, Willesden Green | London | Facebook

Parish Clergy

Monsignor Roger Reader KCHS
rogerreader@rcdow.org.uk

Father Allan Alvarado Gil
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Office: 020 4542 3716

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

AWAY IN A MANGER

Last Sunday morning members of our Youth Group and adult helpers made our way to deepest, darkest Surrey. We were going to see 'The Wintershall Nativity.' I had been recommended it by a friend, but, as we crawled around the M25 in the minibus, I wondered whether it would be worth the effort.

My fears started to dispel when we arrived in the car park. To our left was a little hut with some real sheep in a pen. To be so near a sheep was, I am sure, a new experience for our city bred young people. We were in the open countryside, the wind blowing around us, but we soon got involved in the events of the Nativity unfolding before us. There were real people, real sheep, a real donkey and real horses. As we settled down in a huge barn to see the place where Jesus was born, I could hear a young child behind me asking her dad –'Will there be a real baby?' I think most of us were expecting a large doll to take the part of Jesus, but – wonder of wonders – there was indeed a real baby. It was extraordinary the difference that made to the whole experience. At the centre of the stage, there was that most vulnerable of beings – a tiny baby, looking around, blinking, and gurgling. This is Jesus Christ.

This real baby made so clear to me the miracle of the Incarnation. So much more than any painting or sculpture, so see a real baby in all his vulnerability focusses the heart and soul on the essence of this day. Jesus is not a distant, abstract idea, but a real flesh and blood baby born in Bethlehem.



*Oh, Wonder of wonders, which none can unfold,
The Ancient of days is an hour or two old;
The Maker of all things is made of the earth,
Man is worshipped by Angels,
and God comes to birth.*

Monsignor Roger

Those who are sick: Paul Kelly, Carmaletta O'Sullivan, Carol Scanlon, Martin Doyle, Kathleen McGloin, Yvonne Dike, Eileen Gilgunn, Rose John-Francis

Those who have died recently: Father Terry Murray, Christine Elizabeth Casey, Maria Pereira, Noreen Joy

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mairead Casey, Peg Murphy, Andy Murphy, Alfred Cuff, Mary Hopkins, Jeremiah, Mollie and Patrick Moriarty, Ciaran Mallon, Hugh Lynn

PARISH NEWS

Collection 17 December 2023 amounted to £1,398.31

Standing orders for October: £3,432.00

Contactless Income for November: £436.48

Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

TREE OF LIGHT – a symbol of shared remembrance and prayers

The 'Tree of Light' gives us a beautiful opportunity to honour the memory of a departed love one, to wish someone good luck for the New Year or to express any other intention you may wish to pray for.

It stands just by the Lady Chapel and we ask that you bring your own personalised label to hang on the tree.

Crib Offering 2023.

This Christmas our crib offering will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society to support their work helping vulnerable children in overcoming challenges so they can achieve their full potential and have hope of a brighter future.

For more information, please go to:

<https://www.cathchild.org.uk/>

CHRISTMAS OFFERING ENVELOPES

Should you wish to make a Christmas Offering to the Church this year, the envelopes are available on the back table. Your offering helps to cover the cost of our Priests stipends. We thank you greatly for supporting them.

Coffee/Tea Morning will resume on Tuesday 9th January after morning Mass.

THANK YOU to everyone who has contributed to the foodbank collection for Newman Catholic College. We would like to continue supporting the foodbank next year, collecting items on the **first Sunday** of every month, starting on the **7th January**. Your donations can include any from the Advent Calendar list – in particular: tea, coffee, pasta, cereals, tinned foods and cleaning products.

We send our condolences and prayers to the parishes of Sacred Heart, Quex Road and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and the Oblate Community on the sudden death of **Fr Terry Murray**.

FUNERAL DETAILS:

Reception of remains: Wednesday 27th December at 7.00 pm

Funeral Mass: Thursday 28th December at 12noon

Sacred Heart Church, Quex Road, Kilburn, London NW6 4PS

Webcam link: <https://www.churchservices.tv/kilburn>

May he rest in peace.

CHRISTMAS SEASON MASS TIMES

Sunday 24th December

4th Sunday of Advent 9:00am, 10:30am
12 noon

**First Mass of Christmas with
Children's Nativity Play** 6:30pm

All children welcome to come dressed as any Nativity figure

Carols & Readings 9:30pm
Christmas Mass during the Night 10:00pm

Monday 25th December

Christmas Day 9:00am
11:00am
NO EVENING MASS

Tuesday 26th December

St Stephen 10:00am
Weekday Masses continue at the normal time of 9:30am

Sunday 31st December

**The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary and Joseph** 9:00am, 10:30am
12 noon, 6:30pm
Midnight

Monday 1st January 2024

Solemnity of Mary 10:00am

The **SVP** are distributing over **10,000 Vinnie Packs** containing cold weather essentials to the homeless this winter. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £4.20 per pack? Donations can be sent to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code 60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237 . Thank you so much for your support.

Mass Intentions Week commencing Sunday 24 December 2023

Saturday	6:30pm	Julia and Thomas Egan	RIP
Sunday	9:00am	Tim and Maureen Ryan	Ints
	10:30am	Jackie Grefte	RIP
	12 noon	People of the Parish	Ints
		CHRISTMAS VIGIL	
	6:30pm	Celebrant's Intentions	
	10:00pm	Celebrant's Intentions	
Monday	9:00am	Celebrant's Intentions	
	11:00am	Celebrant's Intentions	
Tuesday	10:00am	Rodolfo Castaneda	Anniv
Wednesday	9:30am	Jozsef Dobo	Ints
Thursday	9:30am	Joan & Gail Robinson	RIP
Friday	9:30am	Francis McGeown	Anniv
Saturday	9:30am	Alvido & Maria on their 25th Wedding Anniversary	Thanksgiving



*Monsignor Roger, Fr Allan and Fr Ruwan wish you and your loved ones,
a happy and holy Christmas.*