



# ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

JANUARY — MONTH OF THE HOLY NAME OF JESUS

4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR B

28 JANUARY 2024

## 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](http://St Mary Magdalen RC Church, Willesden, London - YouTube)

Facebook: [St Mary Magdalen RC Church, Willesden Green | London | Facebook](http://St Mary Magdalen RC Church, Willesden Green | London | Facebook)

## 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 Kamal Kanawadi  
[kamalkanawadi@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:kamalkanawadi@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

## Unlike the scribes, he taught them with authority

(Mk 1:21-28)

**Meditation:** Do you believe that God's word has power to set you free and to transform your life? When Jesus taught he spoke with authority. He spoke the word of God as no one had spoken it before. When the Rabbis taught they supported their statements with quotes from other authorities. The prophets spoke with delegated authority - "Thus says the Lord." When Jesus spoke he needed no authorities to back his statements. He was authority incarnate - the Word of God made flesh. When he spoke, God spoke. When he commanded even the demons obeyed.

### **Faith works through love and abounds in hope**

Augustine of Hippo (354-430 AD) remarked that "faith is mighty, but without love it profits nothing. The devils confessed Christ, but lacking charity it availed nothing. They said, 'What have we to do with you' (Mark 1:24)? They confessed a sort of faith, but without love. Hence they were devils."

Faith is powerful, but without love it profits nothing (1 Corinthians 13). Scripture tells us that true faith works through love (Galatians 5:6) and abounds in hope (Romans 15:13). Our faith is made perfect in love because love orients us to the supreme good which is God himself as well as the good of our neighbour who is created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:26,27).

Hope anchors our faith in the promises of God and purifies our desires for the things which will last for eternity. That is why the word of Christ has power to set us free from all that would keep us bound up in sin, deception, and despair. Bede the venerable abbot of an English monastery (672-735) contrasted the power and authority of Jesus' word with the word of the devil: "The devil, because he had deceived Eve with his tongue, is punished by the tongue, that he might not speak" [*Homilies on the Gospels* 1.8].

### **Faith must be nourished with the Word of God**

Faith is both a free gift of God and the free assent of our will to the whole truth that God has revealed. To live, grow, and persevere in the faith to the end, we must nourish it with the word of God. The Lord gives us his Holy Spirit to enlighten our minds that we may grow in his truth and in the knowledge of his great love for each of us. If we approach God's word with trust and submission, and with an eagerness to do what the Lord desires for us, then we are in a much better position to learn what God wants to teach us through his word. Are you eager to be taught by the Lord and to conform your mind, heart, attitude, and intentions according to his word of truth, goodness, and love?

## Prayer

*Lord Jesus, your word is power and life. May I never doubt your love and mercy, and the power of your word that sets us free, and brings healing and restoration to body, mind, heart, and spirit.*

*Fr Allan*

PARISH NEWS

Collection 21 January 2024 amounted to £1,579.85

Standing orders for November: £3,246

Contactless Income for December: £528.73

Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

Congratulations to both our parish schools on their recent excellent Ofsted inspections! St Mary Magdalen's Junior School - Pupils at St Mary Magdalen's live by the ethos of the school. Pupils understand and demonstrate the values of love, excellence, teamwork, determination and respect through all that they do. Convent of Jesus and Mary Infant school - Nestled within a nurturing environment, pupils at Convent of Jesus and Mary Catholic Infant School thrive in an atmosphere of happiness and positivity. Both reports are available on the school websites.

LENT PRAYER COURSE - We Dare To Say



During Lent, we will be running a Prayer Group and invite you to come on a journey through the Lord's Prayer. This is a five-week course called 'We Dare To Say', that has been specially prepared for the Year of Prayer, the penultimate year of preparation for the Jubilee Year 2025, Pilgrims of Hope.

Further details to follow.

PILGRIMAGE TO ITALY A reminder that the remaining balance needs to be paid by Monday 26 February.

PALM ASHES To help us prepare for the Lenten Season, please return your Palm Crosses to the church by the beginning of February so they can be burned for use on Ash Wednesday (14th February).



CORRECTION In last week's editorial I wrongly said that Harrow Road parish is paired with Bayswater. It is paired with Paddington. My apologies to Fr Jarmulowicz and Mgr Barltrop.

PARISH DIARY

Table with 2 columns: Date/Event and Description. Events include First Holy Communion, Confirmation, and Coffee Morning.

FUNERAL NOTICE

The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late John Cronin will take place on Wednesday 31st January at 6:00pm followed by repatriation to Ireland

May he rest in peace

School and Parish

At 9:30am on Tuesday 30 January, we will be welcoming students from Newman Catholic College to join us at the morning Mass. This Mass will not be live-streamed.

REMINDER:

FOODBANK COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

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

DIOCESAN NEWS

CATHEDRAL ANNUAL MASS OF OUR LADY OF LOURDES AND ANOINTING OF THE SICK

On Saturday 10th February 2024, 2.30pm, Cardinal Vincent will celebrate the Annual Mass of Our Lady of Lourdes at the Cathedral, during which anointing of the sick will be offered.

To help with the planning, you are asked to book a free ticket, this can be done through the parish office.

Tickets are in 3 categories:

- 1. Wheelchair users who require anointing
2. Walking sick who require anointing
3. Those assisting the sick, who do not require anointing.

To reserve a place, please contact the office.

Mass Intentions Week commencing Sunday 28 January 2024

Table with 4 columns: Day, Time, Name, and Intention type (Anniv, Ints, RIP).

Those who are sick: Elaine Lydon, Carmeletta O'Sullivan

Those who have died recently: John Cronin, Hilda Finnerty, Patrick Clifford, Bins Castillo Carandang, Phil Baines

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Elizabeth Lyons, Mary Carmody, Kathleen Higgins, Mark Conroy