

# ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

APRIL — MONTH OF THE HOLY EUCHARIST

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

28 APRIL 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

Maria Nowicka  
[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

## The Vine and the Branches

I love the old adaptations of the novels of Charles Dickens into films – especially *Oliver Twist* and *Great Expectations*. The fact that they are in black and white and with a slightly scratched soundtrack only adds to their mystery. One of the opening scenes of *Great Expectations* is absolutely terrifying at least for a 10 year old child as I was: when the young Pip meets Magwitch, an escaped convict, in the graveyard where he is visiting his parents' graves. Magwitch is an escaped criminal and he both looks and sounds really scary as he comes out of the fog towards Pip, and threatens the boy. But, (spoiler alert) he turns out very differently later in the story.

It can be so hard to believe that people can change. We have to be so careful that our first negative impression of somebody does not then guide our whole attitude to them. They may have a dreadful reputation, but this can – and does – change. No one could have had a worse reputation among the fledgling Christian communities of Damascus and Jerusalem than St Paul, or Saul as he was known. We are told that he had witnessed the brutal stoning of St Stephen, and 'entirely approved of the killing'. He had made it his mission to seek out the followers of Jesus Christ and have them executed. And then he changed. On the way to Damascus, he encounters the Risen Christ and he is converted. Barnabas introduces him to the Apostles and he joins them. The man is changed, accepted and, most importantly, becomes entwined with the other apostles and the Church grows. God's grace can work miracles in people's lives.

Vines are the most extraordinary plant. They grow and thrive if they are entwined with each other – the vinedresser brings them together. Jesus uses this image to illustrate the intimate and entwined relationship

between himself and his believers. If we remain connected to him, we will bear much fruit.



IF YOU  
ABIDE IN ME  
YOU WILL BEAR  
MUCH FRUIT

Paul's story and the image of the vine teach us about the transformative power of faith and then the importance of staying connected to Christ and one another. Through belief in our potential for change and having a deep relationship with Jesus through the sacraments and the community of the Church we can bear fruit that glorifies God and blesses those around us.

**Monsignor Roger.**

## PARISH NEWS

**Collection 21 April 2024** amounted to £1,654.18

**Standing orders for March:** £3,124.00

**Contactless Income for March:** £640.43

Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

### YOUTH GROUP - Year 9 to 13

**Next meeting on: SUNDAY 12th May**



**COME AND JOIN US FOR  
A FUN AFTERNOON BOWLING!**

To sign up and for further details please email the office:  
[willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk)

All welcome—registration forms available by the annexe.

### FEEDBACK MEETING ON OUR SYNODAL CONSULTATIONS

Back in February we asked for your opinions on two further areas which we submitted to the Bishops who will report back to Rome.

We would like to present the findings to you and invite you to a meeting on

**Tuesday 14 May at 7:00pm in the church.**

Please do come along to hear and share ideas of how we can strengthen our parish community and reach out to others.

### DAY TRIP TO SOUTHEND-ON-SEA

The Mary Magdalen Wednesday Club is organising a day trip to Southend on **Thursday 27th June 2024**. The cost is **£15** per head.

The departure is from St Mary Magdalen Church at 9:00am. Departure from Southend is at 5:30pm to hopefully arrive back at the church by 7:00pm.

If you wish to join this trip, kindly contact Gillian Horrell or Alan Jones by email giving your full name/s. Only bookings on payment received will be confirmed.

Email: [pamgillstan@hotmail.com](mailto:pamgillstan@hotmail.com) or [ajones361@btinternet.com](mailto:ajones361@btinternet.com)

### REMINDER:

## FOODBANK COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

### Mass Intentions Week commencing Sunday 28 April 2024

Saturday	6:30pm	Patrick Killian	<b>Anniv</b>
Sunday	9:00am	Molly Ayres & James Varley	<b>Anniv</b>
	10:30am	People of the Parish	<b>Ints</b>
	12 noon	Patrick and Gladys McGowan	<b>Anniv</b>
	6:30pm	Mary O'Beirne	<b>RIP</b>
Monday	9:30am	Maryann Cullinane	<b>RIP</b>
Tuesday	9:30am	Elaine Lydon	<b>RIP</b>
Wednesday	9:30am	Joaquim Cardozo	<b>RIP</b>
Thursday	9:30am	Patrick Cleary	<b>Anniv</b>
Friday	9:30am	Thanksgiving for all the Saints	
Saturday	9:30am	William & Esperansa Fernandes	<b>Thanksgiving</b>

## PLEASE PRAY FOR ALL OUR CHILDREN WHO WILL BE CELEBRATING THEIR FIRST HOLY COMMUNION NEXT WEEKEND

Franco	Evelyn	Isabella
Xander	Sophia	Olivia
Shedael	Althea	Sumiko
Jaxson	Eva	Joao
Zion	Kiara	Carla
Lucas	Jean	Stephen
Henry		Chloe
Alan		Finley
Mateus		Jacob
Kimberley		Maria
Tia		Karina
Allen		Ralph
Naveyah		Milena
Adel		Ronan



### SCHOOL AND PARISH

We are joined by the pupils of St Mary Magdalen school at the 9:30am Mass this Monday. This Mass will not be live-streamed. Please see <https://www.churchservices.tv/> for other live Masses.

### PRIEST TRAINING FUND - THANK YOU

Thank you for your generosity to the Priest Training Fund collection last weekend. It is not too late to make a donation if you wish. Envelopes are available in the back of the church, or by contacting the parish office. Please continue to pray for vocations to the priesthood.

For more information, or to make a donation online, visit [www.rcdow.org.uk/donations](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/donations) or use the QR code to access the link.



Thank you for your generosity.

### PARISH DIARY

<b>FIRST HOLY COMMUNION</b>	Rehearsals take place on Friday 3rd May. See email for times. <u>First Holy Communion Celebration on:</u> Saturday 4th May: 11:00am & 2pm
Monday 29 April 6:00pm <b>CONFIRMATION</b>	Session 12—What happens at Confirmation? Church of The Transfiguration
<b>COFFEE/TEA MORNING</b>	Tuesday after morning Mass

**Those who are sick:** Helena Cunningham, Timothy Hannah, Ethel Cuff, Carmeletta O'Sullivan

**Those who have died recently:** Phyllis Oliveiro, Michael O'Leary

**Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:** Patrick Killian, Patrick and Gladys McGowan, Molly Ayres, James Varley