

ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

MAY — MONTH OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B

5 MAY 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

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

Parish Clergy

Monsignor Roger Reader KCHS
rogerreader@rcdow.org.uk

Father Allan Alvarado Gil
allanalvarado@rcdow.org.uk
Office: 020 4542 3716

Father Kamal Kanawadi
kamalkanawadi@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Office

Maria Nowicka
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

You are my friends if you do what I command you (Jn 15:9-17)

Meditation: What is the greatest act of love which one can give for the sake of another? Jesus defines friendship - the mutual bond of trust and affection which people choose to have for one another - as the willingness to give totally of oneself - even to the point of laying down one's life for a friend. How is such love possible or even desirable? God made us in love for love. That is our reason for being, our purpose for living, and our goal in dying.

God is the source and origin of love - divine and human

Scripture tells us that God is love (1 Jn 4:8) - and everything he does flows from his immense love for us. He loved us so much - far beyond what we could ever expect or deserve - that he was willing to pay any price to redeem us from our slavery to sin and death. That is why the Father sent us his beloved Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, who gave up his life as the atoning sacrifice for our sins.

A new way of loving and serving one another

Jesus gave his disciples a new commandment - a new way of loving and serving one another. Jesus' love was wholly directed toward the good of others. He loves them for their sake and for their welfare. That is why he willingly laid down his own life for us to free us from sin, death, fear, and everything that could separate us from the love of God. Our love for God and our willingness to lay down our life for others is a response to the exceeding love God has given us in Christ. Paul the Apostle states, "*Who shall separate us from the love of Christ?... For I am sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord*" (R8:35,38-39).

Friendship with God

Jesus calls his disciples his friends. Jesus not only showed his disciples that he personally cared for them and sought their welfare. He personally enjoyed their company and wanted to be with them. He ate with them, shared everything he had with them - even his inmost heart and thoughts. To know Jesus personally is to know God and the love and friendship he offers to each one of us. What does it mean to be a friend of God? Friendship with God certainly entails a loving relationship which goes beyond mere duty and obedience. The distinctive feature of Jesus' relationship with his disciples was his personal love for them. His love was unconditional and wholly directed to the good of others. His love was also sacrificial. He gave his very life for those he loved in order to secure for them everlasting life with the Father.

Love to the death

The Lord Jesus gives his followers a new commandment - a new way of love that goes beyond giving only what is required or what we think others might deserve. What is the essence of Jesus' new commandment of love? It is a love to the death - a purifying love that overcomes selfishness, fear, and pride. It is a total giving of oneself for the sake of others - a selfless and self-giving love that is oriented towards putting the welfare of others ahead of myself.

Jesus says that there is no greater proof in love than the sacrifice of one's life for the sake of another. Jesus proved his love by giving his life for us on the cross of Calvary. Through the shedding of his blood for our sake, our sins are not only washed clean, but new life is poured out for us through the gift of the Holy Spirit. We prove our love for God and for one another when we embrace the way of the cross. What is the cross in my life? When my will crosses with God's will, then God's will must be done. Do you know the peace and joy of a life fully surrendered to God and consumed with his love?

The Lord Jesus tells us that he is our friend and he loves us whole-heartedly and unconditionally. He wants us to love one another just as he loves us, whole-heartedly and without reserve. His love fills our hearts and transforms our minds and frees us to give ourselves in loving service to others. If we open our hearts to his love and obey his command to love our neighbour, then we will bear much fruit in our lives, fruit that will last for eternity. Do you wish to be fruitful and to abound in the love of God?

Fr Allan

PARISH NEWS

Collection 28 April 2024 amounted to £1,570.69

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

SUNDAY 12th May - Bowling at Royale Leisure Park, Acton



For anyone in Year 9+, please email the office willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk to sign up and for further details -departure time 1:00pm.

CONFIRMATION SPONSORED WALKATHON

Confirmation candidates from both St Mary Magdalen and The Transfiguration are raising money for **Mary's Meals** through a sponsored 'Walkathon'. This will take place at Roundwood Park on Saturday 11th May.

Mary's Meals is a registered charity serving a nutritious daily meal to some of the world's poorest children. There are 67 million primary school-age children out of school around the world - they have to work or beg to survive, and when they do make it into the classroom, hunger affects their ability to concentrate. Mary's Meals gives them the energy to learn so that they can become the men and women who will lift their communities out of poverty in later life.

If you would like to sponsor our candidates, please go to:

www.justgiving.com/Transfiguration-Kensal-Rise



or scan the code



Thank you for your support!

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD will be celebrated on Thursday 9 May with Masses at 9:30am and 6:30pm.

Mass Intentions Week commencing Sunday 5 May 2024

Saturday	6:30pm	Ranzila Quadros	Ints
Sunday	9:00am	Elaine Lydon	RIP
	10:30am	Rudolph Dolphy Pais	RIP
	12 noon	The Melody Family	RIP
	6:30pm	People of the Parish	Ints
Monday	9:30am	Hilda Finnerty	RIP
Tuesday	9:30am	Nuala Armstrong	Get Well Ints
Wednesday	9:30am	Juan Vivencia Gutierrez	Anniv
Thursday	9:30am	Elaine Lydon	RIP
	6:30pm	Mary O'Beirne	RIP
Friday	9:30am	Holy Souls	RIP
Saturday	9:30am	Winifred Dolan	Ints

FEEDBACK MEETING ON OUR SYNODAL CONSULTATIONS

We invite you to a meeting on **Tuesday 14 May at 7:00pm** in the church to present a summary of your responses on the latest Synodal consultations.

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



DIOCESAN NEWS

The Holy Father's Prayer Intention for May:

For the Formation of Religious, Monks, Nuns and Seminarians.

We pray so that religious, monks, nuns and seminarians may grow in their vocational journey through human, pastoral, spiritual and communal formation, leading them to be credible witnesses of the Gospel.

MASS FOR NEW CATHOLICS

All new Catholics are invited to attend a special Mass at Westminster Cathedral on **Saturday 11 May at 6:00pm**. There will be a talk beforehand, at 5pm, in Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street (behind the Cathedral).

Sunday 12th May, 3pm
Procession of Our Lady of Willesden
The Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden,
1 Nicoll Road, London NW10 9AX
Join pilgrims in praying the Rosary for the protection of London.
Preacher
Fr Pius Collins O. Praem

Our Lady of Willesden May Procession

The annual **MAY PROCESSION** in honour of Our Lady will take place at the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden on

Sunday, 12th May, at 3pm.

How Beauty Draws Us Closer To God

A talk by Fr Patrick Van Der Vorst, founder of Christian Art, at **St Patrick's Catholic Church, Soho on Friday 17 May at 7:00pm**.

For tickets go to: guild-ransom.co.uk/events



SCAN TO SIGN UP

PARISH DIARY

PARISH AND SCHOOL Tuesday 7 May	Students from Newman College will be joining us for Mass. This Mass will not be live-streamed.
COFFEE/TEA MORNING Tuesday after Mass	With some helpers from St Mary Magdalen's school

Those who are sick: Martin Doyle, Carmelella O'Sullivan, Ethel Cuff, Helena Cunningham, Timothy Hannah

Those who have died recently: Michael O'Leary

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Juan Vivencia Gutierrez