

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

February —Month of the Holy Family

The Presentation of The Lord

2 February 2025

This Parish is part of Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity No: 233699

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)

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 Matteo Di Giuseppe
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Father Kamal Kanawadi
kamalkanawadi@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Office
Maria Nowicka
willesdengreen@rcdow.org.uk

Parish office open:
Tuesday-Friday 10:00am - 2:00pm

Parish Outreach Worker
Barry Phillips-Devaney
wgoutreach@rcdow.org.uk

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*

**Livestreamed*

Eucharistic Adoration
Weekdays and Saturday:
One hour before morning Mass

Confession
Saturdays: 10:00am—10:30am
5:30pm— 6:15pm
& At Call

I hope you are looking forward to the Bishop's Visitation in the parishes of Willesden Green (8/9th February) and Kensal Rise (15/16th February). Bishop John Sherrington, Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster is visiting all the parishes in the deanery of Brent this year, and now it's our turn. I hope his visit will remind us of the vital role a bishop plays in the life of the Catholic Church. During his time with us, Bishop John will celebrate Mass, visit the housebound, meet with the Finance Committee, safeguarding representative, catechists, and engage in a Q&A session with our young people. This is a wonderful opportunity for us all to reflect on the role of a bishop and how his presence strengthens and supports our parish community.

So, what is a bishop for? His role in the Church is threefold: teaching, sanctifying, and governing. Each of these functions is essential for the spiritual growth and unity of the Church, ensuring that the faithful are guided, nourished, and supported in their journey of faith.

One of the fundamental responsibilities of a bishop is **teaching**. Bishops are called to be authentic teachers of the faith, guiding their communities in understanding and living out the Gospel. The Second Vatican Council describes bishops as "heralds of the faith who lead new disciples to Christ." This role goes beyond instruction; it involves a deep commitment to proclaiming the truth of Christ and inspiring the faithful to embrace it. In union with the Pope and other bishops, they ensure that Church teachings are faithfully transmitted, helping all members of the Church to grow in knowledge and faith. Bishop John especially needs our prayers in this role as he is the lead bishop for debates over abortion and euthanasia.

The bishop's **sanctifying** role is vital to the spiritual nourishment of the community. On behalf of the Cardinal Archbishop, Bishop John administers the sacraments, particularly the Mass, which is at the heart of Catholic life. The bishop ordains priests and deacons and normally confirmation. He will confirm 64 of our young people in June this year. His presence at Mass will be a special moment for us all, as we unite in prayer and receive the grace of the sacraments together.

A bishop also has the responsibility of **governing**, ensuring that the Church remains faithful to Christ's mission. In collaboration with the Cardinal Archbishop, Bishop John leads and shepherds the local Church, making pastoral decisions that affect the spiritual and administrative life of the diocese. He guides and supports the clergy in their ministry.



So, please make Bishop John very welcome as he comes to our parishes. It is a chance for us to remember that there is more to our community than our parish – we are part of the world wide Catholic Church centred on the Bishop of Rome, Pope Francis.

Monsignor Roger.

Those who are sick: Ruth Kinfe, Monica Lynch

Those who have died recently: Fr John Buckley, John Phelan, Kieran Maloney, Josie Lord

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Bridget McNulty, Nora Lynch, Hanna O'Connor, John Boland, Mairead Casey, Wallace family

PARISH NEWS

Collection 26 January 2025 amounted to £1,405.67
Standing orders for December: £4,278
Contactless Income for December £954.00

Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

We are looking forward to the formal visitation by Bishop John Sherrington to our parish on the weekend of 8th & 9th February. He will be celebrating and preaching at all Masses and I know you will make him very welcome.

YOUTH GROUP

Sunday 9th February at 4:45pm in our church

Bishop John is keen to hear from the young people in our parishes.

Come and meet him, and have your say!

Open to all of secondary school age.

THE ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR MATRIMONY

will be celebrated in Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 17th May 2025 at 2.30pm.

The Cardinal invites couples in the Diocese celebrating in 2025, their

5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage.

<u>If you are celebrating an anniversary, please email the parish with the following details:</u>

Names of husband and wife, wedding date, number of years married, postal address, email or phone number.



These details will be forwarded to the Diocese who will send out the invitation.

Please contact the office by Friday 28th March.

Thank you.

NEW TO THE PARISH?

Welcome! We are delighted you have come to join us. Please introduce yourself to Monsignor Roger and fill out a registration form - available in the entry porch. If you have any questions, please speak to a parishioner or email Maria in the office.
Thank you.

Mass Intentions commencing- Sunday 2 February

Saturday	6:30pm	Mairead Casey	**Anniv**
Sunday	9:00am	Nora Lynch	**Anniv**
	10:30am	Hanna O'Connor	**Anniv**
	12:00pm	People of the Parish	**Ints**
	6:30pm	Demetrio Goes	**RIP**
Monday	9:30am	John Boland	**Anniv**
Tuesday	9:30am	Bridget McNulty	**Anniv**
Wednesday	9:30am	Mae Hughes	**RIP**
Thursday	9:30am	Margaret, John and Denis Murphy	**Anniv**
Friday	9:30am	Monsignor Martin Murphy	**RIP**
Saturday	9:30am	Wallace family	**Anniv**

Brent Deanery Pilgrimage to Rome for the Holy Year.

We are planning a wonderful opportunity to go on pilgrimage to Rome to mark this Holy Year 2025 - The Year of Hope. It will take place from 24th November - 28th November and will include visits to all 4 major basilicas of Rome (including St Peter's), a Papal Audience (depending on the Pope's schedule) also other important sites in the Eternal City. If this is your first visit to Rome or you've been many times this will be a great time of grace and fellowship. The cost (based on 2 people sharing) is £1,130 with some single rooms available for a supplement. Please visit www.pilgrimagepeople.org for further details, and quote BRENT01 when booking.

Closing date is 24th February 2025.

This will be the only pilgrimage organised from our church this year.

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

On **Saturday 8th February 2025**, 2.00pm, 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 only be done through the parish office.

<u>Tickets are in 3 categories:</u>

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 stating: Your name, number of tickets and category.
Thank you.

PARISH DIARY

Monday 3rd February **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** 5:30pm	Session 4: GOD HELPS ME GET IT RIGHT St Mary Magdalen **<u>School</u>**
Monday 3rd February **CONFIRMATION** 6:00pm	Session 4: JESUS - MORE THAN A MERE MAN Church of the Transfiguration
Monday 3rd February 7:30pm	**SOCIAL COMMITTEE MEETING** in the Sacristy
Tuesday 4th February	Pupils from St Mary Magdalen's school joining us at Coffee morning
Tuesday 4th February 7:00pm	**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING** in the Sacristy
Saturday 8th February 11:00am	**FIRST CONFESSION for Holy Communion candidates** In St Mary Magdalen Church