

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

March—Month of Saint Joseph

Second Sunday of Lent

16 March 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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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

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

Second Sunday of Lent (Year C)

As we are presented with this glorious event of the Transfiguration this Sunday, there are numerous lessons we can learn from it.

First, Peter and his companions were overcome by sleep while Jesus was transfigured in glory and conversing with Moses and Elijah. This line could suggest many things. It could mean that Peter was weak and more concerned with his human condition than he was with attentiveness to the important journey he was invited to take with our Lord. It could reveal a kind of spiritual sloth. It is easy in life to become weary of the journey and to become drowsy at the times that we should be most attentive to our Lord. For example, think about any time when you knew you should pray but instead, sat daydreaming or distracted, or chose to fill that time with something mindless. Peter and his companions, therefore, teach us that it is easy for us in our fallen human nature to "doze off" during those times when God wants to speak to us, especially while at Mass.

Another interpretation of this line comes from the Church Father, Saint Ambrose. He suggests that this sleep of Peter and his two companions was primarily a result of them encountering "the incomprehensible brightness of the Divine nature." As Jesus was transfigured, the initial vision was too much for them to comprehend, and so this vision began with them asleep as a symbol of the fact that we are all incapable of seeing the glory of God in our weakened state. But then they became "fully awake," which implies that it took time for them to open their eyes to see the glory of God. This lesson teaches us that we all must wake up and work to become fully awake if we are to see the glory of God as He reveals Himself to us.

After becoming fully awake and encountering the incomprehensible brightness of the divine nature, Peter says, "Master, it is good that we are here; let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." The Gospel writer then goes on to say that Peter "did not know what he was saying." Again, if we turn to Saint Ambrose, he points out that Peter's experience is commendable because he not only had earnest feelings but also took the initiative of good deeds. He wanted to build three tents so that Jesus, Moses and Elijah would remain with them. But another Church father points out that Peter "did not know what he was saying" because he did not, at that time, realize that it was indeed his mission to build a dwelling place for Jesus, the Law and the Prophets. It was his mission to build the Church, which was to be the future dwelling place of God on earth and the place in which we will encounter God throughout life.

You, too, are entrusted with the responsibility of building up the structure of the Church on earth so that many may encounter the full glory of God. This will only happen if you continually seek to become fully awakened to the glory of God as He reveals Himself to you and, in the joy of that encounter, go forth to build up God's Church by your earnest desire and intentional acts of charity.

The Peace of Christ
Fr. Matteo

Those who are sick: Our Holy Father Pope Francis, Anthony Braganca, Patricia L. Coogan, Kathleen Guckian

Those who have died recently: John Reilly, Mary Gavahan, Anthony Lum, Miriam Barron

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mary Killian, Thomas Dias, Laffa Fedilina Viegas, Bridget Connell, Maureen Anderson, Peter McHugh, Elaine Lydon

PARISH & DIOCESAN NEWS

Collection 9 March 2025 amounted to £1,749.76

Standing orders for February: £3,981

Contactless Income for February: £349.19

Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Will be prayed at 6pm every Friday in Lent.

LENT PRAYER COURSE - WE DARE TO HOPE

There are four weeks remaining of this course. Come and encounter the Hope which Christ Jesus offers us through familiar Gospel moments.

When: Thursdays in Lent until 10th April
Where: In St Mary Magdalen church annexe
Time: 7pm - 8pm



An accompanying booklet will be provided, as will refreshments. To register your interest or find out more, email Barry at wgoutreach@rcdow.org.uk.

Altar Servers from Year 4 and above



Training for altar servers will take place on Saturday **29 March at 12pm** in the church. New servers very welcome!

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS MEETING

There will be a session for all current Eucharistic Ministers on **Saturday 29th March at 2pm** in the church. It will be a chance for us to pray and reflect on our ministry.

Lourdes Pilgrimage 25th July - 1st August 2025

Registration for the Westminster diocesan pilgrimage led by Cardinal Vincent Nicholas is now open via the online form at https://pilgrimages.rcdow.org.uk or by contacting the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173. Options to travel by plane or train are available and there are many volunteering opportunities for those wishing to serve.

All applications need to be submitted by **Wednesday 30th April.**

Mass Intentions commencing Sunday 16 March

Saturday	6:30pm	People of the Parish	**Ints**
Sunday	9:00am	Christina Herbert	**RIP**
	10:30am	Florentino Masubay	**RIP**
	12:00pm	Bridget Connell	**Anniv**
	6:30pm	Winnie Maloney	**RIP**
Monday	9:30am	Mary Killian	**Anniv**
Tuesday	9:30am	Maureen Anderson	**Anniv**
	6:00pm	Reception—Mary Gavahan	
Wednesday	9:30am	Thomas Dias	**Anniv**
	12:00pm	Funeral—Mary Gavahan	**RIP**
Thursday	9:30am	Sam Bennett and deceased family members	**RIP**
	12:00pm	Funeral—Anthony Lum	**RIP**
Friday	9:30am	Ann Quinn	**RIP**
Saturday	9:30am	Esperansa Vas	**Ints**

FUNERAL NOTICES

The Reception of the late
Mary Gavahan
will take place on Tuesday 18th March at 6:00pm
The Requiem Mass will be held on
Wednesday 19th March at 12noon
followed by burial at Kensal Green Cemetery at 1:30pm.

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The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late
Lip Hor (Anthony) Lum
will take place on Thursday 20th March 2025 at 12:00pm
followed by cremation at Golders Green Crematorium - 1:00pm

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The Reception and Requiem Mass of the late
Miriam Barron
will take place on Monday 24th March at 11:30am
followed by cremation at Golders Green Crematorium - 1:00pm

May they rest in peace ✞

CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL 2025

CARDINAL'S LENTEN APPEAL

This Holy Year invites us to be 'Pilgrims of Hope'. We invite you to consider supporting work being done in the Diocese of Westminster to bring hope into many lives. Your contributions will help fund vital projects across our Diocese, including Youth & Evangelisation, Social Action, Marriage & Family Life, and Catholic Education Initiatives. His Eminence, Cardinal Nichols, extends his heartfelt thanks to all who give what they can to this meaningful cause. Donation envelopes are available at the back of the church, and you can also contribute online using the QR code. Thank you for your kindness and support.

WINTERSHALL
Experience the story



THE PASSION OF JESUS

Live in Trafalgar Square, London.

Good Friday 18 April 2025
FREE performances
12noon and 3:15pm
Also live streamed on Facebook.

MASS FOR BEREAVED PARENTS



A Mass for bereaved parents will be celebrated in the Cathedral by Bishop Paul McAleenan on **Saturday 5th April at 2pm.**

PARISH DIARY

Monday 17th March **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** **For children & parents** 5:30pm	Session 9: BODY OF CHRIST St Mary Magdalen **CHURCH**
Monday 17th March **CONFIRMATION** 6:00pm	Session 9: THE CHURCH Church of the Transfiguration