

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

June—Month of The Sacred Heart of Jesus

The Body and Blood of Christ

22 June 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
matteodigiuseppe@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

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

Great Britain and Sri Lanka may seem worlds apart, but they share an interesting geographical similarity: both are relatively small islands lying just off a much larger landmass—Britain on the edge of continental Europe, and Sri Lanka on the southern tip of the Indian subcontinent. It takes around 11 hours to fly from London to Colombo, and if you catch the 9.30pm flight, you wake up in a completely different world.

Despite a temporary similarity in temperature, the contrasts were striking for me from the moment I landed. Signs in both Sinhalese and Tamil alphabets were indecipherable for me, and the drive from the airport is an adventure in itself—navigating around cows, goats, dogs, and Tuk-tuks! Yet, amidst this unfamiliarity, I found Sri Lanka utterly captivating. Lush, green vegetation is everywhere, and many people still wear traditional Sri Lankan dress. While I was cautious with the food—realising that "not very spicy" still meant "very spicy" to my palate—the aroma was always enticing. A stroll through the spice market in Negombo was a feast for the senses.

Although I'm something of a linguist, I quickly learned my limitations. I could only grasp a few words—*Hare* (yes), *Stuti* (thank you), and *Pooja* (worship or Mass). Many of the towns and villages I passed through had wayside Buddhist or Hindu shrines, which added to the rich and exotic character of the landscape. But in the midst of all this difference, I encountered something deeply familiar—something not just similar, but identical: the Catholic Faith. Though a minority religion in both Britain and Sri Lanka, the Catholic community I met was vibrant, joyful, and welcoming—reminding me very much of our own parish.

I had the great privilege of celebrating the First Holy Communion Mass at St Thomas International Catholic College, where my good friend—known to some of you—Fr Sudham is the Rector. It felt like home. We had just celebrated our own beautiful First Communion Masses in Kensal Rise and Willesden Green, and I was struck by how alike the children were—just as excited, just as nervous.

Across the world, our faith unites us. These children in Sri Lanka, like ours at home, were receiving the Body of Christ for the first time. It's a moment of profound grace, and one we should never take for granted. This is the treasure of our Catholic life: God gives Himself to us, His beloved sons and daughters. The bread becomes the Body of Christ. It nourishes us and draws us together in communion.

As the beautiful hymn reminds us:

O bread of heaven, beneath this veil,
Thou dost my very God conceal;
My Jesus, dearest treasure, hail;
I love thee and adoring kneel;
Each loving soul by thee is fed,
With thine own self in form of bread.

Monsignor Roger

PARISH & DIOCESAN NEWS

Collection 15 June 2025 amounted to £1,713.00
Standing orders for May: £3,982
Contactless Income for May: £629.00

Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

SAVE THE DATE!

On **Sunday 20th July** we will be celebrating our patronal feast.
Mass at **11:00am** will replace the 10:30 and 12noon.
Celebrations will continue in the school hall.
More information to follow.

ST MARY MAGDALEN CHURCH SUMMER SCHOOL

Pilgrims Of Hope:

Jubilee Year Course – starting this Thursday, 26th June

Building on our Lent course *We Dare To Hope*, we'll explore key **Jubilee Year** themes—*Care for Creation, Forgiveness, and Debt*—through short films, scripture, discussion, and prayer.

Join us for four Thursdays at 7.00pm in the church annexe.

Refreshments provided.

To register your interest or find out more, contact Barry at **wgoutreach@rcdow.org.uk**

Notice: Maintenance Work in the Sacristy

We apologise for any noise or disruption coming from the Sacristy over the next two weeks, as essential work is being carried out to repair a leak. Thank you for your patience and understanding as we make these necessary improvements to our church building.

All Saints Church, Kenton warmly invites parishioners and visitors to a **Mass for Children and Adults with Additional Needs**, celebrated by **Fr. Hector**, on the Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul—**Saturday, 28th June 2025 at 6:30pm**

This special celebration is open to all, and especially welcomes those with additional needs, their families, friends, and carers.

Mass Intentions commencing Sunday 22 June

Saturday	6:30pm	Deceased priests of the parish	**RIP**
Sunday	9:00am	Mary Miller	**Anniv**
	10:30am	People of the Parish	**Ints**
	12:00pm	Our First Communicants and recently Confirmed young people	**Ints**
	6:30pm	Colleen and Redge Carpen	**Ints**
Monday	9:30am	Private Intention	**Ints**
Tuesday	9:30am	Holy Souls	**RIP**
Wednesday	9:30am	Mary and Joseph Comerford	**RIP**
Thursday	9:30am	Mario Jose Francisco Braganca	**RIP**
Friday	9:30am	Alicja Kowalczyk	**Ints**
Saturday	9:30am	Mary Magdalyn Jeanton	**Anniv**

Those who are sick: Carmeletta O'Sullivan, Ethel Cuff, Mary Brophy, Betty McConnell

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mary Miller, Mary Magdalyn Jeanton

PARISH DIARY

Monday 23rd June 10:30am	Warm Spaces—in the Church of the Transfiguration after morning Mass. All very welcome.
Tuesday 24th June 10:00am	Coffee Morning after morning Mass with the pupils from St Mary Magdalen School.
Thursday 26th June 7:00pm	Jubilee Year Course in the annexe. (see notice for more information)
Saturday 28th June 3:00pm	Konkani Mass—all welcome.





JUBILEE OF HOPE

Northern Area celebration at the
Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden
with Cardinal Vincent
on
Saturday 5th July

12:15pm Catechesis on Mary, Mother of Hope
1:00pm Solemn Mass
2:00pm Picnic
(please bring food, drinks available)

1 Nicoll Rd, London NW10 9AX