

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

July—Month of The Precious Blood of Jesus

Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

27 July 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

On this 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year C), the Church invites us into a deeper understanding of prayer and the boundless generosity of God. The readings, particularly from Genesis and the Gospel of Luke, emphasize the importance of boldness, persistence, and trust in our relationship with God. This Sunday is not only about the act of prayer — it's about the heart of the one who prays, and the character of the One to whom we pray.

The Gospel (Luke 11:1–13) begins with a simple yet profound request from the disciples: "Lord, teach us to pray." In response, Jesus gives them the Lord's Prayer — a model that is brief, direct, and deeply relational. It begins with "Father," reminding us that prayer is not about reciting formulas, but about turning to a loving, present, and attentive Parent. The prayer is both spiritual and practical, asking for God's name to be hallowed, His kingdom to come, and our daily bread to be provided. It asks for forgiveness and for strength against temptation. It's a prayer rooted in trust, dependence, and humility.

But Jesus doesn't stop there. He tells a parable about a man who persistently asks his neighbour for bread at midnight. Though the neighbour is reluctant, the man's persistence wins him what he needs. Jesus then urges: "Ask, and you will receive; seek, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened." These are not empty promises — they are declarations of God's faithful response to sincere, persistent prayer.

It's important to note that Jesus frames all this by pointing to the nature of God. If human parents, flawed as we are, know how to give good things to their children, "how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?" At the heart of prayer is the trust that God is not distant or stingy, but generous, kind, and attentive. Even when we don't receive what we ask for in the way we expect, we can be confident that God gives what is ultimately best for us — including the gift of the Holy Spirit, who sustains and guides us in all things.

The first reading from Genesis (18:20–32) presents Abraham boldly interceding with God for the people of Sodom. He negotiates with reverence and courage, asking God to spare the city for the sake of the righteous. What stands out is God's patience and willingness to listen. Abraham's prayer shows that we can approach God honestly, even when our concerns are messy, complex, or daring.

This Sunday's message is both comforting and challenging. We are comforted to know that God is a loving Father who listens. We are challenged to persist — not to manipulate God, but to stay in relationship with Him, trusting that He hears and answers in His perfect way.

In a world where instant results are expected, today's Gospel reminds us that the most important answers come through sustained prayer, honest seeking, and deep faith. Let us then ask, seek, and knock — not just with our words, but with lives shaped by prayerful trust.

The Peace of Christ
Fr Matteo

Those who are sick: Antonio Pereira, Mary Walsh, Carmel Hollowed, Rose McDermott, Monica Lynch, Grasmila Andrade

Those who have died recently: Godfrey Charles

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Domingos Braganza, Susan, Thomas and Tommy Mallaghan, John and Patrick Rice, Michael Connell Sr and Michael Connell Jr, Kathleen Higgins, Leon and Esmenia Hufana

PARISH & DIOCESAN NEWS

Collection 20 July 2025 amounted to £1,547.97
Standing orders for June: £3,971.00
Contactless Income for June: £1,123.68

Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

NEXT WEEKEND
SPECIAL COLLECTION FOR THE PEOPLE OF GAZA

In response to the ongoing humanitarian crisis in Gaza, we will be holding a special collection at all Masses next weekend. Funds will be sent to The Friends of the Holy Land who will distribute them to support those affected by the conflict, providing much-needed aid such as food, medical supplies and shelter.

Please give generously, and continue to keep the people of Gaza in your prayers.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God." (Matthew 5:9)



On **Saturday September 13th**, we will be making the *Jubilee Walk* through the City of London. Starting at Tower Bridge, our mini-pilgrimage will take in four historical churches, ending with Mass at Westminster Cathedral. For more details and to register your interest, contact Barry at wgoutreach@rcdow.org.uk.

Coming soon...
Watch this space!

BAPTISM PREPARATION The next course preparing parents for the baptism of their child, will be held next **Saturday, 6 September 2025** at 11:00am. Please contact the office to book a place.

Mass Intentions commencing- Sunday 27 July

Saturday	6:30pm	Susan, Thomas & Tommy Mallaghan	**Anniv**
Sunday	9:00am	Domingos Braganza	**Anniv**
	10:30am	People of the Parish	**Ints**
	12:00pm	Michael Connell Sr and Michael Connell Jr	**Anniv**
	6:30pm	Kathleen Higgins	**Anniv**
Monday	9:30am	John and Patrick Rice	**Anniv**
Tuesday	9:30am	Vina Fernandes	**Thanksgiving**
Wednesday	9:30am	Catherine Crowley	**Get Well Ints**
Thursday	9:30am	Aniceto Caetano Fernandes	**Anniv**
Friday	9:30am	Patrick McAshea	**RIP**
Saturday	9:30am	Jim Kearns	**RIP**

NO FOODBANK COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND
as Newman College is closed for the summer.



THANK YOU for giving to Sea Sunday.
Our parish raised £607.56

If you did not get a chance to support this charity, you can visit www.stellamaris.org.uk/donate, or text 'SEA' to 70460 to donate £5. ***Thank you.***

STELLA MARIS

THANK YOU!

A big thank you to everyone who came along and supported our parish celebration last weekend for the feast of **St Mary Magdalen**.

The Mass was a beautiful and prayerful occasion, followed by a joyful gathering in the school hall, organised by our wonderful Social Committee. There was a real sense of community, and it was a great chance for us all to come together as a parish family to celebrate our patronal feast.

St Mary Magdalen, pray for us!

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY
Saturday
20th September

We will be organising a coach to join the Diocesan pilgrimage to Walsingham.
Details to follow.



