

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

September—Month of The Sorrowful Mother

Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary time

21 September 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
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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

Faithfulness in Small Things – A Call to Gospel Integrity

The Gospel for the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C, offers one of Jesus' more puzzling parables—the story of the dishonest steward (Luke 16:1–13). At first glance, Jesus appears to commend a man who manipulates his master's debts for personal gain. But a deeper reading reveals a powerful teaching on stewardship, responsibility, and the choices that reveal where our true loyalties lie.

In the parable, a steward is caught wasting his master's property. Knowing he's about to lose his job, he reduces the debts of his master's clients to secure their favour. Jesus does not praise his dishonesty, but rather his shrewdness—his ability to act decisively in a crisis. Jesus concludes: *"You cannot serve both God and mammon."*

This Gospel challenges us to ask hard questions: How do we use the resources entrusted to us—our time, our money, our influence? Are we faithful in small things, or only when it suits us? Jesus calls us to integrity, to live with a consistency that reflects our faith in God, even in mundane, everyday decisions.

The first reading from Amos (Amos 8:4–7) intensifies this message. The prophet denounces those who exploit the poor and manipulate systems for profit. Amos describes merchants who can't wait for the holy days to end so they can resume dishonest business practices. It's a striking image of religious hypocrisy—outward piety masking greed and injustice.

Together, these readings form a scathing critique of duplicity—living one way in public and another in private. They challenge the notion that faith is confined to ritual or worship. Instead, they call for a life of ethical consistency where our treatment of others—especially the vulnerable—is the true test of our fidelity to God.

In his letter to Timothy (1 Tim 2:1–8), Paul urges that prayers be made for everyone, especially those in authority, "that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity." It is a reminder that Christian witness is not loud or self-righteous, but rooted in peace, prayer, and the quiet integrity of a life lived in truth.

This Sunday's readings are timely. In an age marked by distrust in institutions, social inequality, and political polarization, the Church is called to a prophetic witness—a community of people who live differently. We are to be stewards of God's mercy, not manipulators of it; faithful in little and trustworthy with much.

To be Christian is to serve God, not mammon. That doesn't mean we abandon worldly responsibilities, but that we approach them with Gospel values—honesty, justice, and compassion. As Jesus teaches, the choices we make in the "small things" reveal the true orientation of our hearts.

This Sunday, may we each reflect on what—or whom—we truly serve. In the quiet decisions of our day-to-day lives, may we choose faithfulness, and by doing so, become trustworthy stewards of God's kingdom.

The Peace of Christ
Fr Matteo

Those who are sick: Stella Murray, Sharon Evans, Betty McConnell, Rose McDermott, Carmeletta O'Sullivan, Ethel Cuff
Those who have died recently: John Joseph Sheils, Patrick Smullen, Danny O'Neill, Melvin Osbourne
Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Janelle Nelson, Maureen and Jerry Smyth, Margaret Butler, Jimmy Sheehan, William Mannion, Carlton Benoît

PARISH & DIOCESAN NEWS

Collection 14 September 2025 amounted to £1,609.26
Standing orders for August: £3,914.00
Contactless Income for August: £386.90
Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

Family Fun Day

TODAY

Sunday 21st September 2025 from 1:30 to 3:30pm
Willesden Sports Centre

Bring a picnic and soft drinks to share with friends and family.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation 2026

All children who are due to receive their First Holy Communion (currently in Year Three and above) or make their Confirmation (currently in Year Nine and above) must obtain an application form. **These forms will be available from the celebrating priest after all weekend Masses in October.**

THE ALPHA COURSE IS BACK!

Thursdays at 6:30pm in the annexe.

For more information, contact Barry.
at wgoutreach@rcdow.org.uk

Signing of School Forms for Roman Catholic Secondary Schools and Sixth Form Applications

Monsignor Roger will be available to sign the Certificate of Catholic Practice for **Secondary and Sixth form applications only**

on **Saturday 4 October 1:00pm - 3:00pm**
Sunday 5 October 3:30pm - 5:00pm

Monsignor Roger will see you on a first come, first served basis. Meetings will take place in the Sacristy, not Clergy House. Before your appointment please complete a CCP Application form, and a Certificate of Catholic Practice form for each school you are applying for (top half of each certificate should be pre-completed). Both of these forms can be found on our parish website at: https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/willesdengreen/certificate-of-catholic-practice-applications/ Paper copies will also be available on the table at the back of the church.

Mass Intentions commencing- Sunday 21 September

Saturday	6:30pm	Janelle Nelson	**Anniv**
Sunday	9:00am	Jimmy Sheehan	**Anniv**
	10:30am	Margaret Butler	**Anniv**
	12:00pm	Maureen and Jerry Smyth	**Anniv**
	6:30pm	People of the Parish	**Ints**
Monday	9:30am	Caetano Pereira & Maria Fernandes	**RIP**
Tuesday	9:30am	Fred McNally	**RIP**
Wednesday	9:30am	Joaquim Pereira	**RIP**
Thursday	9:30am	Mary Mackenzie	**Ints**
Friday	9:30am	Valerie Collins	**RIP**
Saturday	9:30am	Kathy Doyle	**Birthday Ints**

Jubilee Day for Catechists with Canon Shaun Lennard

All catechists from our parish are invited to a *Jubilee Day for Catechists* with Canon Shaun and the Agency for Evangelisation on **Saturday 11th October** on the theme of "Reawakening Blessed Hope".

The day will run from **10am to 4pm** at **Our Lady of Willesden** parish, Willesden, NW10 9AX. More details can be found at https://rcdow.org.uk/evangelisation/jubilee-days-for-catechists-2025/ or by scanning the QR code below. The day is free to attend but catechists are asked to bring a packed lunch with them on the day.

To book a place for the day, please contact the parish office by Tuesday 30th September. We will send your details to the Agency for Evangelisation who will email you further information.

Do you want to become a Catholic?

I know that some of you who come to Mass are not Catholic – and you are, of course, very welcome to worship with us. It may be that you would like to become a Catholic, either through baptism or reception from another Christian church. As a first step along that road, I would like to invite you to join our **Alpha** course this autumn. It is a great way to get to know Jesus Christ a bit better, and to come to know other people who come to Mass.

Monsignor Roger
(rogerreader@rcdow.org.uk to register your interest)

MACMILLAN AFTERNOON TEA

In St Mary Magdalen Church
Friday 26th September - 12noon to 3pm

Come for coffee and cake to support MACMILLAN and a chance to buy items from St Vincent's charity shop.

You can also support Macmillan Cancer Support by sponsoring Mark, one of our parishioners, as he runs the Galway Bay Marathon on Saturday, 4 October. The link is below.
https://www.justgiving.com/page/mark-finnerty-4

Interested in training and volunteering as a Relationship Counsellor with Marriage Care?

We are a Catholic organisation specialising in relationship support and are currently looking for those who would be interested in training via our **Certificate in Relationship Counselling (CRC) course**. There is the opportunity to benefit from a new pathway we are offering - to volunteer with our marriage preparation service prior to the CRC selection. To find out more and to register your interest, either for entry at this stage or prior to our CRC selection process in Autumn 2026, please visit: **www.marriagecare.org.uk** or email: **volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk**

HEALTH AND WELLBEING EVENT

Tuesday 23 September, 1–7 pm
Our Lady of Willesden Parish Hall (Marian Hall),
1 Nicoll Rd, NW10 9AX
Brent Health Matters and the NHS will offer free checks: blood pressure, blood sugar, diabetes risk, BMI, and clinical consultations. A housing representative will also give advice and support. Walk-in only—no appointment needed.