

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

October—Month of The Holy Rosary

Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary time

5 October 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

The Rosary: A Doorway into Faith



One of the best ways of helping the young men in prison in Feltham on their journey of faith when I worked there was to distribute rosaries. I'll be honest with you – I knew very well that for some of the prisoners the rosary was something which they could use to trade for tobacco (in those days they could smoke). I knew that various different colours could be a sign of gang allegiance. But all giving is risk, and I would be happy to entrust a set of beads to someone who asked for them. This was because I believe that the rosary is a powerful way to pray.
To be able to sit with a prisoner and teach him the basics of the rosary was a great privilege. For those who just didn't know where to start, who had barely heard of Jesus Christ never mind any other parts of Catholic teaching, just holding the cross was a start to prayer. For someone who was restless and anxious, just the action of repeating the Hail Mary was calming to their heart. And, of course, for those ready to go deeper the Rosary is a doorway into the life of Jesus and Mary. I hope we all know this – the rosary works in layers, meeting us where we are and leading us to the heart of God.

Faith also works in layers. Sometimes we feel we are just on the surface with little faith, at other times we know we are coming ever closer to God. Our faith is something which we must work on – which we must fan into a flame, as Paul teaches us. Even the first followers of Jesus knew their faith needed to grow – 'Lord, increase our faith' they asked. We must nourish our faith. Some of us have done this and are doing it with the Alpha Course. We are encouraging our children and young people to sign up to the sacramental programmes.
You nourish your faith each time you come to Mass. You can follow various apps – I have just been introduced to a promising one called Hallow, there is also one called Ascension and also YouCat for younger people. And you can use the Rosary. Maybe as you commute to work, maybe as you pray with your family, maybe in the small hours of the night when anxiety robs you of sleep.

There are so many ways to nourish our faith – use maybe one of them and see what happens.

Monsignor Roger

Those who are sick:

Christine Lynch, Carmeletta O'Sullivan, Ethel Cuff, Monica Lynch

Those who have died recently:

Samuel Efant Fernandes, Anne O'Donovan, Phillip Keenan

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Mary Whelton, Jim Feeney, Paul Power, Bridie Farrell

PARISH & DIOCESAN NEWS

Collection 28 September 2025 amounted to £1,474.05
Standing orders for August: £3,914.00
Contactless Income for September: £634.31
Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

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.

SIGNING OF SCHOOL FORMS

Monsignor Roger will be available to sign the **Certificate of Catholic Practice** for Secondary and Sixth form applications only on: **Sunday 5 October 3:30pm - 5:00pm**

Meetings will take place in the Sacristy, on a first come, first served basis. Before your appointment please complete ONE CCP Application form only, in addition to the Certificate of Catholic Practice form for each school you are applying for. 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.



THE HOLY ROSARY. October is the month of The Holy Rosary. In St Mary Magdalen's Parish we have a faithful group who say the Holy Rosary daily after the morning Mass (excluding Sundays). You are invited to join them in October and pray for peace.

The Brazilian community invite you to celebrate the feast of their Patron Saint at the
FESTIVAL OF OUR LADY OF APARECIDA
11th October – Saturday from 2:30 pm
Children's Festival at 3:00 pm – Mass at 5:00 pm
Live Music at 7:00 pm
12th October – Sunday
Opening with Mass at 9:00 am – Bilingual Mass at 11:00 am
Live Music at 1:00 pm – Bingo at 3:30 pm
Venue: St Anne's Church, Underwood Road, E1 5AW

Mass Intentions commencing- Sunday 5 October

Saturday	6:30pm	James Mitchell	**RIP**
Sunday	9:00am	Gillian and Alan Jones	**Ints**
	10:30am	Esperanca & Nikelas Estibeiro	**Thanksgiving Ints**
	12:00pm	Mary Mackenzie	**Ints**
	6:30pm	People of the Parish	**Ints**
Monday	9:30am	Paul Power	**Anniv**
Tuesday	9:30am	Esperanca & Nikelas Estibeiro and family	**Good health Ints**
Wednesday	9:30am	Eileen O'Leary	**Ints**
Thursday	9:30am	Jimmy Miller	**Anniv**
Friday	9:30am	Mary Whelton	**Anniv**
Saturday	9:30am	Joaquim Cardoso & Bella Fernandes	**RIP**

St Mary Magdalen Youth Group – we're back!

Yes! After a long, reasonably well-deserved summer break, the St Mary Magdalen Youth Group returns with its batteries fully recharged and raring to go on **Sunday 12th October at 4:30pm.** I'm very happy to announce that this year we're joined by the **Westminster Youth Ministry** team. Over the coming year, they will be guiding us through the *Youth Alpha* course, in which matters of faith are explored at both a personal level and in the context of the community. Doubtless they will also be organizing lots of fun activities and games (if you've been on a Confirmation retreat day at the SPEC centre in Pinner, you'll know the sort of thing I'm talking about).

As for me, I'll be doing what I always do: arranging the chairs and ordering the pizzas.
If you're good at something, stick with it.
Interested? Any questions? Contact me at
wgoutreach@rcdow.org.uk
Barry Phillips- Outreach officer, St Mary Magdalen

EUCHARISTIC FESTIVAL IN WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL
on Saturday 11th October 12:30pm to 4:30pm
Mass celebrated by Cardinal Nichols
Eucharistic Procession with Relic of Saint Carlo Acutis.



CANDLELIT PROCESSION at the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden, **7pm Sunday 12th October 2025**. Join the Pilgrims, the Community of Allen Hall Seminary, the Westminster Vocations Team, and Bishop James Curry at this JUBILEE OF HOPE VOCATIONS EVENT to ask Our Lady's intercession for the gift of Priests for the Church.
1 Nicoll Rd, NW10 9AX

BAPTISM PREPARATION

The next course preparing parents for the baptism of their child, will be held next **Saturday, 8 November 2025** at 11:00am. Please contact the office to book a place.

Pupils from St Mary Magdalen's School will attend Monday's morning Mass, and students from Newman Catholic College will join Tuesday's Mass. Please note, neither will be live-streamed.

It is not too late to donate to the **Family Fast Day** collection by using the CAFOD envelope (at the back of the church) or donating online at **cafod.org.uk/envelope** or call **0303 303 3030**. You can also **text CAFOD to 70560** to donate £10.
CAFOD *Thank you.*

Do you want to become a Catholic? If you come to Mass but are not Catholic, you are warmly welcome.
If you are considering **baptism** or **reception from another Christian church**, a good first step is our **Alpha** course this autumn (it's not too late to join!)—a friendly way to learn more about **Jesus Christ** and meet others from the parish.
Monsignor Roger
(rogerreader@rcdow.org.uk to register your interest)



ALPHA COURSE

Thursdays at 6:30pm in the annexe.