

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

March —Month of Saint Joseph

Second Sunday of Lent

1 March 2026

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 - 3:00pm

Parish Outreach Worker

Barry Phillips-Devaney
wgoutreach@rcdow.org.uk

Mass Times

Saturday 6:30pm (Vigil Mass of Sunday)
Sunday: 9:00am*,
10:30am, 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

I was lucky enough to have been in Rome a couple of weeks ago. I must admit that it was not a very sacred trip for me on this occasion, unlike the pilgrimage I took there almost a year ago. I had gone to buy some items for the new chapel at the Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School, and so most of the time was spent in the shops of the Borgo Pio, or in restaurants. We were only there for four days.

On our final day, however, before going to the airport, I wanted to visit the Chiesa Nuova, the beautiful church where St Philip Neri is buried. As we were kneeling for a final prayer before setting out for lunch', I glimpsed a priest leaving the sacristy and going to the altar under which St Philip Neri is buried, so I suggested to my companion that we should stay for the Mass. I am so grateful we did. The priest was clearly fairly newly ordained – he was quite young. The Mass was celebrated in Spanish, and there were only three of us in the congregation. It could not have been much simpler, and was in great contrast to the major Papal liturgies we're used to seeing from Rome with hundreds of priests and thousands of people. Just four of us gathered at the altar of this great Roman saint. St Philip is famous for his joy - sua alegria in Spanish – and Don Inacio, as I learned the priest's name was – gave us a little homily on reaching out for joy. He sang some parts of the Mass, and also a Spanish hymn I remember from my time in Valladolid. As he was leaving the altar I thanked him for his beautiful Mass and he told me he was from Colombia studying in Rome.



In all its simplicity, and in such a holy place, I felt that just for 20 minutes or so the curtain between heaven and earth was lifted. We were truly lifted into the presence of Jesus Christ and could feel his loving heart close to us. It was almost a moment of Transfiguration, which we have heard about in today's gospel. Peter, James and John had a mystical experience at the summit of Mount Tabor – Jesus' true divine nature was revealed to them.

I hope that you may have had similar experiences in your lives – perhaps in Church, but not always so. Maybe with great music, maybe in a place of beautiful nature, maybe as a baby smiles for the first time – wherever it may be, God grants us the consolation of knowing his presence.

Peter, James and John wanted to stay on that mountain for ever, but this could not of course happen. They had to return to the real world with all its struggles and temptations. We, too, need to draw strength from times when we have known Jesus close to us when life is difficult, when faith is a struggle. Today's gospel should encourage us to persevere.

Monsignor Roger

We pray for:

Those who are sick: Virginia Ndukwe, Nula Neill

Those who have died recently: Bridget Foley, Terence Cox, Joseph Pick, Lilly McDonnall

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Phyllis and Tom Attridge, Theresa Kilcoyne Ellen Dunn, Cirilio Carvalho, Sheila O'Callaghan, Teresa Roberts, Brian Patrick Monahan, Sheila Scanlon, Peggy Murray

PARISH & DIOCESAN NEWS

Collection 22 February 2026 amounted to £1,672.31
Standing orders for January: £3,941
Contactless Income for January: £362.80
Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

COME AND JOIN THE NEXT SESSION OF OUR LENT COURSE:

Wednesday, 4th March at 7.00pm:
WE DARE TO ASK - theme: Baptismal Vocation.
This course runs for four more weeks in the upstairs hall of
The Church Of The Transfiguration, Kensal Rise.

More information in our LENT 2026 leaflet
Or email Barry at wgoutreach@rcdow.org.uk



St Mary Magdalen Youth Group

from Year 9 and above

Sunday, 8th March at 4:30pm.

We will be preparing to lead the parish in the Stations of the Cross on Friday, 13th March. Whether you're a reader, an artist, a musician, or someone who enjoys working behind the scenes, there's a spot for you!

Why not give it a go? You'll find us in the annexe.

For more information, email Barry: wgoutreach@rcdow.org.uk

PARISH DIARY

Monday 2nd March **FIRST HOLY COMMUNION** **5:30pm**	Session 5: GLORY TO GOD St Mary Magdalen school
Monday 2nd March **CONFIRMATION** **6:00pm**	Session 5: WHY DID JESUS HAVE TO DIE? Church of the Transfiguration
Monday 2nd March	We are joined at Mass by pupils from St Mary Magdalen's Junior School
Friday 6th March	STATIONS OF THE CROSS 6:00pm

BAPTISM PREPARATION The next course preparing parents for the baptism of their child, will be held on **Saturday 18 April 2026** at 11:00am. Please contact the office to book a place.



Mass Intentions commencing—Sunday 1 March

Saturday	6:30pm	Sheila O'Callaghan	**Anniv**
Sunday	9:00am	People of the Parish	**Ints**
	10:30am	Theresa Kilcoyne	**Anniv**
	12:00pm	Phyllis and Tom Attridge	**Anniv**
	6:30pm	Patrick Delaney	**RIP**
Monday	9:30am	Peggy Murray	**Anniv**
Tuesday	9:30am	Ellen Dunn	**Anniv**
Wednesday	9:30am	Teresa Macken	**Birthday Ints**
Thursday	9:30am	Cirilio Carvalho	**Anniv**
Friday	9:30am	Maria McGregor	**Ints**
Saturday	9:30am	Josephine Delaney	**RIP**

HEALTH SCREENING EVENT

Another Health Screening Event will take place at the **Church of the Transfiguration on Monday 9 March 2026,** from **10:30am to 2:30pm.**

Hosted by Brent Health Matters in partnership with the NHS, this event will offer free NHS health checks for the community, including blood pressure checks, diabetes risk assessments, clinical consultations, BMI (height and weight) measurements, and emotional wellbeing support.

There will be round table talks on Nutrition and on Pharmacy and Medication Advice from 12 PM, and the same sessions will be repeated at 1 PM.

This is a walk-in service, so no appointment is needed. If any concerns arise, the NHS team will contact your GP for further consultation.

If you have mobility issues, please contact the organiser, Rocio Maguire, on 07719 563125 to discuss accessibility arrangements.

THANK YOU from CAFOD

CAFOD A better world needs all of us

Thank you for your generous support this **FAMILY FAST DAY** – your kindness is helping families like Shorai's in Zimbabwe and Rejoice's in South Sudan grow food, even in the face of drought and floods. You have shown what it means to love your neighbour this Lent – fasting, praying and giving so families can put food on the table. Find out how your donations are helping to build a better world at **cafod.org.uk/thankyou** or scan the QR code →

PS **It's not too late to donate** – pick up a CAFOD envelope in church or visit **cafod.org.uk/envelope**

VOCATIONS: 'COME AND SEE' FOR MEN

If you are interested in exploring a vocation to the Priesthood or Permanent Diaconate, then please come along to the Vocations Team's 'Come & See' morning on:

Saturday 14 March,
12 noon-3.30pm - St Bonaventure's Church Hall - 81 Parkway, Welwyn Garden City AL8 6JF *(A short walk from Welwyn Garden City Station.)*

Refreshments and a light lunch will be provided. To find out more and to register your attendance, please contact: Canon Roger Taylor - Vocations Promoter rogertaylor@rcdow.org.uk or Deacon Tito Pereira – Assistant Director Permanent Diaconate 07977 599110 or titopereira@rcdow.org.uk

Young Adults LENT RETREAT DAY with the Assumption Sisters on Saturday **21 March 2026 10am – 6pm.**
Venue: Milleret House, 20 Kensington Square, London, W8 5HH
Programme includes talks • prayer, adoration and confessions • faith sharing • mass and social time.
Register by emailing: **rebecca@assumpta-eu.org**

SVP AND CAFOD WORK EXPERIENCE

The St Vincent de Paul Society and CAFOD are offering a free week-long residential work experience in London (21–26 June) for 20 young adults (18–25) in England and Wales. Priority is given to first- and second-year university students. Apply by 6 April. For queries, contact KeziaH@svp.org.uk To apply visit here: https://svp1.formstack.com/forms/work_experience_application_form_2026