

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

April —Month of the Holy Eucharist

EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION

5 April 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
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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

Easter Sunday, in **Year A of the liturgical cycle**, centres on the Gospel account from Gospel of John (John 20:1–9), where Mary Magdalene discovers the empty tomb of Jesus Christ. It is a story of confusion turning into faith, darkness giving way to light. More than a historical remembrance, Easter is a proclamation: life has the final word.

In the early hours of the morning, while it is still dark, Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb. The stone has been rolled away. Alarmed, she runs to tell Simon Peter and the disciple whom Jesus loved—traditionally identified with John the Apostle. The two disciples race to the tomb. They see the burial cloths lying there, the head covering folded separately. The Gospel concludes with a quiet but profound line: "He saw and believed."

This moment captures the heart of Easter faith. There is no dramatic appearance of the risen Christ in this passage, no triumphant speech. Instead, there are signs: an empty tomb, folded cloths, and a dawning realization. Faith begins not with certainty but with wonder. The disciples do not yet understand everything, but something within them shifts. Hope begins to rise where despair once reigned.

Easter arrives after the sorrow of Good Friday. The crucifixion had seemed like the end of the story. The hopes of the disciples were buried with Jesus. Yet the empty tomb reveals that God's work is not finished. The resurrection declares that suffering and death do not have ultimate power.

For believers today, the message of Easter is both deeply personal and profoundly communal. In a world marked by conflict, uncertainty, and loss, the resurrection speaks of renewal. It reminds us that even in our darkest moments, transformation is possible. The stone that seals the tomb can be rolled away.

The role of Mary Magdalene in the Easter story is especially significant. She is the first witness to the empty tomb, a reminder that the Gospel often unfolds through unexpected people and surprising moments. Her journey—from grief to proclamation—mirrors the journey of every Christian community. We begin in confusion, but we are called to move toward faith and witness.

Easter also invites reflection on what resurrection means in daily life. It is not only about a miracle long ago but about a new way of living now. To believe in the resurrection is to believe that love is stronger than hatred, forgiveness stronger than revenge, and hope stronger than despair.

The folded burial cloths in the tomb are quiet symbols of this new reality. They suggest that death has been ordered, transformed, and overcome. The grave is not the end; it is the place where God's new creation begins.

As churches around the world celebrate Easter, the ancient proclamation rings out: "Christ is risen." It is a message that has echoed through centuries, inspiring courage, compassion, and faith. Easter calls believers to carry that message into the world—not only with words, but with lives shaped by hope.

In the end, the empty tomb is not merely a mystery to ponder. It is an invitation to believe that God is still at work, bringing life where we least expect it, and opening paths of hope where once there seemed only darkness.

The Peace of Christ
Fr Matteo

PARISH & DIOCESAN NEWS

Collection 29 March 2026 amounted to £1,946.31
Standing orders for February: £3,698
Contactless Income for February: £730.60
Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

THANK YOU to everyone who helped make our church look so beautiful and our services so meaningful during Holy Week, the Easter Triduum, and Easter Sunday. We are very grateful for the time, gifts, and talents you shared.

We also want to thank you for the many kindnesses you have shown us in the presbytery. Please know that we are praying for you, and we ask God to bless you and your loved ones this Easter.



EASTER OFFERING ENVELOPES

The offering on Easter Sunday, as on Christmas Day, is one of the main sources of income, for priests in the parish. For those who support the parish by using the Planned Giving envelopes, you will find an 'Easter offering envelope', in your envelope box. Parishioners who support the parish in other ways, may wish to use one of the Easter envelopes, that will be found on the tables in the church. For this donation to be assigned to the priests' stipend, it must be returned by the **Sunday 19th April.**
We thank you greatly for supporting them.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES 2026/2027

For existing envelope users, the envelopes for 2026/27 are now available for collection from the Sacristy after Mass. If you are unable to collect them in person, please email or call the office. We also have a few spare envelopes available. If you would like to sign up for this method of donating, please contact the office.

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 5 April

Saturday	Easter Sunday of the Resurrection		
	8:00pm	Easter Vigil in the Holy Night	
Sunday	9:00am	Celebrant's Intentions	
	10:30am	Celebrant's Intentions	
	12:00pm	Celebrant's Intentions	
	6:30pm	NO EVENING MASS	
Monday	9:30am	Catherine Cummins	**Ints**
Tuesday	9:30am	Rosemary Meenagh	**RIP**
Wednesday	9:30am	Joao B. Fernandes	**Anniv**
	12:00pm	Funeral T/L Ann Casey	**RIP**
Thursday	9:30am	Brother John O'Neill	**RIP**
Friday	9:30am	Ana Piedade Braganza	**Anniv**
Saturday	9:30am	Mary Columb	**Ints**

FUNERAL NOTICE

The Requiem Mass for the late
Ann Casey
will take place on Wednesday, 8th April at 12:00pm
followed by burial at Paddington Old Cemetery at 1:30pm

May she rest in peace ✞

ATTENTION ALL CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES RETREAT REMINDER



This Saturday, 11th April
meeting at Willesden Green Station at 8:15am.
Don't forget to bring:

- A packed lunch
- Your Oyster Travel Card
- Suitable clothing for walking and being outside

We expect to return at 5pm.
Please arrive on time so we can leave together.
We're looking forward to spending the day with you all!

Fundraising Dance in Memory of Elaine Lydon

In loving memory of one of our lifelong parishioners, **Elaine Lydon**, and her mother **Nora O'Brien**, both of whom passed away in 2024, a fundraising dance will be held:
Saturday, 18th April
Mazenod Social Club, Quex Road, Kilburn, NW6 4LS
7:00pm until late
There will be live music and a warm welcome for all.
The family kindly invites donations, with a suggested minimum of £5 per ticket.
All proceeds will go to **Cancer Research**.
To donate please visit:https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/michaelas-giving-page-719

DIVINE MERCY PILGRIMAGE TO AYLESFORD PRIORY

on **Saturday, 11 April** led by Marian Fathers
as a Preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday.

The coach will leave Ealing Broadway station at 7:30 am and depart from Aylesford at 5 pm.

Please call Millie Fernandez on WhatsApp 07957 594 646 if you would like to join us . Divine Mercy Apostolate, Ealing.

JP2 FOOTBALL CUP

Are you a young man aged 18–35 who enjoys a good game of football with fellow faith-filled friends? Join the Youth Ministry's Annual Men's Football Tournament for the John Paul II Cup on
6 June 2026!
Each team will need at least 10 players to qualify.
Don't have a team? Get in touch and we can help allocate a team or find you some players.
Want to volunteer to be a referee? Let us know!
For more information email youth@rcdow.org.uk or visit:
https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/events/jp2-cup-2026

We pray for:

Those who are sick: Mary Hall, Jasper Terroni
Those who have died recently: Cristina Nascimento, Ann Casey
Those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Ana Piedade Braganza, Joao B. Fernandes, Ronnie McClay, Eddie O'Shaughnessy