

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

May —Month of the Blessed Virgin

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

10 May 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

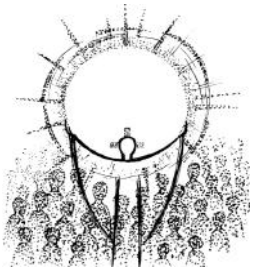
The Sixth Sunday of Easter (Year A) offers a quiet but deeply challenging vision of what it means to live a faithful life in a restless world. The Gospel, drawn from John 14, continues Jesus' farewell discourse—a moment filled not with triumph, but with tenderness, urgency, and promise. "If you love me, you will keep my commandments." It is a line that resists modern instincts to separate belief from practice, or spirituality from responsibility.

At its core, this Sunday confronts a comfortable illusion: that faith can remain internal, private, or purely emotional. Jesus does not frame love as sentiment alone; he binds it to action. Love, in this vision, becomes visible through obedience—not in a rigid or legalistic sense, but as a lived response to a relationship. It is less about rule-following and more about alignment: allowing one's life to reflect the very character of Christ.

Yet the Gospel does not leave believers with a burden they must carry alone. It introduces the promise of the Advocate—the Spirit of truth—who will remain with them. This is not a distant or abstract assurance. It is a radical claim that divine presence is ongoing, active, and accessible. In times of uncertainty, when moral clarity feels elusive or courage falters, the Spirit is described not as an occasional visitor but as a constant companion.

This message feels particularly relevant in a cultural moment shaped by distraction, polarization, and fatigue. To "keep the commandments" today might mean resisting the pull toward indifference, choosing honesty over convenience, or extending compassion where it is least expected. These are not grand gestures, but they are deeply countercultural ones.

The reading from 1 Peter adds another layer: "Always be ready to give an explanation…for a reason for your hope." Importantly, this defence of faith is to be done with gentleness and reverence. In an age of loud opinions and quick judgments, this counsel feels almost revolutionary. Faith is not presented as something to weaponize, but something to witness through integrity and humility.



Taken together, the readings suggest that Christian identity is not defined by affiliation alone, but by transformation. It is a call to live differently—not perfectly, but intentionally. The promise of Easter is not only that life conquers death, but that love, embodied in daily choices, has the power to reshape both individuals and communities.

The Peace of Christ

Fr Matteo

We pray for:

Those who are sick: Susie, Remy D'Sa

Those who have died recently: Anne Phelan

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mary Sullivan, Nancy Quirke, Nancy and Mike Dollery

PARISH & DIOCESAN NEWS

Collection 3 May 2026 amounted to £1,670.99
Standing orders for April: £3,875.00
Contactless Income for April: £186.84
Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

CONGRATULATIONS to all our young people who received the Sacrament of Confirmation this weekend. Thank you to the families, catechists, and all in our parish who helped prepare and support them for this blessed occasion.



"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you." — Acts 1:8

"Come, Holy Spirit."

THE SOLEMNITY OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD
will be celebrated on **Thursday 14th May** with Masses at **9:30am** and **6:30pm.** This is a Holy Day of Obligation.

PARISH DIARY

Monday, 11th May	Pupils from St Mary Magdalen school will be joining us at the 9:30am Mass.
Monday, 11th May	Welcome Space at Kensal Rise, straight after the 10am Mass. All are most welcome!
Tuesday, 12th May 9:30am Mass	We are joined by the students of Newman Catholic College.



A MONTH OF PRAYER FOR PRIESTLY VOCATIONS
from Good Shepherd Sunday to Pentecost 2026

Joining with our Diocesan brothers and sisters, we are dedicating the morning Holy Hour to pray for priestly vocations:

Week 1: Pray for men to be open to God's call to priesthood
Week 2: Pray for those currently discerning this vocation.
Week 3: Pray for seminarians in their formation.
Week 4: Pray for your parish's priests and all clergy serving in the diocese.

Holy Hour—Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Monday to Saturday 8:30am

Mass Intentions commencing—Sunday 10 May

Saturday	6:30pm	Mary Sullivan	**Anniv**
Sunday	9:00am	Noel Armstrong	**RIP**
	10:30am	People of the Parish	**Ints**
	12:00pm	Nancy Quirke	**Anniv**
	6:30pm	Cecillia & Habbiur (Ray) Rayhaman	**RIP**
Monday	9:30am	Nancy and Mike Dollery	**Anniv**
Tuesday	9:30am	Antonio Quadros	**RIP**
Wednesday	9:30am	Carmel Hollowed	**Ints**
Thursday	9:30am	Santana Pinto and family	**Ints**
	6:30pm	Antonio Quadros	**RIP**
Friday	9:30am	Maria Nowicka	**Ints**
Saturday	9:30am	Mary Fitzgerald	**RIP**

MAYOR'S VISIT

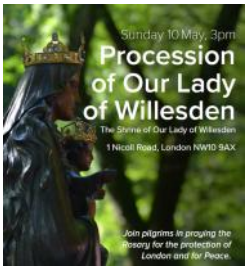
The Worshipful the Mayor of the London Borough of Brent, Councillor Ryan Hack, will attend the 6:30pm Mass on Sunday, 17th May. It is a great honour for our parish that the Mayor has chosen to be with us, and we will offer him a warm welcome. There will be an opportunity to meet the Mayor afterwards, which will be an excellent chance to showcase our wonderful, flourishing parish.

ARE YOU WORRIED ABOUT EXAMS?



There is a prayer card at the back of the church to help you as you are sitting your exams.
If someone in your family is taking an exam, please feel free to take one for them.

St Joseph of Cupertino, pray for us.



PROCESSION OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN

The May procession will take place today, **Sunday May 10th at 3pm**, and the Preacher will be Fr Nigel Woollen. The intention of the Procession is the Protection of London, and for Peace.

BAPTISM PREPARATION The next course preparing parents for the baptism of their child, will be held on **Saturday, 6 June 2026** at 11:00am. Please contact the office to book a place.

WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL INTERFAITH GROUP TALK

Wed 20 May, 1:30–3:00pm
Hinsley Room, Morpeth Terrace, SW1

Talk by Daniel Mann, recently returned from three months in the West Bank as a human rights monitor with a World Council of Churches programme. He will share insights on daily life under occupation, recent developments since the Gaza war, and ways to support a just peace. Refreshments provided. All welcome.

EXPLORE THE CHOSEN



Date: Saturday 30th May
Time: 2:00—5:30pm
Venue: Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, London, SW1P 1QN

This is an interactive session where you will have the opportunity to see different ways to help people encounter Christ.
Sign up here: https://wkf.ms/45MB6L6?text0=
Or go to www.rcdow.org.uk and scroll down to 'All Events'.

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a First Saturday

DIVINE MERCY RECOLLECTION DAY

at the Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham,
on Saturday 6th June 2026 from 10:30 am to 4:30 pm.
The Recollection Day will include Holy Mass, Talk,
Hour of Mercy with Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All welcome.
Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information.
Coaches from Slough, Ealing Broadway, North London, Barking and Victoria.