

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

May —Month of the Blessed Virgin

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

17 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

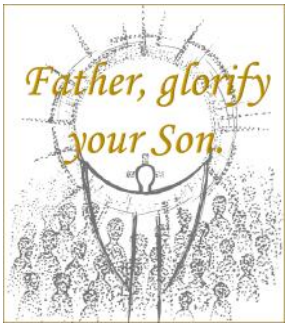
Today's Gospel gives us a beautiful image: before Jesus speaks, "he raised his eyes to heaven." Gospel of John His eyes are lifted upward because his heart is lifted upward. Jesus longs for the Father, for fullness of life, for eternal glory. And then he prays for us — that we may share in that eternal life.

For many of us, "eternal life" can sound distant or unreal. We are deeply rooted in what is going on around us, there is so much on our minds: work, family, politics, wars, and for those at school exams. We are not thinking of heaven. Yet deep inside every human heart is a longing for something more. We want happiness that lasts, love that does not end, peace that cannot be taken away. That longing is really a longing for God.

The pandemic and lockdown taught many people something important: our lives are limited. We were limited in where we could go, who we could see, what we could do. We discovered how fragile life can be. Even outside lockdown, our lives still have limits. We are limited by time, by fear, by mistakes, by sickness, by loneliness, by sin. Sometimes we feel trapped by pressure, anxiety, or disappointment. But in the gospel today, Jesus speaks about a life without limits.

When we look around creation, we already catch glimpses of God's glory. Think of the beauty of the stars at night, music that moves the heart, laughter with friends, the love of family, moments of prayer when we feel close to God. Think of the Eucharist, where heaven touches earth. These are small windows opening onto something far greater.

Jesus says eternal life is "to know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent." Eternal life is not simply endless time. It is perfect friendship with God. It is complete joy, complete love, complete freedom. Imagine every good thing in this life — but without pain, fear, death, or separation. That is heaven.



So today Jesus invites us to lift up our eyes, just as he did. Lift your eyes beyond the pressures of today. Lift your eyes beyond fear and limitation. Lift your eyes toward the life God promises.

Because the message of Christianity is not simply about rules or obligations. At its heart is a promise: through Jesus Christ, we are called to life without limits — eternal life with God forever.

Monsignor Roger

We pray for:

Those who are sick: Remy D'Sa, Mary Hall, Rose McDermott

Those who have died recently: Karen Redican, Barbara Johnson, Maria Lourdes Teixeira, Joan Ducker

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Oliver Fay, Ernest and Catherine Lindford, Bernadette McHugh and Matthew Crooke, Maureen Healy Manning, Kay Ashton, Tony Walsh

PARISH & DIOCESAN NEWS

Collection 10 May 2026 amounted to £1,473.07
Standing orders for April: £3,875.00
Contactless Income for April: £186.84
Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.



WE CONTINUE OUR MONTH OF PRAYER FOR PRIESTLY VOCATIONS
Leading up to Pentecost 2026

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

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

WELCOME SPACE at the Church of the Transfiguration

Every Monday at 10:30am (straight after 10am Mass)
Everybody is welcome to come along and join this friendly group for tea, companionship and conversation. We look forward to seeing familiar faces and meeting new friends. No need to book—just drop in on a Monday and enjoy good company and a cuppa!

The pupils from St Mary Magdalen's school will be helping out at Coffee morning this Tuesday. All are very welcome!



SVP AT THE SHRINE OF OUR LADY OF WILLESDEN
SVP4NW10: The St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP) is a network of volunteers, motivated by faith, who visit vulnerable or isolated people to offer friendship and practical support. If you, or someone you know, would like support, you can phone and leave a message on the dedicated number 07554 198901.

If you are **housebound**, even for a short period, please let Monsignor Roger know so arrangements can be made for a visit. If you are **going into hospital** and wish to see a priest, you will need to inform the staff so a visit can be arranged by the Catholic Chaplain.

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.

Mass Intentions commencing—Sunday 17 May

Saturday	6:30pm	The Hafford Family	**RIP**
Sunday	9:00am	Chaira Vallanie Carvalho	**Birthday Ints**
	10:30am	Oliver Fay	**Anniv**
	12:00pm	People of the Parish	**Ints**
	6:30pm	Ernest and Catherine Lindford	**Anniv**
Monday	9:30am	Bernadette McHugh and Matthew Crooke	**Anniv**
Tuesday	9:30am	Brid Herlihy	**RIP**
Wednesday	9:30am	Doris Noble	**Get Well Ints**
Thursday	9:30am	Rita Ngwoke	**Birthday Ints**
Friday	9:30am	Alison Griffin	**RIP**
Saturday	9:30am	Martine Leahy and family	**Ints**

MAYOR'S VISIT

We welcome The Worshipful the Mayor of the London Borough of Brent, Councillor Ryan Hack, at the 6:30pm Mass today, Sunday, 17th May. It is a great honour for our parish that the Mayor has chosen to be with us, and I am sure he will feel warmly welcomed. There will be an opportunity to meet the Mayor afterwards, during a short reception after Mass.

CHURCHES IN BRENT PRESENT: JOINT PENTECOST CELEBRATION

Friday, 22nd May 2026 at 7:30pm
THEME: THE HOLY SPIRIT
Venue: St Michael the Archangel,
St Michael's Ave, Wembley HA9 6SL
For more information, please read this newsletter on our website or see the poster on the noticeboard in the porch.

CELEBRATE Trust have produced some engaging parish and family resources for the **Feast of Pentecost**. Follow the link below to see the **Pentecost family activity pack** - an online resource full of links to fun activities, prayer suggestions, books to savour and movies to enjoy together.

https://www.celebratetrust.org/onlinefamilyactivitypacks

The London
Eucharistic Octave
30th May – 7th June 2026
Celebrating the Eucharistic Heart of the Catholic Church
2026

EUCHARISTIC OCTAVE AND CENTRAL LONDON CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

The Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament, Corpus Christi, Maiden Lane will be hosting a Eucharistic Octave from **30 May - 7 June**. This has been organised by several London parishes to celebrate our Eucharistic Lord in the lead up to the Solemnity of Corpus Christi and includes the celebration of Masses in the various Rites of the Church and the *Quarant'Ore* devotions.
Full details can be found at https://catholiclondon.org
Or see this newsletter on our website.

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.

INTERESTED IN TRAINING AND VOLUNTEERING AS A RELATIONSHIP COUNSELLOR?

Marriage Care is a Catholic organisation offering relationship support. We are looking for empathetic individuals committed to supporting adult relationships to train on our
Certificate in Relationship Counselling (CRC)
and to volunteer with us to make a real difference to couples and families.
There are costs associated with training on our CRC, but no one is excluded on the basis of their ability to pay. Find out more by visiting: **www.marriagecare.org.uk** or emailing:
volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk

CHURCHES IN BRENT PRESENT

JOINT PENTECOST CELEBRATION

FRIDAY 22 MAY 2026

7.30PM

THEME: THE HOLY SPIRIT



SPEAKER:

REV RICK JOHNSTON
(NLBC, HARROW)



MUSIC:

BRENT COMMUNITY
GOSPEL CHOIR

FACILITATORS:

BRENT BOROUGH
DEANS



VENUE:

St Michael the Archangel,
St Michael's Ave,
Wembley HA9 6SL

+447956923732

The London
Eucharistic Octave

30th May – 7th June 2026

Celebrating the Eucharistic Heart of the Catholic Church

2026

Saturday 30th May | 6pm

SUNG MASS OPENING THE OCTAVE

Monday 1st – Friday 5th | 6:30pm

Mass in the various Rites and Uses of the Catholic Church

Scan for full Programme

Thursday 4th – Saturday 6th June

Quarant'Ore Devotions | maidenlane.org.uk/forty

Sunday 7th June | 11am

PONTIFICAL SUNG MASS OF CORPUS CHRISTI

The Rt Revd Paul Mason

at Corpus Christi, Maiden Lane with Procession to Warwick St

***Followed by* | 3:30pm**

THE CONTINUATION OF THE CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION

From Warwick Street to Spanish Place via the Ukrainian Cathedral



Organised by the Westminster Diocesan Parishes of
Maiden Lane, Warwick Street & Spanish Place, with the Ukrainian Cathedral & the Order of Malta

www.catholiclondon.org

The London
Eucharistic Octave

30th May – 7th June 2026

Celebrating the Eucharistic Heart of the Catholic Church

2026

All events taking place at Corpus Christi, Maiden Lane, WC2E 7NB, except for the afternoon Procession on Sunday 22nd, which departs at 3:30pm from Our Lady of the Assumption, Warwick Street, W1B 5LZ

Saturday 30th May | 6pm | Vigil of the Most Holy Trinity
SUNG MASS OPENING THE OCTAVE
Mass in the Roman Rite (English)

Sunday 31st | Mass in the Parishes as advertised

Monday 1st June | 6:30pm
Missa Cantata in the Roman Rite
Celebrant: Fr Alan Robinson, *Rector of Corpus Christi*
Preacher: Fr Joseph Bailham, OP, *Rector of the Rosary Shrine*

Tuesday 2nd | 6:30pm
Mass in the Gheez Rite (Eritrean)
Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Ephrem Andom, *Chaplain to the Eritrean Gheez Community in London*

Wednesday 3rd | 6:30pm
Ukrainian Catholic Divine Liturgy of St John Chrysostom
Celebrant & Preacher: Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski
Bishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Great Britain

Thursday 4th | 6:30pm | Votive Mass of Corpus Christi
Mass in the Roman Rite (Latin) opening the Annual *Quarant'Ore* Devotions
Celebrant: Fr Alan Robinson, *Rector of Corpus Christi*
Preacher: Mgr Philip Whitmore, *Rector of St James's, Spanish Place*
Exposition from the end of Mass until Midnight

Scan for full Programme

Friday 5th | 7am – Midnight | Continuation of *Quarant'Ore*
6:30pm | Mass for Peace
Mass in the Ordinariate Use of the Roman Rite
Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Mark Elliott-Smith, *Rector of Our Lady of the Assumption, Warwick Street*

Saturday 6th | 7am – 6pm | Continuation of *Quarant'Ore*
6:00pm | Mass Closing *Quarant'Ore*
Sung Mass in the Roman Rite (English)

Sunday 7th June | 11:00am
PONTIFICAL SUNG MASS OF CORPUS CHRISTI
The Rt Revd Paul Mason, *Bishop of the Forces*
Corpus Christi, Maiden Lane, WC2E 7NB, followed by the Procession to Warwick Street

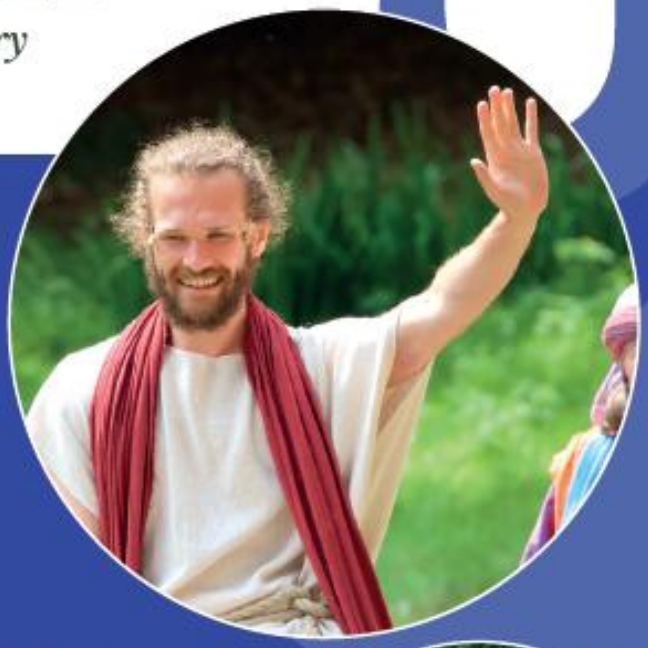
followed by | 3:30pm
THE CONTINUATION OF THE CORPUS CHRISTI PROCESSION
Departing from Our Lady of the Assumption, Warwick Street, W1B 5LZ to St James's, Spanish Place via the Ukrainian Cathedral. There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at Warwick Street from 2pm. Pontifical Benediction imparted by Bishop Paul Mason will conclude the Octave.

www.catholiclondon.org

WINTERSHALL

Experience the story





The Life of Christ

The greatest story of all time



16 - 20 June 2026
10am - 3.30pm

Our powerful, biblical, outdoor drama takes you back to a time when Jesus lived on earth.

See the remarkable events of Jesus' life re-enacted as you follow the actors around Wintershall's beautiful lakes and ancient woodland.



BOOK NOW wintershall.org.uk

01483 892167 • admin@wintershall.org.uk

Wintershall, Bramley, Guildford, Surrey GU5 0LR

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