

St Mary Magdalen Catholic Church

May —Month of the Blessed Virgin

PENTECOST SUNDAY

24 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
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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

Pentecost Sunday arrives quietly in the calendar, yet its meaning resounds loudly across the Christian world. Celebrated fifty days after Easter, Pentecost commemorates the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles, an event often described as the birth of the Church. But beyond the liturgy and symbolism, Pentecost offers a timely reflection for a fractured and uncertain world.

The biblical account in the Book of Acts tells of fearful disciples gathered in one place when suddenly "a sound like the blowing of a violent wind" filled the house. Tongues of fire appeared above them, and they began speaking in different languages, understood by people from many nations. The message is strikingly modern: diversity need not divide humanity; understanding is possible even among differences of language, culture, and background.

In an age marked by political polarization, social mistrust, and growing isolation, Pentecost reminds us that communication is more than noise. The miracle was not merely that the apostles spoke, but that others truly heard them. Today, societies are overflowing with voices but starving for listening. Public debate often rewards outrage over wisdom, slogans over substance. Pentecost challenges this culture by calling people toward empathy, patience, and genuine dialogue.

The symbolism of fire is equally compelling. Fire can destroy, but it can also purify and illuminate. The flames of Pentecost were not weapons; they were signs of courage and renewal. The frightened disciples emerged from hiding to become witnesses of hope. That transformation carries an enduring lesson: fear cannot build communities, but courage inspired by compassion can.

Pentecost also speaks powerfully to questions of spiritual fatigue. Many people, religious or not, are searching for meaning in a world dominated by speed, consumption, and constant distraction. The feast points toward an inner renewal that cannot be purchased or downloaded. It suggests that human beings flourish not only through achievement, but through purpose, service, and connection.

Importantly, Pentecost is not a celebration reserved for clergy or theologians. Its message belongs equally to ordinary people striving to live with integrity in daily life. Teachers who inspire students, neighbors who care for one another, volunteers who support the vulnerable, and families who persevere through hardship all embody the spirit of Pentecost in practical ways.

As churches around the world fill with red vestments and prayers this Sunday, the deeper invitation remains universal. Pentecost calls humanity beyond fear and division toward understanding and shared responsibility. In turbulent times, that may be not only a religious message, but a profoundly necessary one.

The Peace of Christ

Fr Matteo

We pray for:

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

Those who have died recently: Joan Ducker, Monica Lynch, Evelyn Ihase Idiaghe, Liam McGloin, Martin Kelly

Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Mario Jose Francisco de Braganca, Alva Marina Viegas, Mary Miller, Rocco Marotta, Thomas Carmody, Gilbertha Giraud

PARISH & DIOCESAN NEWS

Collection 17 May 2026 amounted to £1,599.20
Standing orders for April: £3,875.00
Contactless Income for April: £186.84
Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.



BLESSED SACRAMENT PROCESSION

On **Sunday, 7th June**, the Feast of Corpus Christi, we warmly invite all our **First Holy Communion children** and their families to join us for the **12 noon** Mass here in our church. There will be a special procession led by the children and we ask that they wear their Holy Communion outfits.





COMMUNITY HUB EVENTS

At the Five Precious Wounds, Stonebridge & Our Lady of Willesden, Harlesden

Five Precious Wounds and Our Lady of Willesden Parishes will host Community Hub events from May to August, in partnership with Caritas Westminster and Brent Health Matters.

The NHS, local charities, and support organisations will offer advice on housing, health checks, wellbeing, employment, family support, carers' support, and more.

Please look out for the posters and flyers at the back of the church, which include details of the organisations attending each event date.

Five Precious Wounds Hall (4:00pm–8:00pm)
28 May, 25 June, 23 July, 27 August 2026
Our Lady of Willesden – Marian Hall (11:30am–3:30pm)
11 June, 9 July, 13 August 2026
All are welcome.

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 24 May

Saturday	6:30pm	Peter Manning	**Ints**
Sunday	9:00am	Ellen Rafferty	**RIP**
	10:30am	Mario Jose Francisco de Braganca	**Anniv**
	12:00pm	Sheila Behan	**RIP**
	6:30pm	People of the Parish	**Ints**
Monday	9:30am	Ita O'Brien	**RIP**
Tuesday	9:30am	Mary Miller	**Anniv**
Wednesday	9:30am	Alva Marina Viegas	**Anniv**
Thursday	9:30am	Francisco Rodrigues	**RIP**
	11:30am	Funeral—T/L Joan Ducker	**RIP**
Friday	9:30am	Margaret Scollan	**RIP**
Saturday	9:30am	Mary Leahy	**Birthday Ints**

FUNERAL NOTICES

The Reception and Requiem Mass for the late
Joan Ducker
will take place on Thursday, 28th May at 11:30am
followed by a private cremation.

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The Reception and Requiem Mass for the late
Maria Lourdes Teixeira
will take place on Monday, 1st June at 11:00am
followed by burial at Putney Vale Cemetery at 1:15pm

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The Reception and Requiem Mass for the late
Hannah (Anne) Phelan
will take place on Tuesday, 2nd June at 11:00am
followed by cremation at West London Crematorium at 12:00pm

May they rest in peace ✞



Works by Handel, Mozart, Schubert, Bellini and others.

Saturday, 6th June at 5:00pm
At St Anne's Church, 125 Salusbury Rd,
NW6 6RG.

Go to queensparksingers.uk →'upcoming events' for a full programme and tickets.
£10 online and £12 at the door.



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



WINTERSHALL present
THE LIFE OF CHRIST
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01483 892167

16-20 June 2026