

Presbytery – Clergy House
Peter Avenue, Willesden Green,
London, NW10 2DD
Tel: 020 8451 4677

Parish Clergy
PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Albert Ofere
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Father Matteo Di Giuseppe
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Office: 020 4542 3716
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Father Kamal Kanawadi
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Parish Office
Maria Nowicka
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Parish office open:
Tuesday-Friday 10 to 3pm

Parish Outreach Worker
Barry Phillips-Devaney
wgoutreach@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Rep
Claudia Tugbobo
willesdengreensg3@
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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

ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

October – Month of the Holy Rosary

TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
18 October 2026

https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/willesdengreen/

This Parish is part of Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust, Registered Charity No: 233699

The Gospel for the Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time presents us with one of Jesus' most memorable teachings: "Give back to Caesar what belongs to Caesar—and to God what belongs to God." These words invite us to reflect on our responsibilities as citizens of the world and, above all, as people of faith.

The Pharisees and Herodians approach Jesus with a question designed to trap him: is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar? Whatever answer he gives could provoke opposition. Jesus, however, refuses to be drawn into their political game. By asking whose image appears on the coin, he directs attention beyond the coin itself to a much deeper truth about our relationship with God.

Paying taxes and fulfilling our civic responsibilities are important duties. Christians are called to contribute to the common good, respect legitimate authority, act honestly and work for justice. Yet our loyalty to earthly powers must never replace our ultimate allegiance to God. Political leaders, institutions and material possessions all have their place, but none can claim ownership of our conscience or our soul.

The question for each of us is simple: if the coin bears Caesar's image, whose image do we bear? We are created in the image and likeness of God. Our lives, therefore, are not merely our own possessions. We belong to God, who calls us to live with love, compassion, integrity and generosity.

The first reading from Isaiah reminds us that God can work through unexpected people and circumstances. Even Cyrus, a foreign ruler who did not know the Lord, became an instrument of God's purpose. This challenges us not to limit God's action to familiar places or people. God's providence can reach beyond the boundaries we create.

In the second reading, Saint Paul praises the Thessalonians for their work of faith, labour of love and endurance in hope. Their example reminds us that genuine faith is not simply a matter of words or Sunday worship. It must be visible in the way we treat our neighbours, serve those in need and respond to the challenges of daily life.



As we celebrate this Sunday, let us ask ourselves what we are giving to God. Are we offering only a little time and attention, or are we giving him our whole hearts? To give God what belongs to God means allowing our faith to shape every decision, relationship and responsibility.

May we fulfil our duties in the world faithfully, while remembering that our deepest allegiance belongs to the Lord. Let us give Caesar his due, but give God our very selves.

The Peace of Christ
Fr Matteo

PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS

Collection 11 October 2026 amounted to £1,803.60
Standing orders for September: £4,029.00
Contactless Income for September: £710.31
Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

LECTIO DIVINA BIBLE STUDY FOR YOUNG ADULTS

TODAY: Sunday, October 18th at 4:45pm

Join other young adults and discover how prayerful reflection on scripture can deepen your faith, enrich your prayer life, and strengthen your relationship with Christ.

This is taking place in the annexe by the entrance to the church. Please contact Barry via email if you are interested or have any questions : wgoutreach@rcdow.org.uk
Our next session is on Sunday, 1st November.

AUTUMN STUDY COURSE with RCIA



WE DARE TO LOVE, is a five-week course exploring God's love through scripture, prayer and reflection. Ideal for anyone wishing to deepen their faith, it is also required for adults preparing for Baptism in the Catholic Church (RCIA).

The course starts **Wednesday October 21st 7.00pm** in the upstairs hall of the Church of The Transfiguration.
For more information email Barry at: **wgoutreach@rcdow.org.uk**

BAPTISM PREPARATION

The next course preparing parents for the baptism of their child will be held on **Saturday, 7th November 2026** at **11:00am**. Please contact the office to book a place.

CERTIFICATE OF CATHOLIC PRACTICE

for Nursery, Infant and Primary school applications.
Fr Albert will be available to sign the Certificates on
Monday, 16th November
from 10am – 12noon and from 5:00pm – 7:00pm.
You will be seen on a 'first come, first served basis'. Meetings will take place in the Sacristy. Before your appointment, please download and complete one CCP Application form:
https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/willesdengreen/certificate-of-catholic-practice-applications/
The Certificates will be available in the church for you to fill out the **top half only** for every school you are applying for.

MASS INTENTIONS COMMENCING 18th October 2026

Saturday	6:30pm	Alistair Cox	**RIP**
Sunday	9:00am	Noel Gill	**RIP**
	10:30am	Karen and John Redican	**RIP**
	12:00pm	People of the Parish	**Ints**
	6:30pm	Kathy Casey	**Anniv**
Monday	9:30am	Holy Souls	**RIP**
Tuesday	9:30am	Robina O'Brien	**RIP**
Wednesday	9:30am	Dermoth O'Connor	**RIP**
Thursday	9:30am	Tadhg Sullivan	**Ints**
	1:30pm	Funeral T/L Elizabeth Wright	**RIP**
Friday	9:30am	Brother John O'Neill	**Anniv**
Saturday	9:30am	Mary Enright	**Anniv**

We pray for: **Those who have died recently:** Marie McGeady, Elizabeth Wright, Dennis Murphy
Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Kathy Casey, Brother John O'Neill, Mary Enright, Maryann O'Halloran

Funeral Notices

The Reception and Requiem Mass for the late
Elizabeth Wright
will take place on Thursday, 22nd October at 1:30pm
followed by cremation at West London Crematorium at 3:00pm

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The Reception and Requiem Mass for the late
Cyrillia Joseph
will take place on Monday, 26th October at 11:30am
followed by burial at Willesden New Cemetery at 1:30pm

May they rest in peace ✞

CAFOD — THANK YOU for supporting CAFOD's Family Fast Day!

CAFOD — A better world needs all of us

Thank you for putting your faith into action this Family Fast Day.
We raised £700.20!
Your prayers and donations make CAFOD's work possible, creating real and lasting change for our global neighbours.
To find out more about the work that your generosity at Fast Day makes possible visit: *cafod.org.uk/parishthankyou*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION 2027

All children who are due to receive their First Holy Communion (currently in Year 3 or above) or make their Confirmation (currently in Year 9 or above) need to obtain an application form.
The forms will be available from the celebrating priest after all weekend Masses in October to be returned by 8th November.

INDUCTION OF FR ALBERT

We are delighted to announce that Fr Albert will be inducted as the new Parish Priest of St Mary Magdalen during the 12 noon Mass on Sunday 1 November. The induction will be conducted by Canon Shaun Lennard. All parishioners are warmly invited to join us for this special occasion as we formally welcome Fr Albert to our parish.

NOVEMBER DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Sunday 1st	**All Saints – usual Sunday Mass times**
Monday 2nd	**All Souls – Masses at 9:30am & 6:30pm**
Monday 2nd	**Concelebrated Mass at St Mary's Cemetery 11:30am with blessing of graves.**
Sunday 8th	**Remembrance Sunday. Solemn Mass for the Fallen at 12 noon.**
Tuesday 10th	**Mass for deceased priests of the Deanery at St Joseph's Church, Wembley at 11:00am**
Thursday 19th	**Mass of Remembrance at 7:00pm when we pray for all our parishioners, family and friends who have died in the past year. All welcome.**

Federation of Convent of Jesus and Mary Catholic Infant School & Nursery and St Mary Magdalen's Junior School

OPEN DAYS

If you have a child due to start Nursery, Reception or Junior School in September 2027, you are welcome to attend the open days below. There is no need to reserve a place.
Applications for Nursery and Reception and Junior School September 2027 are to be made no later than 15th January 2027

OPEN DAYS at CJMIS&N
CJMIS&N NURSERY – 10th November @ 3.30pm
CJMIS&N RECEPTION – 12th November @ 3.30pm
SMM JUNIOR TRANSITION – 19th November @ 9am

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