

Presbytery – Clergy House
Peter Avenue, Willesden Green,
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Tel: 020 8451 4677

Parish Clergy
PARISH PRIEST: Fr. Albert Ofere
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Father Matteo Di Giuseppe
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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@
safeguardrcdow.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

ST MARY MAGDALEN CATHOLIC CHURCH

October – Month of the Holy Rosary

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
25 October 2026

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

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

The 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A, invites us to reflect on the greatest commandment that should guide every Christian: love of God and love of neighbour. In the Gospel according to Matthew (22:34–40), Jesus declares that these two commandments summarise the entire law and the prophets. His message is simple yet profound: our love for God must be reflected in the way we treat other people.

When asked which commandment is the greatest, Jesus responds by calling us to love God with all our heart, soul and mind. He then immediately adds a second commandment: to love our neighbour as ourselves. By linking these two commandments, Jesus reminds us that genuine faith cannot be separated from practical love. Prayer, worship and religious observances are essential, but they must bear fruit in compassion, forgiveness, justice and service.

The first reading from Exodus (22:20–26) reinforces this message by instructing the people of Israel not to oppress foreigners, widows or orphans, and not to exploit the poor. God hears the cries of the vulnerable and expects his people to treat them with dignity and compassion. This challenges us to examine how we relate to the less privileged in our communities. Do we notice the lonely, support struggling families, defend the oppressed and offer hope to those who feel forgotten?

In our world today, where division, selfishness, hatred and indifference often threaten human relationships, Christ's commandment of love remains urgently relevant. It calls us to rise above tribalism, discrimination, prejudice and personal interests. We cannot sincerely claim to love God while deliberately humiliating others, refusing to forgive or ignoring the suffering around us. Our neighbour is not only a family member or friend, but also the stranger, the poor, the difficult person and even someone with whom we disagree.

The second reading, from First Thessalonians (1:5–10), reminds us that Christian faith becomes a powerful witness when it is visible in our lives. Like the Thessalonians, we are called to become examples of faith through our conduct.

As we celebrate this Sunday, let us remember that holiness is expressed not only in what we say or pray, but also in how we live. Every act of kindness, every word of encouragement and every effort to promote peace becomes an expression of our love for God.

May we, therefore, make love the foundation of our families, communities and society. For when we love God wholeheartedly and our neighbour sincerely, we fulfil the very heart of the Gospel and become true witnesses of Jesus Christ.

The Peace of Christ
Fr Matteo

We pray for:
Those who are sick: His Holiness Pope Leo, Sean Martin Casey, Dorina Dsa,
Those who have died recently: Cyrillia Joseph, Marie McGeady, John Shannon
Those whose anniversaries occur at this time: Joaquina Raposa, Denis Dempsey, Sharon McConnell Evans, Joseph Flaherty, Carol, David and James Portsmouth, Elizabeth Sipp, Aurora Albuquerque

PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS

Collection 18 October 2026 amounted to £1,856.77
Standing orders for September: £4,029.00
Contactless Income for September: £710.31
Thank you for your generosity in whatever way you give.

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).
Second session on **Wednesday October 28th 7.00pm** in the upstairs hall of the Church of The Transfiguration in Kensal Rise.
For more information email Barry at: **wgoutreach@rcdow.org.uk**

LECTIO DIVINA FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Next session: Sunday 1 November, 4:45pm
Join other young adults for prayerful reflection on Scripture and deepen your relationship with Christ.
Venue: Church Annexe (by the church entrance)
For more information, contact Barry: wgoutreach@rcdow.org.uk.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION & CONFIRMATION 2027

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

Fr Albert will be inducted as the new Parish Priest of St Mary Magdalen and The Transfiguration 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 as we formally welcome Fr Albert to our parishes.

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 in the Sacristy.
from 10am – 12noon and from 5:00pm – 7:00pm.
You will be seen on a 'first come, first served basis'. Before your appointment, please download and complete one CCP Application:
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 25th October 2026

Saturday	6:30pm	Joaquina Raposa	**Anniv**
Sunday	9:00am	Denis Dempsey	**Anniv**
	10:30am	Mary Rowe Smullen	**RIP**
	12:00pm	People of the Parish	**Ints**
	6:30pm	Kathleen and Sean Higgins	**RIP**
Monday	9:30am	George Mowatt	**Ints**
	11:30am	Funeral T/L Cyrillia Joseph	**RIP**
Tuesday	9:30am	Sharon McConnell Evans	**Anniv**
Wednesday	9:30am	Joseph Flaherty	**Anniv**
Thursday	9:30am	Carol, David and James Portsmouth	**Anniv**
Friday	9:30am	Elizabeth Sipp	**Anniv**
	11:00am	Funeral T/L Marie McGeady	**RIP**
Saturday	9:30am	Sean Martin Casey	**Get Well Ints**

Funeral Notices

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

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The Reception and Requiem Mass for the late
Marie McGeady
will take place on Friday, 30th October at 11:00am
followed by burial at Carpenders Park Lawn Cemetery at 1:30pm

May they rest in peace ✞

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Dear friends at St Mary Magdalen's,

Well, what an evening it was last Friday! You will have gathered that I found it all rather overwhelming, but I very much enjoyed myself. The Mass was beautiful, with music from the 1030 musicians and also from Callum, Gyaan and Lucas. I was very touched to see the school children reading, and also young people very much taking part with reading and our amazing band of altar servers. It was so good to concelebrate with my brother priests who have done so much to collaborate in the parish and in the house. The reception in the hall was a great get together of people from all parts of the parish and from all corners of the globe. Thank to all who took care of the food and the setting up of the hall. Special thanks must go to Maria for organising such an enjoyable round of Pointless.

As I said in my homily, I have so much to be thankful to all of you for during my seven and a half years as your parish priest, both in the church and in our schools. You were wonderfully patient with me when I arrived. The only things I really knew about were locks, bars, burglars and drug dealers! I knew very little about the day-to-day life of a parish, or of a primary school, and you have been wonderful teachers to me. I will always treasure your kindness to me.

Lastly, I want to thank you for your generosity to me – I am most touched and am only sorry that I can't thank each one individually for your kindness. I will, however, offer Mass for all your intentions.

May God bless you all, and St Mary Magdalen pray for you all, and for Fr Albert as he begins his ministry at Willesden Green and Kensal Rise.

Monsignor Roger.

SENIOR CITIZENS' CHRISTMAS TEA DANCE

Friday, 4th December 4:00pm to 6:00pm
The Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School are once again hosting their annual tea dance for senior citizens.
If you would like to attend, please contact the parish office by Thursday, 5th November.
Transport is available to and from the school.

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.**

REMINDER: FOOD BANK COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND