

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

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

November – Month of the Holy Souls

FI RST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B)

29 November 2026

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

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

WITH A GRATEFUL HEART – THANK YOU!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ Jesus,

As I prepare to take leave of Willesden Green and Kensal Rise, my heart is filled with mixed emotions. It is never easy to say goodbye to people and places that have gradually become part of one's life. Looking back, I realise that these two parishes have been much more than places of ministry for me. They have been places that have shaped my spiritual, human and pastoral journey in many ways.

Whether it was our Tuesday coffee mornings at Willesden Green, Monday Warm Spaces at Kensal Rise, Race Nights, social events, parish celebrations or simply the informal moments we shared, each experience made my stay in the UK feel more like home. These ordinary moments of friendship, laughter, hospitality and togetherness have become some of my most treasured memories.

I wish to express my special gratitude to Monsignor Roger for welcoming me into the parish and making me feel at home. Dear Monsignor, thank you for your mentorship, guidance and wisdom, your personal example, your fatherly corrections and, above all, your understanding and compassion. I am equally grateful for your mutual affection and friendship, not forgetting your delicious food and those occasional meals we enjoyed outside!

To dear Fr. Allan, although our time together was relatively short, you were a genuine friend in the priesthood and a companion on the journey. I appreciate the friendship and fraternity we shared.

Fr. Matteo, you were another wonderful companion in priestly ministry. I particularly appreciated our shared enthusiasm for mission, our willingness to collaborate and our desire to communicate and live the vision of Jesus Christ. It was a joy to share that missionary spirit with you.

Dear Fr. Albert, although we have had only a short time together, I have come to appreciate your understanding, cooperation and fraternal approach to priesthood. In fact, I feel a little disappointed with myself that I am leaving just when I could have enjoyed more opportunities for friendship, fun and mission with you. I hope our paths will cross again.

To everyone in both parishes, I want to say that I have received far more than I could ever express in words. Some of you supported me through practical assistance, others through friendship, encouragement, generosity and hospitality. Many of you may not even realise how much your little gestures and simple acts of kindness meant to me. Please know that I have appreciated them all.

As a priest, I came among you with the intention of serving, accompanying and sharing the faith. Yet, in so many ways, you have also ministered to me. You have taught me, encouraged me, challenged me and enriched my understanding of what it means to be part of a Christian community. Although my pastoral journey may now take me elsewhere, the friendships and memories we have created will remain with me. Distance may separate us physically, but it cannot take away the bonds we have established in Christ. I will remember you in my prayers, and I kindly ask you to remember me in yours.

I would like to leave you with the words of St Paul, which I hope will remain a prayer in my heart whenever I remember you:

**"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you"
(2 Corinthians 13:13).**

Thank you for making my time here not merely a period of ministry, but a beautiful chapter of my life.

With heartfelt gratitude, affection and God's blessings,

Rev. Fr. Kamal Kumara

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