



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY, OF THE ROSARY

+ THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD, Year B - 7 January 2024

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity Number 233699



Do Try this at Home

An ancient Epiphany tradition is to ask God's blessing on our homes and on those who live in it or visit it, to invite Jesus to accompany us in our comings and goings, conversations, work and play, joys and sorrows. We will bless the chalk at Mass and you join in as follows:

V. Our help is the name of the Lord:

R. The maker of heaven and earth.

V. The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in.

R. From this time forth for evermore.

When the prayer of blessing is complete, take a piece of chalk home and mark the lintel (top) of your front door (or the porch step) as follows: 20 + C + M + B + 24 while saying: *"The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty years ago. May Christ bless our home and remain with us throughout the new year. Amen."* As well as being the names of the three Magi, CMB is an acronym for *Christus mansionem benedicat*, "May Christ bless the house," the "+" sign representing the cross and 2024 being the year.

Finally, offer the following prayer: *"Visit, O blessed Lord, this home with the gladness of your presence. Bless all who live or visit here with the gift of your love; and grant that we may manifest your love to each other and to all whose lives we touch. May we grow in grace and in the knowledge and love of you; guide, comfort, and strengthen us in peace, O Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen."*

Chalking the door is a way to celebrate and literally mark the occasion of the Epiphany and God's blessing of our lives and homes. It is also a timely reminder that it is still the liturgical season of Christmas despite the fact that people were throwing out their trees on Boxing Day or even earlier. And while the chalk may fade, we pray that the meaning of the symbols once seen by all who cross that threshold will sink into the depths of their hearts so that Christ will be manifest in every word and action of their daily routine.

Lastly, thank you to all who made our church so beautiful and the liturgies so prayerful over Christmas, and for your incredibly generous gifts. May God bless you and your loved ones in 2024.

Canon Kevin and Fr Alex

Mass Times

Sunday

11:00 am (Sung Family Mass)

Monday, Wednesday & Friday

12:30pm

Saturday

6:00pm (Vigil Mass of Sunday)

Confessions (Saturday)

5:00pm—5:30pm

Church opening times

Monday—Friday

9:30am—1:00pm

Music for Sunday

- 788 We Three Kings of Orient Are
- 47 Angels We Have Heard in Heaven
- 794 What Child Is This
- 692 The First Nowell

Sunday Readings,

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalms 71:1-2,7

Ephesians :2-3,5-6

Matthew 2:1—12

Catholic Church of Our Lady of the Rosary, 211 Old Marylebone Road, London, NW1 5QT

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<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/marylebone>

Parish Clergy: Canon Kevin Jordan (kevinjordan@rcdow.org.uk)

Fr Alex Balzanella (alexanderbalzanella@rcdow.org.uk)

Parish Administrator: Lorraine Etienne (marylebone@rcdow.org.uk)

Parish Office Hours:: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 10.30am—3:30pm

Parish Safeguarding Rep: Valeria Naipan (marylebone@safeguardingrcdow.org.uk)

Welcomer for today is Joe Porter

First Holy Communion Programme continues on Sunday 14 January 2024 at 9:45am.

Solemnity of the Epiphany Masses (Holy Day of Obligation) on Saturday 6 January 2024 at 6:00pm (Vigil) and on Sunday 7 January 2024 at 11:00am

Day of Recollection for Readers. On February 3 2024 we are having an afternoon of prayer, reflection, development and support for those undertaking ministries in both St John's Wood and Marylebone Parishes. New Volunteers welcome. Refreshments provided

National Day of Prayer & Fasting For Life, Friday 12th January. Saturday 13 January is the 27th anniversary of the founding of the Good Counsel Network in UK. Please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia on the eve of this anniversary. Also join them each month in Prayer and fasting www.goodcounselnetwork.com See poster in porch for more details.

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18-25 January 2024. There will be two events taking place both of which are free. **(1) Sunday 21 January 2024 at 3.30pm** Solemn Evensong held at the Catholic Church of Our Lady of the Assumption & St Gregory, Warwick Street, W1B 5LZ. **(2) Monday 22 January 2024 at 6pm** Churches Together in Westminster AGM followed by a talk entitled "The Art of Believing" by Fr Patrick van der Vorst to be held in the Arrupe Hall, Church of the Immaculate Conception 114 Mount Street, W1K 3AH.

Worried about the climate crisis? The Westminster Cathedral Group are meeting on Wednesday Jan 17 at 1.30 p.m. in the Hinsley room. They will be studying chapters 1 and 2 of (*Laudate Deum*), Pope Francis' exhortation to COP28. Copies can be bought at St Paul's bookshop or found at https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/20231004-laudate-deum.html
All are welcome and there is no charge. See the poster in the porch.

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2024 will take place from 19—26 July 2024. The Sanctuary's theme for the year is '*Come here in procession*'. Please see the poster in the porch.

March for Life UK are launching their new initiative 'Connect' in 2024 to help bring together like minded pro-lifers in their own communities and turn the tide on abortion at a local level. If you are interested in being part of this, please send an email to: info@marchforlife.co.uk. More information can be found at: <https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/connect/>

If you are applying to Catholic nursery , infant and primary schools, follow this link to Admissions: <https://catholiceducation.org.uk/guidance-for-schools/admissions> and read the Guidance for Clergy document. If you can meet these criteria then please contact Lorraine in the Parish Office to arrange an appointment.

Your Offerings can be given electronically via <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/marylebone/donating-to-the-parish/> but please remember to say what your donation is for, and if you pay tax, please complete the *Gift Aid* form. Standing order forms, the easiest way to give regularly, can also be found there too. To *Gift Aid* using Dona follow the prompts to register each card or 'phone on the machine, or scan the QR code and register them at

Feasts

Sunday 7 January **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD**

Monday 8 January **The Baptism of the Lord**

Collections for weekends 26 & 31 December 2023

Envelopes	£124.85	£87.50
Loose plate	<u>£204.35</u>	<u>£319.19</u>
	<u>£329.20</u>	<u>£406.69</u>

Thank you very much for your donations of £148.56 for The Passage

**Happy New Year and many thanks.
Have a blessed week**