

OUR LADY'S,  
ST JOHN'S WOOD &  
OUR LADY OF THE  
ROSARY, MARYLEBONE

54 Lodge Road, NW8 8LA  
020 7286 3214  
parish.rcdow.org.uk/stjohnswood  
parish.rcdow.org.uk/marylebone  
<https://www.facebook.com/ourladyjw>



## SERVICE TIMES

### St John's Wood

Sunday Mass  
6:00pm (Sat), 9:00am (Sung),  
10:30am (Sung Latin), 12noon  
(Sung), 6:00pm

Weekday Mass  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,  
Friday & Saturday 10:00am;  
Thursday 7:00pm

Stations of the Cross  
(During Lent)  
Thursdays 6:15pm

Confessions  
Saturday 10:30am-11:00am;  
5:15pm-5:45pm

---

### Marylebone

Sunday Mass  
6:00pm (Sat),  
11:00am (Sung Family Mass)

Weekday Mass  
Monday, Wednesday & Friday  
12:30pm

Stations of the Cross  
(During Lent)  
Friday 11:45am

Confessions  
Saturday 5:00pm-5:30pm

## + 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT PAGE 151 -YEAR B - 25 FEBRUARY 2024

### Ascending the Mountain

What's funnier, mountain ranges or forests? Mountains, of course - because they're "hill areas."

I know, that joke was rather painful, as if Fr Kevin were writing this week's editorial. But it allows us a gentle point to reflect on the significance of mountains in scripture and our spiritual journey.

Throughout the Bible, mountains serve as pivotal settings for encountering God and understanding his message to humanity. From Mount Moriah where Abraham was tested in his faith to Golgotha where Christ was crucified, mountains are where humanity intersects with God. Mountains are moments of passion, revelation, and teaching. They symbolize the proximity of God's presence and His holiness.

In today's Gospel passage, we witness Jesus taking Peter, James, and John up a mountain following their confession of his Messiahship.

As they ascend, leaving behind the lush beauty of Caesarea Philippi and journeying towards the desert

towards Jerusalem and Christ's impending passion.

The disciples are filled with confusion and uncertainty. Yet, atop the mountain, their faith is fortified as they witness Jesus transfigured, his divine nature shining forth in dazzling brilliance. In the company of Moses and Elijah, they receive reassurance and guidance for the journey ahead.

Similarly, in our own lives, we may encounter moments of confusion and doubt, where God's presence feels distant, and His message seems perplexing. We can feel our lives being a journey from a lush green land to something more akin to a desert.

Like the patriarchs and apostles, we are called to embark on a spiritual ascent, climbing the mountain of faith, prayer, and contemplation, using the tools of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. It is on this journey that we draw closer to God, allowing His light to illuminate our path and His voice to guide our steps.

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clergy:

Canon Kevin Jordan

kevinjordan@rcdow.org.uk

Fr Alex Balzanella

alexanderbalzanella@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Sister:

Sr Brigid Collins, RSM

brigid@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator:

Kathleen Reddington

stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk/  
marylebone@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Reps:

Frances Uchea (St John's Wood)

stjohnswoodsg@

safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Valeria Naipan (Marylebone)

marylebonesg@

safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Director of Music (St John's Wood)

Martin Toyer

martintoye@rcdow.org.uk

---

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### A Day With Mary 2024 Pilgrimages

Fatima (7-14 June) and Italy (4-12 September) information available at:

[www adaywithmary.org](http://www adaywithmary.org) or email  
[adwmary.uk@gmail.com](mailto:adwmary.uk@gmail.com)

### Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

19 - 26 July 2024

Please see poster in the porch.

## PARISH NOTICES

### CAFOD Family Fast Day/Lent

**Appeal.** Please return your CAFOD Fast Day envelope in this week's collection or give online at: <https://cafod.org.uk>. This lent your donations will help hardworking people like James the fisherman in Liberia with resources, tools and training to feed their families for good. Pray, reflect this Lent: <https://cafod.org.uk/pray/prayer-resources>

**Bach's St John's Passion.** As part of its Lenten devotions, Westminster Cathedral Choir will perform J.S. Bach's St John Passion on Thursday 14 March at 7:30pm. Tickets priced £45/£35/£20 are available via Ticketmaster. The Cathedral Choir will be conducted by Simon Johnson, the Cathedral's Master of Music, accompanied by a Baroque orchestra and soloists James Gilchrist (as the Evangelist) and William Thomas (Christus).

**The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London** is holding a Divine Mercy Lenten Retreat on Saturday 16 March from 1:30pm - 4:30pm at St Scholastica, 17 Kenninghall Road Clapton, London E5 8BS. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957 594 646 for information.

**Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony** takes place at Westminster Cathedral, on Saturday 25 May at 2:30pm. The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2024. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please email with the following details: husband/wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email or telephone number by 31 March.

**Right to Life.** Ask your MP to support the abortion time limit reduction amendment to reduce our abortion time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Research indicates that a significant number of babies born at 22 or 23 weeks can now survive outside the womb, leaving a contradiction in our abortion law. Take action: Collect a postcard today from the back of the church and post it to your MP urgently in support of this amendment!

**If you are sick or in hospital,** please make it known to the ward staff that you are a Catholic and that you want to see a priest so that arrangements can be made for a Catholic Chaplain to visit you. Please let Canon Kevin or Fr Alex know if you are housebound, even temporarily, so we can arrange to visit you.

**Ways to Donate to your Parish and to Gift Aid your Donation.** Details are at the following links: <http://tinyurl.com/OLSJW> (St John's Wood) & <http://tinyurl.com/OIMarL> (Marylebone). Thank you for your ongoing support.

**Contactless Giving Device** is available at both Parishes for parishioners who would like to donate in a swift and simple way.

**Job Vacancies** For details regarding diocesan job vacancies, visit: <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk>.