Our Lady's, St John's Wood & Our Lady of the Rosary, Marylebone

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SERVICE TIMES

St Johns Wood

Holy Saturday 8:00pm The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night **Easter Sunday** 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00 noon, 6:00pm Easter Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 10:00am **Easter Thursday** 7:00pm **Easter Saturday** 10:00am **Second Sunday of Easter** 6:00pm (Saturday) 9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00 noon, 6:00pm Confessions Holy Saturday 10:00am-11:00am **Easter Saturday** 10:30am-11:00am 5:15pm-5:45pm

Marylebone

Holy Saturday 8:00pm The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night Easter Sunday 11:00am (Sung) Easter Monday, Wednesday & Friday 12:30pm Second Sunday of Easter 6:00pm (Saturday) 11:00am (Sung) <u>Confessions</u> Easter Saturday 5:00 - 5:30pm

+ EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD AND SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER page 251/255 - Year B - 31 MARCH/ 7 APRIL 2024

Our Royal Banner

There has been great controversy about the change to the flag of St George on the shirts of the various England teams. But while I'm sure Christ is as much a fan of our national team as that of any other country, He is still depicted holding a flag with a red cross on a white background when He rise from the dead as shown in the painting by Fra Angelico below.



The precise origin of this flag is somewhat disputed but it is thought to be a symbol of victory with the red symbolising the blood Christ shed on the cross and the white the purity of Jesus in which we share through Baptism which comes from the water which flowed from His pierced side.

But here's a thing - it resembles an oriflamme. the standard carried into battle by the King of France in the Middle Ages. Thus it is not just a symbol of victory but a call to against arms the enemies of Christ's Kingdom.

This puts a whole new spin on our Easter celebrations. Yes, they were glorious in both parishes and W/e thank everyone who made the churches so beautiful and our liturgies so prayerful. But while the the war against the army of Hades is won, battles remain to be fought against temptation. What fortunes the new flag will bring to national teams our remain to be seen. Fortunately our battle flag is unchanged not only in appearance but in its unbeatable efficacy. So boldlv hold it high in your lives. Happy Easter to you all. Canon Kevin

Contact Information

Parish Clergy: Canon Kevin Jordan kevinjordan@rcdow.org.uk Fr Alex Balzanella alexanderbalzanella@rcdow.org.uk

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Director of Music (St John's Wood) Martin Toyer martintoyer@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 or email: adwmary.uk@gmail.com

The Bi-Annual Concelebrated Requiem Mass at St. Mary's Cemetery, Kensal Green Monday 17 June at 11:30am

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 19 - 26 July 2024. Registration for the pilgrimage is now open at: https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/ lourdes/ or contact the Pilgrimage Office on 020 7798 9173. Applications to be submitted by Tuesday 30 April.

An Easter Week leaflet with the times of all Masses and Confessions is available at the back of the church. Please take one home with you.

Easter Offering. Please take home an Easter offertory envelope. This is your Easter gift to the parish which can be given in at any time during Holy Week and the Easter season. Thank you for your kindness, thoughtfulness and generosity throughout the year and especially in these difficult times.

Planned Giving Envelopes 2024/2025 for existing users are available for collection at the back of the church. If you would like to have a set of planned giving envelopes for the new tax year, please let the parish office know. However, standing orders are the easiest way to contribute to the Both planned parish. giving envelopes and standing orders can allow your contributions to be Gift Aided. This means that the parish can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give. Details can be found at: https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stjohns wood/donating-to-the-parish/ or https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/maryleb one/donate/. Thank you for your incredible generosity whatever way you give.

A Day with Mary will be held at St Mary Magdalen, Whetstone, on Saturday 6 April. The day will include a procession with Our Lady, holy rosary, consecration, sermons, enrolment in the brown scapular, conferment of the miraculous medal, Eucharistic adoration and procession with the Blessed Sacrament. All are welcome. Please see the poster in the porch. **The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London** is holding a Preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday Retreat at Aylesford Priory, Aylesford, Kent on Saturday 6 April from 10:00am to 4:30pm. All are welcome. Call Millie on 07957 594 646 for more information.

PARISH NOTICES

The next SVP Foodbank collection

at St John's Wood, will take place on 13/14 April. Please leave nonperishable items on the table in the porch. Thank you.

Retrouvaille is a programme for couples struggling in their For confidential marriages. information or to register for the next programme commencing with a weekend in Welwyn Garden City 14-16 June, telephone 07887 296 983 or 07973 380 443 or email retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com or visit: www.retrouvaille.org.uk.

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.

Mass Intentions. Thank you for your Mass intentions which are greatly appreciated. The Sacrifice of Christ brings our prayers right to the heart of the Father. There can be no greater gift for another person. If you would like one offered, please either take a Mass offering envelope from the church and place it in the collection or email Kathleen stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk or telephone on 020 7286 3214 (option 2). The offering suggested by the Diocese is £10 per Mass.