

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

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<https://www.facebook.com/ourladysjw>



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
10:00am
Thursday 7:00pm
Friday 10:00am
Saturday 10:00am

Confessions

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

Adoration

Saturday 10.30am-11.00am.

Marylebone

Sunday Mass

6:00pm (Sat), 11:00am (Sung)

Weekday Mass

Monday
Wednesday & Friday 12:30pm

Confessions

Saturday 5:15pm-5:45pm

Adoration

Saturday 3pm-5.30pm

+ THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
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Reaching the Top of the Charts

Listening to Greatest Hits Radio is a treat – all the songs from my teenage years back to back like *The Only Way is Up* and *Things Can Only Get Better*. Believe it or not, they teach us about the great Catholic tradition of November – praying for the Holy Souls.

Purgatory is a doctrinal reality. It is Biblical – 2 Macc 12:39-45, Mt 5:25-26, Lk 12:57-59, etc. Yet some view it as hell-lite. Nothing could be further from the truth. The Catechism teaches, "All who die in God's grace and friendship, still imperfectly purified, are indeed assured of their eternal salvation; but after death they undergo purification, so as to achieve the holiness necessary to enter the joy of heaven." (CCC 1030)

The Catechism describes this as a purifying fire which preserves the gold of our good works (Rev 14:13) while getting rid of ingrained impurities. St John Henry Newman sees it as a cleansing lake. Whatever your image, St Augustine says that there, "the soul is purified of the remaining consequences of sin." It is like removing scar – while the fresh wounds of our sins are forgiven through confession, the lasting reminder of that takes some time to disappear before we can feel

comfortable in the presence of our all-perfect God.

Yazz was correct: the only way is up. As Pope Benedict said, "The souls in purgatory are perfectly at peace, sure of their salvation...but they themselves are not yet perfect. Such souls are in love with God...they are good people becoming perfected in love." And in the Mass we unite ourselves with them and show our love for them by appealing to the mercy of God which never ends (1 Cor 13:8). As Newman wrote, "Masses on the earth...shall aid thee at the Throne of the Most Highest."

Our prayers for them are a gift from God which allows us to share in His work of bringing good people to perfection. Such prayers are a special gift from God, a great Divine courtesy, but also a great responsibility on our part. Let us take that responsibility seriously this month and write down our loved ones' names on the sheets at the back of the church, and with any Mass offering we wish to make, pop them in the envelope and return them to the office.

So move over D:Ream because in so doing we will ensure that not only will things gets better for the Holy Souls but they will be absolutely *Perfect*. *Canon Kevin*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clergy:

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Director of Music:

(St John's Wood)
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Is the Assisted Suicide Bill about Compassion, Giving Choice and Dignity? Calling All People of Faith and those of None.

Sunday, 24 November, 3:00pm-
5:00pm at Farm Street Church, 114
Mount Street, W1K 3AH. Come and
hear from experts in the field who
have serious concerns about a
possible change in the law.
Livestreaming available by visiting:
www.farmstreet.org.uk/livestream

CAFOD Nativity Fun Run

7 December on Clapham Common.
Raising funds for families in Ukraine.
For further details please see the
poster in the porch.

PARISH NOTICES

World Day of the Poor. Pope Francis has declared today Sunday 17 November 2024 to be the eighth World Day of the Poor, with the theme of "*The prayer of the poor rises up to God.*" In his message for this World Day of the Poor, the Holy Father reiterates that "*the poor hold a privileged place in God's heart.*" Visit the Vatican website to read the Pope's full message: <https://www.vatican.va/content/vatican/en.html>

Sick & Retired Priests' Fund Collection takes place this weekend. Please take a donation envelope as you leave the church today or scan the QR code on the poster in the porch to give online. If you feel you would like to give to the fund on a more regular basis, please consider joining our Patron's Programme. Leaflets are available at the back of the church. Please pray for our clergy, in active ministry, retired or ill. Thank you.

Preparation for Sacraments of First Holy Communion & Confirmation in 2025. Application forms for both Sacraments are available to collect from one of the clergy after Mass. Candidates for the Sacrament of Confirmation must collect the forms themselves. Only if you can attend all the sessions should you post completed forms through the rectory door at either parish by 12 noon on Tuesday 10 December 2024.

If you are applying to Catholic nursery, Infant and Junior schools please read the Guidance for Clergy <https://catholiceducation.org.uk/guidance-for-schools/admissions>. If you meet the criteria for a priest to complete a Certificate of Catholic Practice form, contact Kathleen in the parish office. If emailing please include your telephone number. Appointments will take place at the St John's Wood parish office.

Catenians. After all Masses next weekend at Marylebone some members of the Catenians will be making a presentation to inform you about their association and give interested men the opportunity of joining them at one of their meetings and subsequent meal. They will also be available to answer any questions after Mass.

Assisted Suicide Bill. A bill has been introduced to Parliament by Kim Leadbeater MP to legalise assisted suicide. This will be voted on by MPs on 29 November. We know that assisted suicide laws in other jurisdictions have had devastating consequences for the poor, disabled and marginalised. This is the biggest threat to the vulnerable in a decade, and we need a huge effort to lobby MPs to vote against the bill. Please urgently contact your MP and ask him/her to vote against the bill. You can contact your MP by visiting www.livesworthliving.org.uk or write to him/her at: House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA.

UCM Afternoon Vintage Tea takes place in the Upper Hall at St John's Wood on Saturday 7 December at 2:00pm. Tickets cost £10 per head and will be available after all Masses. If anyone can donate a prize for the raffle this will be greatly appreciated. Donations can be left at the parish office.

Baptism Preparation. A course preparing parents for the baptism of their child, will be held at St John's Wood on Saturday 7 December at 11:30am. Please contact the parish office to book.

Gift Aid. If any parishioner has a gift aid in favour of the parish and no longer pays UK tax, please give your full name, post code, telephone number and the date you ceased to pay UK tax to the parish office.