

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

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parish.rcdow.org.uk/stjohnswood
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<https://www.facebook.com/ourladysjw>



SERVICE TIMES

St John's Wood

Sunday 22 December

6:00pm (Sat),

9:00am, 10:30am (Sung with Choir),

12 noon & 6:00pm

Monday 23 December

10:00am

Tuesday 24 December

Christmas Eve

10:00am

6:00pm (Christmas Vigil,

Sung with Carols & Nativity Play)

12 Midnight (Sung with Choir)

Wednesday 25 December

Christmas Day

9:00am, 10:30am (Sung with Choir)

12 noon (Sung with Carols)

Thursday 26, Friday 27

& Saturday 28 December

10:00am

Marylebone

Sunday 22 December

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

Monday 23 December

12:30pm

Tuesday 24 December

Christmas Eve

8:00pm (Christmas Vigil,

Sung with Carols)

Wednesday 25 December

Christmas Day

11:00am (Sung with Carols)

Friday 27 December

12:30pm

For Confession times

and the rest of Christmastide
please see the separate leaflet

+ FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT & CHRISTMASTIDE PAGE 90 - YEAR C - 22 DECEMBER 2024

A Timeless Classic

Christmas can be a challenge. You know the feeling: where did the Amazon driver put that delivery, why does Sainsburys only have millions of sprouts in July, etc.?

Our two wonderful schools' beautiful carol concerts each began with a child reminding us that what we would hear would be the true meaning of Christmas. Children seem to grasp the wonder and magic of this season. Perhaps, because most of us have had so many birthdays (not Fr Alex, obviously) and now prefer to let them pass us by unmarked, somehow the annual celebration of the indescribable wonder of the Incarnation also gets taken for granted by adults.

"Somewhere in My Memory" from Home Alone is getting a lot of airtime. Despite your busyness,

why not revisit old memories and rediscover the lost magic of Christmas? Pope Francis has a tip about this: "On the night of Christmas the biggest surprise comes: God is a small child. To celebrate Christmas is to welcome the surprise of Heaven on earth. If we can be silent in front of the crib, Christmas will be a surprise even for us, not something seen before. Every one of us has, hidden in our heart, the capacity to be surprised." So take a quiet moment before the crib. Be surprised anew by God as a child. Identify with those in the picture where everyone adoring the Infant King is a saint or angel. May God bless you all and we wish you and your loved ones a truly happy and holy Christmas.

Canon Kevin, Fr Alex, Sr Brigid, Cosmo & Rufus



CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clergy

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Musical Director (St John's Wood)

Martin Toyer
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

The Religious of the Assumption

invite single women (18-30s)
to a discernment weekend
in Rome

from 31 January to 2 February.

For more information or to register,
email: vocations@assumpta-eu.org
before 20 January 2025

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

from 25 July to 1 August 2025

For more information please visit:
<https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or email Elizabeth Uwalaka
at: elizabethuwalaka@rcdow.org.uk
or telephone 020 7798 9173.

PARISH NOTICES

An Advent & Christmas Leaflet, with the times of all Masses and Confessions for those seasons, is available at the back of the church to take home with you. Please give them out to people who might be thinking of coming to our parishes.

Advent Giving Calendar Items should be placed in the collection box at the back of the churches. The SVP will bring them to our local foodbank. Please check the calendar on the noticeboard in the porch today for items to bring next week. Thank you so much for your support to those in need this Advent.

Christmas Offering Envelopes are available for you to use today. This is your Christmas gift to the parish and is not taxed by the Diocese, so please do use it even if you are going away. Thank you so much for your kindness, thoughtfulness and generosity throughout the year.

Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.

Volunteer lists for Christmas are available outside the sacristy at St John's Wood and inside the sacristy at Marylebone. If you have not already done so, please sign up to read and help with Communion. Servers should sign up too, but check with their parents first.

Crib Offerings will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society to support their work with local children and families, many of whom are facing severe hardship due to the cost-of-living crisis. Envelopes are also available which allow any donations to be gift aided. Thank you for your support.

Rest in Peace, John O'Neill.

Requiem Mass is at Our Lady of the Rosary on Monday 23 December at 12:30pm, with committal at West London Crematorium at 2:00pm.

Our Lady of the Rosary opening times from 23 December until 6 January will be from about 12:00 noon until 1:00pm on days when Mass is scheduled. This is due to unforeseen circumstances. We will open the church more often if we can or if volunteers come forward for this ministry in the future.

Westminster Year Book 2025 is now available priced £5.50 from the repository.

Opening of the Jubilee Year. Pope Francis will open the Holy Door on 24 December in St. Peter's Basilica at the Vatican, marking the beginning of the Holy Year 2025. The Jubilee offers a special moment for plenary indulgences, conversion, and the grace to rekindle hope in the daily journey of life and the proclamation of the Gospel. The formal opening of the Jubilee Year in all other dioceses takes place on Sunday 29 December. To mark this, Cardinal Nichols will celebrate Solemn Mass in the Cathedral on this day at 12 noon. All are welcome.

Solemnity of the Epiphany Masses (Holy Day of Obligation), 5 January.

- St John's Wood: Saturday 4 January 2025 at 6:00pm (Vigil) and on Sunday 5 January 2025 at 9:00am, 10:30am, 12 noon and 6:00pm
- Marylebone: Saturday 4 January 2025 at 6:00pm (Vigil) and on Sunday 5 January 2025 at 11:00am

Next Newsletter will be available on 4/5 January 2025.

Tea & Coffee will resume in the parish halls after the 9:00am Mass at St John's Wood and the 11:00am at Marylebone on Sunday 12 January 2025. If you are able to volunteer to help with this ministry please contact the parish office.