

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, Vigil),  
9:00am,  
12:15pm,  
6:00pm

**Weekday Mass**

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday &  
Saturday 10:00am

**Confessions**

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

**Adoration**

Saturday 10.30am - 11.00am.

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**Marylebone**

**Sunday Mass**

10:45am (Sung)

**Weekday Mass**

Monday & Wednesday 12:30pm  
Friday 6:30pm

**Confessions & Adoration**

Friday 5:30pm - 6:20pm

+ THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD  
PAGE 118 - 11 JANUARY 2026

**The Crowd's on the Pitch. They Think it's all Over...**

After the blessing at evening prayer but also about us. Our own baptism for today, a line in red - meaning it is an instruction - says, "The end of Christmas." But so many think it's long been over. More fool them, we've been joyful for much longer. Today, the Baptism of the Lord invites us to reflect on a moment of profound revelation at the very beginning of Jesus' public ministry. Standing in the waters of the Jordan, Jesus—true God and true man—joins the crowds who come to John seeking repentance. Though sinless, He humbly enters the river, choosing solidarity with humanity in all its brokenness. He immerses Himself in the messiness of our lives. And at Jesus' baptism, the heavens are opened, the Holy Spirit descends like a dove, and the voice of the Father is heard: "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." This is a powerful manifestation of the Holy Trinity—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—revealing who Jesus is and confirming His mission in the same way that all three persons of the Godhead were invoked at the Annunciation. Thus, before Jesus performs a single miracle or preaches one word, He is affirmed in love. His identity as the Beloved Son comes first, something so often forgotten by so many, including us. This moment is not only about Jesus

but also about us. Our own baptism unites us with Christ and makes us children of God. The same Spirit who descended upon Jesus has been poured into our hearts, and the same Father speaks over each of us: "You are my beloved." Baptism is not just a past event or a family celebration remembered in photographs—it is the foundation of our Christian identity and the beginning of lifelong discipleship. Through baptism, we are cleansed of sin, reborn in Christ, and incorporated into the Church. We are anointed, marked with the sign of the cross, and entrusted with a mission: to live as witnesses of Christ in the world. Just as Jesus emerges from the Jordan and begins His public ministry, we too are sent forth from the waters of baptism to bring God's love into our homes, workplaces, schools, and communities in all their chaos. As the Christmas season ends, let us carry its message into the year ahead: that all are called to live each day rooted in the truth that they can be God's beloved sons and daughters. And be confident that God who calls us also walks with us even in our sinfulness. Indeed, that true hope of Christmas is not over even now: in fact, as we'll hear, it has hardly even begun. *Canon Kevin*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Parish Clergy

Canon Kevin Jordan  
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### Parish Sister

Sr Brigid Collins, RSM  
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### Parish Administrator

Kathleen Reddington  
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### Bookkeeper (both parishes)

Asha Stephen  
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### Parish Safeguarding Rep

Frances Uchea (both parishes)  
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### Musical Director (SJW)

Martin Toyer  
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## PARISH DIARY

### Children's Liturgy of the Word

**SJW** - 9:00am, term time  
**MB** - 10:45am,  
TBC

### Tea and Coffee

**SJW**- after 9:00am Mass,  
term time  
**MB** - 8 February

### Parent/Toddler Group - SJW Upper hall

9:30am - 11:30am Tuesday,  
Wednesday & Thursday,  
term time

### Legion of Mary - MB

after 12:30pm Mass,  
Wednesdays

## PARISH NOTICES

**Crib Offerings** will be donated to the Catholic Children's Society to support their work with children and families facing severe hardship. The available envelopes allow your donations to be gift aided, or you can donate online at: [www.cathchild.org.uk/donate](http://www.cathchild.org.uk/donate) The cribs will remain up in our churches until Candlemas, 2 February 2026.

**Blessed Chalk.** 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. Please take home a piece of chalk that was blessed on the Solemnity of the Epiphany and mark the lintel (top) or side of your front door (or the porch step) as follows: 20 + C + M + B + 26 while saying: "The three Wise Men, Caspar, Melchior, and Balthazar followed the star of God's Son who became human two thousand and twenty-six 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 2026 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."

**The SVP Foodbank Collection** takes place this weekend. Please leave non-perishable items on the table in the porches. Thank you.

**Westminster Year Book 2026** is now available priced £5.50 from the repository.

**White Flower Appeal 2026.** The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual collection next weekend at both parishes. SPUC exists to transform culture so that abortion is not only abolished but becomes truly unthinkable. The Society is actively leading the fight in courts, classrooms and culture to achieve this mission. Through these efforts they will restore a respect for the sanctity of human life from conception until natural death. This year's appeal postcards (which will be available from the back of the church next week) allow supporters to join the fightback campaign against the current threats in Parliament to expand abortion and allow assisted suicide. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC at this critical time for our country.

**In Conversation with...** Please join our parishioner and award-winning author, Kenechi Udogu, for an enlightening evening in conversation with contemporary artist Bokani, as they discuss Kenechi's latest book, *Augmented*, on Saturday 24 January, 7:00pm, at Arrupe Hall, London Jesuit Centre, Mount Street, London. Free tickets can be booked online at: <https://tinyurl.com/mxrnw2ft>

**Westminster Diocesan Pilgrimage** to Lourdes this year will be on 17 - 24 July. Registration details will be published soon but to express an interest please visit the website at: <https://pilgrimages.rcdow.org.uk/>

**Newsletter Notices.** If you have any notices you would like to go in the weekly Sunday newsletter please email the parish office by 12 noon on Wednesdays. Thank you.

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