

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

Stations of the Cross

Saturday 9:30am

Adoration

Saturday 10.30am - 11.00am

Confessions

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

Marylebone

Sunday Mass

10:45am (Sung)

Weekday Mass

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

Stations of the Cross

Friday 5:00pm

Confessions & Adoration

Friday 5:30pm - 6:20pm

DONATE

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donate to our parishes



St John's Wood



Marylebone

+ FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT PAGE 164 - 15 MARCH 2026

A Little of What We Hope for Does Us Good

As there are 46 days between Ash Wednesday and Holy Saturday, some argue that the Sundays of Lent don't form part of the 40 days of fasting. They have a point mathematically but also because every Sunday is the joyful day of Resurrection. However, I think that one should only give up on whatever you're given up if you're sure you can get back on the wagon. But that says more about my lack of stamina than anything else.

To make the temptation worse, today is Laetare Sunday or rejoicing Sunday. The origins of this "lighter" day draw on the prophet Isaiah's call to be glad in God's renewal (even if it seems painful) and on our own deeply held Christian conviction that even in penitential seasons God's grace breaks through with joy. And why wouldn't this be the case? After all, we know the Passion of Christ ends in glory and thus, we are given a special moment, a whole day in fact, to pause in the middle of our Lenten journey and bathe in a moment of light. In addition, this Laetare Sunday coincides with Mother's Day, offering us a further chance to reflect on themes of being lovingly nurtured in difficult times.

The readings lift us too with Samuel sent to anoint David, the unlikely shepherd who becomes king. This reminds us that God sees differently

to us. He does not judge appearances, but the heart. It is a message that fits Laetare Sunday perfectly, nudging us to look beyond our own limited perceptions and notice the surprising ways God brings His saving work to completion in ordinary people in tough situations. Mothers embody this same grace as they see potential in us long before we recognize it ourselves and offer encouragement that forms and strengthens us to be more than we thought we could ever be. And the psalm teaches how the Lord our shepherd leads, guides and restores us in love with mother-like care which is constant and patient.

Finally, in the Gospel, the healing on Jesus' journey to His Passion of the man born blind becomes a moment of revelation not only for him but for all who witness it. Jesus restores not just physical sight but spiritual vision so that the truth is seen where before there was only confusion. And this is the heart of Laetare Sunday: a glimpse of Easter light breaking into our Lenten shadows and darkness. So our Lenten journey continues but we rejoice a bit today knowing that God walks with us, transforming us into glorified beings along this painful way. And dear mothers, we rejoice too in your loving company on our journeys of life. *Canon Kevin*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clergy

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Musical Director (SJW)

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PARISH DIARY

Children's Liturgy of the Word

SJW - 9:00am, term time

Tea and Coffee

SJW- after 9:00am Mass,
term time

MB - 12 April

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



Happy Mothering Sunday

Mary, full of grace, I ask for your intercession today for my earthly mother. Pray for her, and pray that her example of love draws me closer to Your son, not only on Mother's Day but on all days. Amen.

A Holy Week and Easter Week leaflet

with the times of all Masses and confessions for the remainder of Lent and Easter week is available to take home with you today. Please give them out to people who might be thinking of coming to our parishes over Easter.

Easter Offering. This week you can 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.

Readers & Eucharistic Ministers are invited to sign up, please, for the Holy Week and Easter liturgies outside the sacristy in St Johns Wood and in the porch at Marylebone.

Rest in Peace, Derek Joseph Disson. Requiem Mass on Monday 16 March at 12:45pm with cremation at Golders Green Crematorium (East chapel) at 2:30pm.

Wednesday Gathering with Fr. Rozo Palic. On 18 March the Wednesday 'God is Love' group in St John's Wood invites everyone to join Fr. Rozo, the founder of the group, who is visiting London. There will be Mass at 6:00pm followed by a group session and fellowship with light refreshments from 7:00pm - 9:00pm. All are welcome. Please also see the poster in the porches.

Healing Retreat with Fr. Rozo Palic

on Saturday 21 March from 1:30pm until 5:30pm. Many have received great graces through his retreats. Come and encounter the Lord this Lenten season, prepare your heart for Easter, and seek healing in spirit, soul, and body. All are welcome. Please see the poster in the porches for the programme on the day.

Easter Egg Hunt hosted by the UCM (Union of Catholic Mothers)

for the children in the church garden after the 9:00am Mass until 11:30am on Sunday 22 March. Tickets are £5 per child. Entry includes the egg hunt and a chocolate Easter egg. A raffle will also be held. Email: ucmstjohnswood@gmail.com or call 07828 148 513 to secure your place.

Volunteers needed at Our Lady of the Rosary, Marylebone,

to help open the church, prepare for Mass, and close afterward—especially on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. This is a simple but important way to support our parish and help ensure the church is ready to welcome everyone for Mass. If you can help please contact either Maureen at: mbvolunteer@rcdow.org.uk or Kathleen in the parish office at: stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk. Thank you so much for supporting our parish community. *WE NEED YOU!*

Planned Giving Envelopes

for the 2026/2027 tax year for existing users from both St John's Wood and Marylebone parishes are available to collect from the porches today. The new envelopes begin on Sunday 12 April. Please consider using envelopes or a standing order for your offertory donations, and Gift Aid your contribution which benefits the parish by 25p for every £1 you give at no extra cost. Contact Asha at: stjohnswoodbookkeeper@rcdow.org.uk, if you have any questions regarding planning your giving to our parishes. Thank you so much.