



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY, ST JOHN'S WOOD



+ 2nd Sunday of Advent, Year A - 4 December 2022

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity Number 233699

From the Very, Very Young to the Very, Very Old...

Following on from last week's title of extremes, here's another, although it's not just for those at the limits of our parish's age groups. For the "young", World Youth Day (WYD) with Pope Francis takes place in Portugal next summer. As all the previous ones have done, it will bring together millions of young Catholics from across the globe to share their Faith in Christ and experience a deep sense of the great unity that is His Church, and then send them back to their parishes inspired to make a difference in their lives and the lives of others. Westminster Youth Ministry is taking fifty young people from our diocese on a two-week pilgrimage (25 July to 9 August 2023) which will include "days in the diocese" in Porto before travelling to Fatima and Lisbon for the World Youth Day events themselves. Now, over the years, lots of my former young parishioners have gone to WYD in Sydney, Rio, Krakow and Panama City among other places and each one has loved it for the friendship, fun and Faith they encountered. I guarantee that you will too so take a leaflet from the back of the church or visit <https://dowym.com/events/world-youth-day-lisbon/> and apply before Friday 16 December 2022. And above all, do not be put off by the cost—come and talk to me about it. Now for our "older", but not exclusively so, parishioners. Fr Ben and I regularly visit the sick and housebound but several have died recently—do you know someone who might like the Sacraments at home? On that note, one of my visits is to the St John's Wood Almshouses. The accommodation there is wonderful and the care of the residents exemplary and there are a few vacant flats just now. If this would interest you or someone you know then please see the poster in the porch or be one with the youngsters and talk to me. Finally, for people of all ages, there will be an Advent mission in St Patrick's, Soho Square. Starting with 6:00pm Mass on Thursday 8 December and continuing at various times over the following days, it will end with a Procession of Our Lady of Walsingham at 7:00pm on Sunday 11 December. This is a wonderful opportunity and you'll find more information via <https://www.stpatricksoho.org/advent>. There you go: pretty much something for all ages then, so as Red Box's song "Lean on Me" puts it, "Everybody now say, 'Aye'". Fr Kevin

Mass Times

Sunday

6:00pm (Saturday)
9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00 noon,
6:00pm

Weekdays

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday:
10:00am
Thursday: 7:00pm (Sung)
Friday & Saturday: 10:00am

Rosary

After weekday Mass

Exposition & Confessions

Saturday 10:30am—11:00am

Confessions

Saturday 5:15pm—5:45pm

Music for Sunday

Gombert - *Missa Beati omnes*
Parsons - *Peccantem me
quotidie*
Parsons - *Ave Maria*
9 On Jordan's bank the
Baptist's cry
152 Holy Virgin, by God's
decree
147 Hail, Queen of heav'n,
the ocean star

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Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 71:1-2, 7-8, 12-13, 17 cf v 7
Romans 15:4-9
Matthew 3:1-12

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Facebook: Our Lady's RC Church, St John's Wood <https://www.facebook.com/ourladysjw>

Parish Clergy: Fr Kevin Jordan (kevinjordan@rcdow.org.uk)
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A Christmas Leaflet with the times of all Masses, Confessions, and church opening times for the season is available to take home with you today. Please give them out to people who might be thinking of coming to our parish over Christmas.

Christmas Offering. This week you can take home a Christmas offertory envelope. This is your Christmas gift to the parish and is not taxed by the Diocese, so if you are going away please do use it. Thank you for your kindness, thoughtfulness and generosity throughout the year.

Readers and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Even though there is a rota for Christmas, we know that some of you will be away so we thought it might be easier if you volunteered on the list which is outside the sacristy. God bless you for your great ministries.

An English Conversation Group will meet in the parish hall on Monday, 5 December 2022 from 10:00am—12 noon. Everyone is welcome to come along for tea/coffee and English conversation with others in a friendly and informal atmosphere.

Preparation for Sacraments of First Holy Communion & Confirmation in 2023. 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 by 12 noon on Tuesday 6 December 2022.

The Friends of Westminster Cathedral are raising funds towards the cost of replacing the sanctuary floodlighting in Westminster Cathedral. The present floodlighting is very old and replacement parts are not available and it uses a great deal of power generating a huge output of heat. A new system would be easily maintained and save electricity. If you would like to donate you can do so through The Big Give where donations made online up to 12:00 noon, Tuesday 6 December 2022, are matched by generous matched funders. Please use the following link to give online <https://tinyurl.com/FriendsBG22>.

Offerings. Standing orders are the easiest way to give regularly and can be set up via www.olsjw.org.uk. Please *Gift Aid* using the *Collections* by registering your usual card on the machine or scan the QR code and register your it at home which takes about 30 seconds.

SVP Foodbank Collection—next weekend. Please leave your donations of non-perishable items on the table in the porch. Thank you.

New Readers Rota available at <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stjohnswood/>.

Modern Media. Do look at our parish microsite <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stjohnswood/> (which is replacing the old website www.olsjw.org.uk), and at Our Lady's RC Church, St John's Wood *Facebook* page which is updated almost daily.

Showings of the Wintershall Nativity Journey will take place from 14 to 19 December 2022. For tickets and information: www.wintershall.org.uk.

Westminster Year Book 2023 now available priced £5.00 from the repository.

If you are applying to a Catholic nursery or primary school, follow this link to [Admissions \(https://catholiceducation.org.uk/guidance-for-schools/admissions\)](https://catholiceducation.org.uk/guidance-for-schools/admissions) and read the *Guidance for Clergy* document. If you can meet these criteria then please contact Claudia in the parish office to arrange an appointment to discuss applications.

SVP Vinnie Packs cold weather essentials for the homeless. To sponsor a pack at £4.10 each please send your donation to Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ, cheques payable to SVP or via BACS to Nat West S/C 60-60-04, A/c Nr 46088237.

Day	Location	Time	Group
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	Upper Hall	9:30am-11:30am	Parents & Toddlers
Tuesday	Upper Hall	1:00pm-4:30pm	Over 50's
Thursday	Lower Hall	10:30am-12 noon	Creative Writing