



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY, ST JOHN'S WOOD



+ 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A - 15 January 2023

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity Number 233699

The Ultimate Paradox

The Vicar General (VG) lamented recently that all priests want a small parish. In my first (large) parish there was only the paper newsletter and one 'phone line with a clunky answering machine: here we have press "two" for the office, "three" for Fr Kevin, etc., and each message is always current. And I can still recall when the diocese first gave email addresses to a few parishes: now, every person in the diocese has their own dedicated address. In addition, today every parish in Westminster has its own diocesan website and we also have an independent one. Your parish has a *Facebook* page too which details everything you need to know about life here. Of course, the paper newsletter with the various website links and all those telephone contact details as well as other leaflets with Mass times for Christmas or Easter and so on are available to take home or read on the porch noticeboard or on the one outside if the church is shut. And those other items and the newsletter itself are on both websites and the *Facebook* page while the Mass times are option "one" on the 'phone. It's probably fair to say that it's a full-circle use of modern media. And yet, while those who never darken our doors won't know all this, in the last ten days...messages were left for me by people we know on the office line, not mine, on a Wednesday, despite the message saying the office is closed that day; Claudia's out-of-office email said she was away over Christmas but regulars left emails there for Fr Ben and me; for two months the newsletter gave booking times for primary school applications but one third of good Mass-goers have left it until this week; people we see every Sunday say they knew nothing about Sacramental registration despite, for two months, it being publicised everywhere above and us announcing at all Masses that we had the forms with us; people left messages on every 'phone asking about Christmas Mass times rather than press "one" ...the tips of the iceberg. And the paradox? This is the smallest parish I've served, but in dealing with so many late and misdirected queries about things detailed *ad nauseum* elsewhere, my time for proper pastoral care has never been so squeezed. So dear reader, please tell *everyone* to regularly check all these media. Meanwhile, I might comfort the VG by taking on a larger parish and so be less like a nanny and more like a priest again. *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
Friday & Saturday: 10:00am

Rosary

After weekday Mass

Exposition & Confessions

Saturday 10:30am—11:00am

Confessions

Saturday 5:15pm—5:45pm

Music for Sunday

Palestrina - *Missa Sine Nomine*
a6
de Monte - *Beatus vir cujus*
Lassus - *Ave verum corpus*
46 O worship the Lord in the
beauty of holiness
119 Just as I am, without one
plea
263 Take my life and let it be

Sunday Readings, page 125

Isaiah 49:3, 5-5
Psalm 39:2, 4, 7-10 R. vv 8, 9
1 Corinthians 1:1-3
John 1:29-34

Catholic Church of Our Lady, St John's Wood, 54 Lodge Road, London, NW8 8LA

020 7286 3214 www.olsjw.org.uk or stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk

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

Parish Clergy: Fr Kevin Jordan (kevinjordan@rcdow.org.uk)
Fr Ben Woodley (benwoodley@rcdow.org.uk)
Parish Sister: Sr Brigid Collins, RSM (brigid@rcdow.org.uk)
Parish Administrator: Claudia McHugh (stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk)
Director of Music: Martin Toyer (martintoyer@rcdow.org.uk)

This Sunday is the White Flower Appeal 2023 by the Society for the Protection of Unborn children (SPUC). SPUC wants a world where abortion is unthinkable, and is raising awareness of the widespread problem of abortion coercion. According to an independent poll, 87% of GPs are concerned that the Government's "pills by post" scheme leaves women vulnerable to coerced abortion. SPUC is calling on the Prime Minister to condemn this abhorrent tragedy. Please fill in a postcard, available from the back of the Church, and post it to SPUC. Thank you for your support.

First Holy Communion Programme continues on Saturday 21 January from 12:00pm—1:00pm in the parish hall.

Confirmation Programme continues on Sunday 15 January from 4:00pm—5:30pm in the parish hall.

The next UCM Meeting will take place on Monday 16 January 2023 at 8:00pm.

Inquiry into Assisted Suicide. The House of Commons Health and Social Care Committee has launched an inquiry into assisted suicide and is inviting individual members of the public to comment. Assisted suicide presents profound dangers to public safety and the common good, and so it is crucial that as many people as possible engage with the Parliamentary Inquiry and oppose the introduction of assisted suicide into UK law. Submissions must be in by Friday 20 January. A short 2-page briefing by the Anscombe Bioethics Centre, including links for the questionnaire and for longer responses, is available from the back of the Church to help anyone interested in responding or contact admin@bioethics.co.uk.

New Year's resolution – Volunteering for CAFOD. The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development are looking for people to join in their mission in the Westminster diocese. Could you volunteer and help raise awareness in either parishes or schools about their work across the developing world tackling poverty and injustice? Find out more by joining one of the volunteer meetings in Lambeth, London on Saturday 21 January 2023 or Oakwood, North London on Wednesday 1 February 2023. For further details, contact Tony at westminster@cafod.org.uk or 0208 449 6970.

Tea & Coffee, Please join us today in the parish hall after the 9:00am Mass.

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.

'Lunch Together at Penfold' every Wednesday, 12 noon to 3:00pm at the Penfold Community Hub, 60 Penfold Street, NW8 8PJ. See poster in porch.

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. Thank you for your support.

'A Day with Mary' at Holy Apostles, Winchester Street, SW1V on Saturday 28 January 2023 from 10:00am—5:30pm. A day of instruction, devotion & intercession, based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. For more information and dates please see poster in the porch.

Rest in Peace: Patricia Rose Carolan. Requiem Mass at Our Lady's on Wednesday 1 February 2023 at 11:30am, committal at St Mary's Catholic Cemetery.

Elizabeth "Lily" Lambe. Requiem Mass at Our Lady's on Thursday 9 February 2023 at 11:30am, committal at West London Crematorium.

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.

Day	Location	Time	Group
Monday	Upper & Lower Hall	10:00am-12:00 noon	English Class
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