



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY, ST JOHN'S WOOD



+ Sixth Sunday of Easter - 14 May 2023

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity Number 233699

From the East, and From the West I Will Gather You (Is 43:5)

In 1995, Pope Saint John Paul II promulgated *Ut Unim Sint*. The name for this ecumenical encyclical was taken from Jesus' words to His Father shortly before His arrest, "that they may all be one; even as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me" (Jn 17:21). Jesus, desiring that His Church, His Body, will share the most sublime intimacy with Him, created her from His pierced Body and by breathing His Spirit into her. The Church of Jesus Christ is thus both truly physical and spiritual, visible and invisible, like Jesus Himself. When speaking to Saint Paul (Saul) at his conversion, Jesus refers to His persecuted followers as Himself, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" (Acts 9:4). Saint Paul will also refer to the Church as having many parts but being one body, "for just as the body is one and has many members, [], so it is with Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - Jews or Greeks, slaves or free - and all were made to drink of one Spirit", later the Apostle will write, "but God has so composed the body, giving the greater honour to the inferior part, that there may be no discord in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together" (1 Cor 12:12-13, 24-26). Following the body metaphor, Pope Saint John Paul II also refers, in his encyclical, to the Church as having two lungs, the Eastern and the Western Churches, and how they must breathe as one.

This Sunday is the Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians. In his role as Patron of the Fellowship and Aid to the Christians of the East, Cardinal Fitzgerald M. Afr. reminds us that it was in these ancient Churches that the Gospel was first preached, and that the origins of monasticism and many of the early Church Fathers hail from the Eastern lung of Christianity. He also laments the diminishing presence of Christians in these lands, in which the Gospel was born; a presence which gives Western Christians unbroken heritage. Persecution is also an undeniable factor in the daily life of so many Eastern Christians, of which the Ukrainian Catholic Church is no stranger. Let us pray for our Eastern brothers and sisters, and offer material assistance, too. *Fr Ben*

Mass Times

Sunday

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

Weekdays

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday:
10:00am
Thursday: 10:00am, 7:30pm
Friday & Saturday: 10:00am

Rosary

After weekday Mass

Exposition & Confessions

Saturday 10:30am—11:00am

Confessions

Saturday 5:15pm—5:45pm

Music for Sunday

Janequin - *Missa la Batailla*
Byrd - *Non vos relinquam*
Orphanos
Palestrina - *Benedicite gentes*
201 All people that on
Earth do dwell
55 My God I love
thee
98 Love of the Father,
love of God the Son

Sunday Readings, page 268

Acts 8:5-8, 14-17
Psalm 65:1-7, 16, 20, R. v 1
1 Peter 3:15-18
John 14:15-21

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

020 7286 3214 <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stjohnswood/>

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

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This Sunday we celebrate the International Day of Prayer for Eastern Christians Organised by the Catholic charity *Fellowship and Aid to the Christians of the East (FACE)*, together with the Dicastery for Oriental Churches and the Eastern Catholic Churches, it offers an opportunity for Christians from all over Europe, the Middle East, the Horn of Africa and India, to unite in prayer during Eastertide, especially with those suffering from the effects of war and discrimination. To make donations to their charitable projects in the Middle East and Ukraine and for more info, see poster/leaflets in the porch, www.facecharity.org.

Radio Maria England is a growing Catholic radio station, available on DAB+, online, and through the *Radio Maria England* app. The 24hr broadcast includes a variety of talk shows about life as a Catholic, a live Rosary to which you can call in with your intentions, beautiful spiritual reflections, and a selection of Christian music. A representative is at all Masses this weekend. For more information visit <https://radiomariaengland.uk>.

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

This Sunday at 3:00pm—May Procession of Our Lady of Willesden. Preacher: Fr Alan Robinson, Rector of the Diocesan Shrine of the Blessed Sacrament at Corpus Christi Maiden Lane. Join together to pray the Holy Rosary on the streets of NW10. Shrine Church, 1 Nicoll Rd, London NW10 9AX. Nearest tube: Willesden Junction on the Bakerloo & Overground.

Ascension of the Lord—Thursday 18 May 2023 is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass will be celebrated at 10:00am and 7:30pm.

Your Offerings can be given electronically via <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stjohnswood/donating-to-the-parish/> but please remember to say what your donation is for, and if you pay tax, please complete the *Gift Aid* form. Standing orders, the easiest way to give regularly, can also be set up there. To *Gift Aid* using the *Collectins* follow the prompts to register each card or 'phone on the machine, or scan the QR code and register them at home. God bless you for whatever and however you give to us and to those in need.

Tea & Coffee today after the 9:00am Mass in the hall, we look forward to welcoming you back.

Social Media. Do visit <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stjohnswood/>, and Our Lady's RC Church, St John's Wood *Facebook* page which are regularly updated.

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Divine Mercy Retreat 2023 at St Agnes RC Church, 35 Cricklewood Lane, NW2 1HR on Saturday 20 May 2023 from 1:30pm—4:30pm led by the Marian Fathers. For full itinerary please see poster and leaflets in the porch. All welcome.

Thank you to those who have suggested topics for our six adult catechesis sessions beginning on Thursday 25 May 2023 at 7:30pm in the parish hall. More ideas are most welcome.

Eucharistic Adoration event for young people in the diocese, hosted by Bishop Nicholas Hudson and Westminster Youth Ministry on Wednesday 31 May 2023 from 7:30pm—9pm at Farm St Church in Mayfair. Bishop Nicholas will be assisted by our World Youth Day Pilgrims. There will be a talk by Antonia Salzano, the mother of Blessed Carlo Acutis, who has very generously agreed to speak to our young people at this event. Her talk will be focused on Blessed Carlo's trust and focus on the Lord in the Eucharist. Open to everyone; however, we especially would like to welcome any of the young people who have just received the sacrament of confirmation. Antonia is a very compelling speaker and reminds us that sanctity is achievable for all of us. There are not many times in the history of the Church where the parent of a Blessed has been alive to recount to us the journey to beatification of their child.

Day	Location	Time	Group
Monday	Upper & Lower Hall	10:00am-12 noon	English Class
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday	Upper Hall	9:30am-11:30am	Parents & Toddlers
Tuesday	Upper Hall	1:00pm-4:30pm	Over 50's
Wednesday	Upper Hall	1:00pm-2:00pm	Art Class
Thursday	Lower Hall	10:30am-12 noon	Creative Writing