



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY, ST JOHN'S WOOD



+ 11th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A - 18 June 2023

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity Number 233699

The Next Station is Crewe

After four years in St John's Wood, Fr Ben has been appointed parish priest of Whetstone. He will take up his new appointment in October. I am sure you will join me in thanking God for the gift he is to us and in praying that he may bring to St Mary Magdalen's the same love for God, His church and her people that he has shown here. Since July 2019, even when life was challenging for all of us, Fr Ben has only ever shown a deep spirituality and a pastoral care and sensitivity towards us all. Like you, I shall miss his delightful presence very much. Of course, given the size and make-up of our parish, another priest is needed so Fr Alex Balzanella, ordained in 2021, will join us from Watford in September. I know you will take him to your hearts in the same kind way you have done with Fr Ben and me and many others. That said, you may also know that dioceses outside London have seen a downturn in vocations and thus in priests for many years. Hence, I often cover weekends in a nearby parish when I am on holiday and those are the only times that priest can have a Sunday off without other churches and their people moving Mass times to share priests. That combination of priests retiring without sufficient younger ones to replace them has also begun to affect Westminster. Here, 39 former separate parishes are now being run by just 17 parish priests and a further four will soon be overseen by just two parish priests. This affects us as from September I shall be parish priest of both here and Holy Rosary, Marylebone, with the assistance of Fr Alex alone. As with those other places in our diocese, the Cardinal's unavoidable act of twinning will require each of us to reassess what we can expect and offer in the future. *Gaudium et Spes*, a document of the Second Vatican Council, says, the laity, enlightened with Christian wisdom have their own part to play, will willingly cooperate with priests and one another, and should not consider that their pastors always have a ready answer to every problem which arises. I most certainly do not! Instead, why not see this as an opportunity to pray harder for more labourers to enter God's vineyard as priests as the Gospel instructs us today, and to think what you can do to make the necessary changes easier? Yes, this may be Crewe, where as the saying goes, we all must change, but the journey and destination remain the same. *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

Morales - *Missa Si Bona*
Suscepimus
Dressler - *Venite ad me omnes*
187 The Church's One
Foundation
188 Thy Hand, O God, has
Guided
183 Faith of Our Fathers

Sunday Readings, page 91

Exodus 19:2-6
Psalm 99:1-3, 5 R. v 3
Romans 5:6-11
Matthew 9:36-10:8

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>

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)

Fathers' Day. We assure fathers of our prayers and wish them a very happy and relaxing day.

This Sunday is 'Day for Life 2023'. The Church teaches that life is to be nurtured from conception to natural death. The theme is 'Listen to Her' and focuses on post-abortion trauma and the impact of abortion primarily on women, but also men and others. This year's message is written by a woman in the hope that it can offer opportunities for healing and reconciliation. Often the voices of women who have had an abortion are silent in Church and in society. The hope is that this will help break this silence and offer further opportunities for healing and reconciliation. For more information please visit <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/day-for-life>.

Tea & Coffee after 9:00am Mass in the parish hall today. We are looking for more volunteers so if you can help please contact Claudia in the office.

Junior Choir Recruitment. We are also looking for new members to sing with our Junior Choir. The Junior Choir has been singing at the 12 noon Mass since September 2021 and has been going from strength to strength. We would love to gain some new voices, particularly from our First Holy Communion cohort. If you would like more information about how to join and what is involved, please speak to Martina after Mass or email her at martinasmyth@rcdow.org.uk.

Our fifth adult catechesis session on 'Isaiah and His School' will take place on Thursday 22 June 2023 at 7:30pm in the parish hall.

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.

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 *CollectTins* 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.

Rest in Peace: Peter Jean Claude Ramsamy.

Reception service at Our Lady's on Wednesday 28 June 2023 at 5:00pm (*please note new time*). Requiem Mass on Thursday 29 June 2023 at 2:00pm, followed by committal at Golders Green Crematorium.

'A Day with Mary' is on Saturday 1 July 2023 from 10:00am—5:30pm at St Thomas More, Field End Road, Eastcote and on Sunday 16 July 2023 from 12:10pm—6:15pm at the Basilica of Our Lady of Walsingham, National Shrine of England. It is a day of instruction, devotion & intercession, based on the message, given at Fatima in 1917. For detailed itineraries for the above, and a selection of other venues, please see the posters in the porch.

Events celebrating the teaching and wisdom of Edith Stein—Tuesday 4 July to Thursday 6 July 2023.

Experience Mount Carmel and the teachings of the great saint Edith Stein through a series of events hosted at the Aylesford Carmelite Priory in Kent. These unique gatherings will reflect on the importance and dignity of the human person and introduce new areas of study and stories, including issues surrounding disability. For information and to book please visit <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/edith-stein-events-disability/>.

Catechists' Summer Gathering 2023—'Awe and Wonder: Looking at the World with the Eyes of Faith'

is on Saturday 8 July 2023 from 9:45am-3:30pm at Sacred Heart High School, 212 Hammersmith Road, W6 7DG led by Martin Foster. It is give all catechists an opportunity to reflect on and explore the presence of God in their lives, £10 per person, please bring a packed lunch – tea and coffee will be provided. Book by email: catadmin@rcdow.org.uk. For details of how to make payment, please see the poster in the porch.

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
Wednesday	Upper Hall	1:00pm-2:00pm	Art Class
Thursday	Lower Hall	10:30am-12 noon	Creative Writing