



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY, ST JOHN'S WOOD



+ 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A - 25 June 2023

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity Number 233699

Let Us Give Thanks To The Lord

In the newsletter last week, Fr Kevin mentioned that from September our parish is being blest with a new Assistant Priest, Fr Alex Balzanella. For a number of years Fr Alex and I were formed together at the same seminary, The English College, in Rome, and so it was with some delight that I learnt he was being sent here. I always recall how encouraging and friendly he was in seminary. He was one of the few brethren who actually told the then serving Choir Master how much he enjoyed choir practise!

The appointment of Fr Alex also coincides with me being sent to Whetstone, St Mary Magdalen, as their new Parish Priest, from October. These past four years at the Church of Our Lady, St John's Wood, have been a time of such blessing; an opportunity to serve and live alongside the rich and varied tapestry of lives which, through God's eternal providence, continues to form our family in this parish. The readings for this Sunday focus on the incomparable gift of Christ our Saviour. The word gift can sometimes sound like something optional, decorative even. With Jesus, this is not the case: He is Life. These four years have helped me to grow in discipleship and to appreciate friendship in the Lord. True friendship will ever blossom anew with Jesus, "no longer do I call you servants, for the servant does not know what his master is doing, but I have called you friends, for all that I have heard from my Father I have made known to you" (Jn 15:15). Trinity is eternal friendship, but without collapsing or negating the uniqueness and importance of Who the Father is in relation to His Son. This applies to all the divine Persons of the Trinity, and to our lives, too, as we are made in the image and likeness of God. Within love, within true friendship there is always order and profound respect for the other.

There is so much to give thanks for: Fr Kevin, to whom I was sent as a newly ordained priest, is always inspiring in his seasoned yet still growing theological reflections, and for his unstinting dedication to the needs of a parish, and now he has two; and to all the people of God, and Milo, who within their unique roles, have taught me so much in appreciating the eternal goodness of the Lord and how, in Jesus, our joy can be complete for He is eternal friendship. *Fr Ben*

Mass Times

Sunday

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

Weekdays

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday:
10:00am

Thursday: Ss Peter and Paul
(Holy Day of Obligation)
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

Lassus - *Missa Tous les regretz*
Philips - *Gabriel Angelus*
Palestrina - *Sicut in holocaustis*
166 Praise my soul the King of
heaven
275 Ye watchers and ye holy
ones
9 On Jordan's bank

Sunday Readings, page 93

Jeremiah 20:10-13
Psalm 68:8-10, 14, 17, 33-35 R. v 14
Romans 5:12-15
Matthew 10:26-33

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)

Wintershall Life of Christ The greatest story of all time is movingly recreated with authentic detail, outstanding quality sound and music. The Life of Christ is a passion play not to be missed. It is both educational and entertaining, amusing and serious. Young and old from all walks of life will be mesmerised as the story unfolds across three captivating acts on 27 June—1 July 2023 from 10:00am—3:30pm. Tickets available at <https://www.wintershall.org.uk/life-christ-6>.

Quiz Night with Joanna Bogle. A fundraising evening for Radio Maria England and The Church of Our Lady and St Dominic on Wednesday 28 June 2023 at 6:30pm in the parish hall, St Dominic's Priory, Southampton Road, NW5 4LB. £15 suggested donation, online or on the door, food and refreshments included. Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/2zz6v76d> or see poster in the porch.

Holy Day of Obligation, Ss Peter and Paul, is on Thursday 29 June with Masses at 10:00am and 7:30pm.

A second Collection for 'Peter's Pence' takes place next weekend, 1/2 July. This is one of the ways in which we support the Holy Father in his work for the many different needs of the Universal Church.

Rest in Peace: Derek O'Sullivan. Requiem Mass at Our Lady's on Wednesday 5 July 2023 at 12 noon, committal at Kensal Green Cemetery.
Diane Louvain McCarthy. Requiem Mass at Our Lady's on Tuesday 11 July 2023 at 12 noon, committal at Kensal Green Cemetery.

Catechists' Summer Gathering 2023—'Awe and Wonder: Looking at the World with the Eyes of Faith' takes place 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 provided. Book by email: catadmin@rcdow.org.uk, see poster in the porch.

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

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.

The Divine Mercy Apostolate, London is holding a Divine Mercy Retreat on Saturday 8 July 2023 from 1:30pm—4:30pm at St Georges RC Church, 970 Harrow Road, Sudbury, Wembley, HA0 2QE. The Retreat will include teachings on the Message of Divine Mercy, Holy Mass, Hour of Mercy with Stations of the Cross, Adoration and Benediction and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. Call Millie on 07957 594646 for more information.

Our sixth adult catechesis session on 'Why is there Suffering' and 'Job and Redemptive Suffering' will take place on Thursday 13 July 2023 at 7:30pm in the parish hall.

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.

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