



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY, ST JOHN'S WOOD



+ 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A - 3 September 2023

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity Number 233699

The Boy Bishop

In previous years I have shared alongside you in the relative calmness of the summer and the rest from the usual routine. This summer has been somewhat different not least because of taking on the parish of Marylebone in mid-August in addition to Our Lady's. It's like starting all over again. But life in St John's Wood goes on as normal—well, as normal as it gets with me as your parish priest anyway.

With that in mind, the end of your first week back at school, college or work—Friday 8 September—sees the feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, the feast of Our Lady that we have adopted as our patronal feast. There will be Mass as usual at 10:00am but also a sung Mass with the choir at 7:30pm followed by a celebration in the hall afterwards to which I invite you to bring food to share while we will provide the drinks. That will also be your chance to meet Fr Alex. In 2020, the Cardinal, president of the Catholic Bishops Conference of England and Wales (CBCEW), celebrated this Mass soon after Covid restrictions had been lifted. In 2021 you had some “seasoned” old preacher [*Fr Ben, I forget nothing*] probably best forgotten. Last year, Bishop Hudson, who is now the representative of the CBCEW at the forthcoming Synod in the Vatican celebrated this Mass. But this year I am delighted to say that the youngest member of the CBCEW (hence, “boy bishop”), the Rt Rev Abbot Hugh Allan, will be our celebrant and preacher. Abbot Hugh's full title is Apostolic Administrator of the Prefecture of the Falkland Islands and Ecclesiastical Superior of the Mission *sui iuris* of the islands of Ascension, St Helena and Tristan da Cunha. That basically means he is the Catholic Bishop of the entire South Atlantic. Suddenly Marylebone seems very, very close by... Abbot Hugh is well-known to Sr Brigid while he and I have been friends for over 20 years. He is one of the warmest people I know, greatly loved and admired by bishops, priests, religious and laity alike, a man of deep faith, and great fun to boot—he will make you laugh. So please, put that date in your diary because it's our feast, and above all because it's your Our Lady's birthday and there is nothing more she would want for us to do than come together to celebrate the sacrifice of the Mass which brought her salvation and offers it us. As the saying goes, “Call your mother—it's her birthday”. *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 : 10:00am, 7:30pm (Sung)
Saturday: 10:00am

Rosary

After weekday Mass

Exposition & Confessions

Saturday 10:30am—11:00am

Confessions

Saturday 5:15pm—5:45pm

Music for Sunday

269 Thou, whose almighty word
263 Take my life and let it be
119 Just as I am

Sunday Readings, page 122

Jeremiah 20:7-9
Psalm 62:2-6, 8-9 R. v 2
Romans 12:1-2
Matthew 16:21-27

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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|-----------------------|---|
| 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: | stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk |
| Director of Music: | Martin Toyer (martintoyer@rcdow.org.uk) |

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.

Over 50's resuming Tuesday 5 September.
Parents' & Toddlers' Group resuming Tuesday 12 September. **Creative Writing** resuming mid-Sept.

A Memorial Mass for Peggy Kellerd RIP at Our Lady's will take place on Thursday 7 September 2023 at 1:00pm. Everyone is welcome.

Rest in Peace: Margaret Christine Sheehan.
Requiem Mass at Our Lady's on Friday 8 September 2023 at 11:30am, committal at West London Crematorium.

Parish Patronal Feast, the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 8 September 2023. Sung Mass at 7:30pm celebrated by Rt Rev Hugh Allan, o. praem followed by bring and share in the parish hall.

'A Day with Mary' at Our Lady's next Saturday, 9 September 2023, from 9:30am—5:15pm, is a day of instruction, devotion & intercession based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. For full details see the poster and leaflets in the porch.

The SVP Foodbank collection takes place next weekend. Please leave non-perishable items on the table in the porch. Thank you for your support.

Tea & Coffee after 9:00am Mass in the parish hall from next Sunday. We desperately require more volunteers to assist in this important ministry, if you can help please contact the office.

St Thomas More Language College Open Evenings on Thursday 14 September and Wednesday 20 September 2023. Doors open at 4:00pm, Headteacher's talk at 5:00pm and 5:45pm. For more information visit www.stmlc.co.uk.

Westminster Youth Ministry is taking a group of young people (16-25) by coach to Walsingham as part of the Diocesan Pilgrimage on Saturday 23 September 2023. Coach leaves at 7:00am from Westminster Cathedral, return approx. 8:00pm. Cost £35. Bookings open until 16 September, sign up at <https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/events/pilgrimage-to-walsingham/>.

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 order forms, the easiest way to give regularly, can also be found 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 however you give to us and to those in need.

The Dominican community at the Rosary Shrine, Haverstock Hill, are concluding their 800th anniversary celebrations with a Solemn Mass at 10:00am on Saturday 7 October 2023 followed by a reception and a special exhibition of the historical vestments from the Dominican Sister's Convent of Stone, Staffordshire. All are welcome.

The annual Diocesan Mass for Altar Servers will take place on Saturday 7 October 2023 at 2:30pm in Westminster Cathedral. All altar servers are invited to attend and to vest in the Cathedral Hall in order to be ready to process by 2:00pm. The annual National Mass for Altar Servers takes place on Saturday 14 October 2023 at 12noon in Cardiff Cathedral. All are welcome at both Masses.

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children Volunteers are needed to help with labelling and packing letters, and other office duties at our HQ office in Kennington, SE11 4AB. All ages 16 and over welcome. Lunch is provided and fares will be refunded. Contact Elizabeth Foody on 020 7091 7091 or lizfoody@spuc.org.uk.

Run the Royal Parks Half Marathon in aid of *The Passage* - Sunday 8 October 2023. This stunning route showcases the iconic sites of London through four Royal Parks – Hyde Park, Kensington Gardens, St James's Park and Green Park. Registration fee: £20; fundraising goal: £300; all money in support of those experiencing or threatened by street homelessness. Sign up at <https://passage.org.uk/get-involved/events/royal-parks-half-marathon/>.

| Day | Location | Time | Group |
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| Tuesday | Upper Hall | 1:00pm-4:30pm | Over 50's |
| Wednesday | Upper Hall | 1:00pm-2:00pm | Art Class |