



# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY, ST JOHN'S WOOD



+ 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year A - 17 September 2023

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity Number 233699

## Soap

Each episode of the 70's sitcom *Soap* began with a resumé of what had happened in previous shows. It was said at breakneck speed and always ended, "Confused? You won't be after this week's episode of *Soap*", a phrase delivered with the heaviest irony you could imagine. With that in mind, after last week's "episode" of our newsletter when Fr Alex introduced himself (having just arrived in St John's Wood and Marylebone), two parishioners welcomed me to the parish as Fr Alex. I was flattered as he's over twenty years younger than me. Someone else welcomed him to the parish as Fr Kevin. Fr Alex was not flattered—see above. And several parishioners didn't know Fr Ben is moving and thought Fr Alex to be a visitor. Confused? Thus, with a nod to that television programme, I'll try to clarify. Fr Ben is tall and slim with fair hair. He's been here for four years and will be staying with us in both parishes until Tuesday 2 October when he will move to Whetstone as parish priest. By the way, Whetstone is between Finchley and Barnet before you confusedly ask, "Where?" Fr Alex is also tall, though not as tall as Fr Ben. He has dark hair and is young. He is very young. But that really doesn't bother me at all... He has been appointed to Marylebone and St John's Wood indefinitely. To add to the confusion, since there are nine Sunday Masses and soon there will be only two priests for both our churches, you will occasionally encounter visiting priests including Fr Michael Johnston who you'll recognise. In addition, the people of Marylebone already know Canon John O'Leary well and he will be in one or other church most weekends while remaining as Rector of the seminary and not a member of the parish clergy. You might also see Canon Roger Taylor who lives at Marylebone but he can't help us just now since his work as Vocations' Promoter takes him to other parishes most weekends. Finally, in the Cathedral at 4:45pm on 3 October I will be installed as a Canon, an advisor to the Cardinal in the exercise of his pastoral office. You are all welcome to attend this liturgy. From then on, apart from being identifiable as the oldest, greyest and probably most miserable of your parish priests, I'll have red buttons on my cassock. See? I said you wouldn't be confused after this week's episode. And do please pray for your priest...whatever is name might be. *Fr Kevin*

## Mass Times

### Sunday

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

### Weekdays

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

## Exposition & Confessions

Saturday 10:30am—11:00am

## Confessions

Saturday 5:15pm—5:45pm

## Music for Sunday

200 All My Hope on God is  
Founded  
242 Love Divine, All Loves  
Excelling  
130 Sweet Sacrament Divine  
  
Palestrina *Missa Quinti Toni*  
de Monte *Confidunt in Domino*

## Sunday Readings, page 128

Ecclesiasticus 27:30—28:7  
Psalm 102:1—4, 9—12 R. v 8  
Romans 14:7—9  
Matthew 18:21—35

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 ( <a href="mailto:kevinjordan@rcdow.org.uk">kevinjordan@rcdow.org.uk</a> ) Fr Ben Woodley ( <a href="mailto:benwoodley@rcdow.org.uk">benwoodley@rcdow.org.uk</a> ) Fr Alex Balzanella ( <a href="mailto:alexanderbalzanella@rcdow.org.uk">alexanderbalzanella@rcdow.org.uk</a> )
Parish Sister:	Sr Brigid Collins, RSM ( <a href="mailto:brigid@rcdow.org.uk">brigid@rcdow.org.uk</a> )
Parish Administrator:	Kathleen Reddington ( <a href="mailto:stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk">stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk</a> )
Director of Music:	Martin Toyer ( <a href="mailto:martintoyer@rcdow.org.uk">martintoyer@rcdow.org.uk</a> )

**At the 9:00am Mass the Children's Liturgy of the Word** resumes this weekend **while Tea & Coffee after Mass** in the parish hall (for which we need more helpers, please) also begins this Sunday.

**The Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School Open Evenings for Year 7 (First Form pupils)** are on Thursday 14 September 2023 and Tuesday 19 September 2023. They will include an address from Mr Stubbings, Headmaster, at 4:30pm and 6:30pm and a tour of the school. Full details at: <https://www.cvms.co.uk/Admissions/>

**St Thomas More Language College Open Evenings** are 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](http://www.stmlc.co.uk).

**Sacred Heart High School**, Hammersmith is holding secondary transfer open days from 9:30am – 11:00am which will be repeated from 4:00pm – 6:00pm on Thursday 14 September and Wednesday 20 September 2023.

**Rosary to be broadcast worldwide from St Dominic's in Camden.** If you haven't already got plans for the Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary on Saturday 7 October—or even if you have!—what better way to spend it than by joining *Radio Maria England* in the beautiful shrine of Our Lady of the Rosary and St. Dominic for the rosary. Starting at 3:00pm, it will be broadcast to every *Radio Maria* station around the world accompanied by beautiful choral music from the Rosary Shrine singers. Before the rosary there will be Mass and a walk from Tyburn Convent, with lunch on Primrose Hill. To sign up, please go to <https://tinyurl.com/vhv36kjm>. More details at [RadioMariaEngland.uk](http://RadioMariaEngland.uk), or email: [anna.fleischer@radiomariaengland.uk](mailto:anna.fleischer@radiomariaengland.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/>.

**Worldwide Marriage Encounter** is a Catholic-based movement all over the world. Their aim is to give couples who are married the opportunity to enrich and refresh their relationships by taking part in one of their weekend experiences. The next local experience is 30—31 October 2023 at St George's Parish Centre 970, Harrow Road, Sudbury HA0 2QE. For further information and to book on an experience please go to: [Home - World Wide Marriage Encounter England and Wales \(wwwme.org.uk\)](http://wwwme.org.uk).

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to the Holy Land** is led this year by Bishop John Sherrington and Fr John Farrell OP, 19 November to 27 November 2023. Route: Galilee – Jerusalem – Bethlehem, BA flight from Heathrow. Full board is £2,265 per person sharing a room, £682 single room supplement. Travel insurance essential. Book online at: <https://www.tangney-tours.com/WHL>.

**Catholic Listeners Telephone Helpline Service.** Catholic Listeners is a confidential telephone helpline service, a Diocese of Westminster initiative, for those who are returning to the Faith. The helpline is all about listening to others, and to those who might have become isolated during the pandemic. Although not a counselling service, the helpline is staffed by a professional team of volunteers who are trained to signpost callers to other services and agencies. The service aims to help those in need of a safe space to talk. Operating from 4:00pm to 7:00pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays. Calls are free on 0800 448 0704. For more information about the helpline email: [catholiclisteners@gmail.com](mailto:catholiclisteners@gmail.com)

**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.

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