

OUR LADY'S,  
ST JOHN'S WOOD &  
OUR LADY OF THE  
ROSARY, MARYLEBONE

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## SERVICE TIMES

### St John's Wood

#### Sunday Mass

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

#### Weekday Mass

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

#### Stations of the Cross (During Lent)

Thursday 6:15pm

#### Confessions

Saturday 10:30am-11:00am;  
5:15pm-5:45pm

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### Marylebone

#### Sunday Mass

6:00pm (Sat),  
11:00am (Sung Family Mass)

#### Weekday Mass

Monday, Wednesday & Friday  
12:30pm

#### Stations of the Cross (During Lent)

Friday 11:45am

#### Confessions

Saturday 5:00pm-5:30pm

## + 2ND SUNDAY IN LENT

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### Ascending the Mountain

What's funnier, mountain ranges or forests? Mountains, of course - because they're "hill areas."

I know, that joke was rather painful, as if Fr Kevin were writing this week's editorial. But it allows us a gentle point to reflect on the significance of mountains in scripture and our spiritual journey.

Throughout the Bible, mountains serve as pivotal settings for encountering God and understanding his message to humanity. From Mount Moriah where Abraham was tested in his faith to Golgotha where Christ was crucified, mountains are where humanity intersects with God. Mountains are moments of passion, revelation, and teaching. They symbolize the proximity of God's presence and His holiness.

In today's Gospel passage, we witness Jesus taking Peter, James, and John up a mountain following their confession of his Messiahship.

As they ascend, leaving behind the lush beauty of Caesarea Philippi and journeying towards the desert

towards Jerusalem and Christ's impending passion.

The disciples are filled with confusion and uncertainty. Yet, atop the mountain, their faith is fortified as they witness Jesus transfigured, his divine nature shining forth in dazzling brilliance. In the company of Moses and Elijah, they receive reassurance and guidance for the journey ahead.

Similarly, in our own lives, we may encounter moments of confusion and doubt, where God's presence feels distant, and His message seems perplexing. We can feel our lives being a journey from a lush green land to something more akin to a desert.

Like the patriarchs and apostles, we are called to embark on a spiritual ascent, climbing the mountain of faith, prayer, and contemplation, using the tools of prayer, fasting and almsgiving. It is on this journey that we draw closer to God, allowing His light to illuminate our path and His voice to guide our steps.

# CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clergy:

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Director of Music (St John's Wood)

Martin Toyer  
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# FORTHCOMING EVENTS

**A Day With Mary 2024 Pilgrimages**

Fatima (7-14 June) and Italy (4-12  
September) information available at:  
[www adaywithmary.org](http://www adaywithmary.org) or email  
[adwmary.uk@gmail.com](mailto:adwmary.uk@gmail.com)

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes**

19 - 26 July 2024

Please see poster in the porch.

# PARISH NOTICES

**CAFOD Family Fast Day/Lent**

**Appeal.** Please return your CAFOD  
Fast Day envelope in this week's  
collection or give online at:  
<https://cafod.org.uk>. This Lent your  
donations will help hardworking  
people like James the fisherman in  
Liberia with resources, tools and  
training to feed their families for  
good. Pray, reflect this Lent:  
[https://cafod.org.uk/pray/prayer-  
resources](https://cafod.org.uk/pray/prayer-resources)

**Bach's St John's Passion.** As part

of its Lenten devotions,  
Westminster Cathedral Choir will  
perform J.S. Bach's St John Passion  
on Thursday 14 March at 7:30pm.  
Tickets priced £45/£35/£20 are  
available via *Ticketmaster*. The  
Cathedral Choir will be conducted  
by Simon Johnson, the Cathedral's  
Master of Music, accompanied by a  
Baroque orchestra and soloists  
James Gilchrist (as the Evangelist)  
and William Thomas (Christus).

**The Divine Mercy Apostolate,**

**London** is holding a Divine Mercy  
Lenten Retreat on Saturday 16  
March from 1:30pm - 4:30pm at St  
Scholastica, 17 Kenninghall Road  
Clapton, London E5 8BS. All  
welcome. Please call Millie on 07957  
594 646 for information.

**UCM (Union of Catholic Mothers)**

will be having a children's Easter  
Egg Hunt and Easter quiz for the  
children and an adult Easter Raffle  
with some great prizes after the  
Sunday morning Mass on Sunday 17  
March, from 9:45am - 11:30am in the  
St John's Wood upper parish hall.  
£1 per child. All are welcome.

**Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for  
the Sacrament of Matrimony** takes

place at Westminster Cathedral, on  
Saturday 25 May at 2:30pm. The  
Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all  
couples in the Diocese, who are  
celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th,  
40th, 50th and 60th (and every year  
over 60) wedding anniversary of  
Catholic marriage in 2024. If you are  
celebrating an anniversary, please  
email with the following details:  
husband/wife's names, wedding  
date, full postal address and email or  
telephone number by 31 March.

**Right to Life UK.** Ask your MP to

support the abortion time limit  
reduction amendment to reduce  
our abortion time limit from 24  
weeks to 22 weeks. Research  
indicates that a significant number  
of babies born at 22 or 23 weeks can  
now survive outside the womb,  
leaving a contradiction in our  
abortion law. Take action: Collect a  
postcard today from the back of the  
church and post it to your MP  
urgently in support of this  
amendment.

**If you are sick or in hospital,** please

make it known to the ward staff that  
you are a Catholic and that you want  
to see a priest so that arrangements  
can be made for a Catholic Chaplain  
to visit you. Please let Canon Kevin  
or Fr Alex know if you are  
housebound, even temporarily, so  
we can arrange to visit you.

**Ways to Donate to your Parish and  
to Gift Aid your Donation.** Details

are at the following links:  
<http://tinyurl.com/OLSJW> (St John's  
Wood) & <http://tinyurl.com/OIMarI>  
(Marylebone). Thank you for your  
ongoing support.