

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

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parish.rcdow.org.uk/stjohnswood

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<https://www.facebook.com/ourladysjw>



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

Confessions

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

Marylebone

Sunday Mass

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

Weekday Mass

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
12:30pm

Confessions

Saturday 5:00pm-5:30pm

+ THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER PAGE 258 -YEAR B - 14 APRIL 2024

What's in an Easter Egg?

Thank you for your generosity over Easter, it's very touching and humbling to see the kindness shown towards priests at all times. And particular thanks to those who dropped in Easter eggs, rumours of my love of chocolate must have got around.

We're used to celebrating Easter with symbols of new life such as rabbits, baby chicks and eggs. But it is worth reflecting on eggs in particular, because the mystery of Jesus' resurrection is one of the most difficult mysteries of the Christian faith to explain. As St Paul says "A stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles". How do we explain something dead coming back to life? And coming to life in a far more perfect and intense way than it ever was in the first place, with the laws of physics themselves bending to accommodate the wonderful mystery of Jesus risen from the dead. One who can stand among them and eat with them, yet who can appear and disappear from their midst, like in today's Gospel.

There is nothing analogous the resurrection. But an egg is as close as we can get.

From the outside, nothing looks more dead than an egg. Yet from the stillness and coldness new life bursts forth. The metaphor is imperfect, but it does capture some of the wonder of the resurrection.

So if you've not demolished all your easter eggs, remember what they symbolise. The resurrection of Jesus, that we still celebrate and the promise of our own resurrection too. Think too, between the bites of chocolate, about how you can share news of God's wonderful works, and be a 21st-century disciple of Christ.

Spreading that message can feel difficult, it can be awkward. Yet remember the prize that is offered, eternal life in the manner of Jesus, in the new heaven and the new earth. It was for that prize martyrs the world over gave their lives to spread that faith. Because in this world there is nothing of greater importance, relevance or meaning to humanity than the Resurrection of Jesus, the destiny promised to those who follow him too.

Fr Alex

CONTACT INFORMATION

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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 or

email: adwmary.uk@gmail.com

The Bi-Annual Concelebrated Requiem Mass at

St. Mary's Cemetery, Kensal Green

Monday 17 June at 11:30am

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage 19 - 26 July 2024.

Registration for the pilgrimage is now open at:

<https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or contact the Pilgrimage

Office on 020 7798 9173.

Applications to be submitted by
Tuesday 30 April.

PARISH NOTICES

Your Easter Offerings were incredibly kind and we thank you for your amazing generosity. Any offering can be given via: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stjohnswood/donating-to-the-parish/> or <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/marylebone/donate/>. Please remember to say what your donation is for. If you pay tax, please complete the Gift Aid form on those pages too. Standing orders, are the easiest way to give regularly, can also be set up there. To Gift Aid using the *Collectins/Dona* digital plates you must 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.

SVP Foodbank collection at St John's Wood, takes place this weekend. Please leave non-perishable items on the table in the porch. Thank you for your support.

Planned Giving Envelopes for the 2024/2025 tax year for existing users, are available for collection at the back of the churches. If you have not yet collected your box please do so, if you can this weekend, or contact the parish office to make alternative arrangements. Thank you.

Red Box 2023: Thank you! In 2023 St John's Wood Parish raised £2,040.00 through the Red Boxes and donations to *Missio* and the *Mill Hill Missionaries*. Our missionary community is part of a worldwide network of people supporting missionaries overseas through prayers and financial assistance. Please see the poster in the porch and visit: missio.org.uk to find out more.

UCM (Union of Catholic Mothers)
On Monday 15 April there will be a perfume making workshop in the St John's Wood parish Upper Hall starting at 7:00pm. It promises to be an enjoyable and exciting evening. Drinks and refreshments will be provided. Please join us, all are welcome.

Soul Food is a Catholic charismatic prayer group. for young professionals based at St. Charles Borromeo Church, Ogle Street in Central London. Soul Food will be running their annual 'Life in the Spirit' seminar in April. This is a six-week course running every Thursday evening from 7:00pm and beginning the 18 April. This is a back-to-basics course, with a focus on the Holy Spirit and for Catholics at all stages of their faith journey. As part of the course there will be a weekend retreat. If you would like to know more please email serviceteam@soulfoodgroup.co.uk.

Priest Training fund Next Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday, the day we pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood and when the annual collection for the Priest Training Fund takes place which pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. Please take home a donation envelope from the back of the church, read the information therein, and bring it back next weekend with your offering. Above all, continue to pray for vocations and for our priests. You can use the QR code on the envelopes or poster in the porch, to make your donation online: ww.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity.

Our Lady of Willesden annual May Procession in honour of Our Lady will take place at the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden NW10 9AX on Sunday 12 May at 3:00pm.