

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

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parish.rcdow.org.uk/stjohnswood

parish.rcdow.org.uk/marylebone

<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

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

Confessions

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

Adoration

Saturday 10.30am-11.00am.

Marylebone

Sunday Mass

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

Weekday Mass

Monday, Wednesday & Friday
12:30pm

Confessions

Saturday 5:15pm-5:45pm

Adoration

Saturday 3pm-5.30pm

(N.B. SATURDAY: + THE EXALTATION OF THE HOLY CROSS)
+ TWENTY- FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
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Don't Be Cross

It's one of those odd weekends when Saturday's feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross – or the Triumph of the Cross as it used to be known – is higher in the league table of celebrations than the 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time. This means that the Saturday evening Mass in both parishes is of the Exaltation of the Cross while the Sunday Masses are of, well, Sunday. So apologies in advance for having two page references in St John's Wood and no leaflets in Marylebone with the readings in them for Saturday.

St Andrew of Crete writes that the cross dispels darkness and restores light. This is one of the paradoxes of our Faith. Indeed, acknowledging the horrors of crucifixion, the world would agree with the saint when he says, "If there had been no cross, Christ would not have been crucified... Life would not have been nailed to the tree." The One the world views as a good man would not have endured such suffering.

But for us, as St Andrew explains, "If He had not been nailed, the streams of everlasting life would not have welled from His side, blood and water, the cleansing of the world; the record of our sins

would not have been cancelled, we would not have gained freedom, we would not have enjoyed the tree of life, paradise would not have been opened. If there had been no cross, death would not have been trodden underfoot, the underworld would not have yielded up its spoils."

In other words, without the cross, the Resurrection would not have happened as it did with all its fruits. Thus, contrary to human reason, the sufferings of Christ have been victorious. The cross is therefore not an instrument of torture *per se* but a trophy of victory and the salvation of the whole world.

So, for all the confusion the juxtaposition (yes, a big word for me, I know) of these feasts, there is something rather beautiful about speaking of the glory of the cross - this "infamous gibbet" as St Alphonsus Liguori describes it - the evening before we mark the Resurrection. Indeed, when you consider that Sunday's readings see Christ prophesy about His own suffering and call us to take up our cross and follow Him, we see how suffering and loss in the name of the Lord can truly bring about our salvation. All the more reason not to be cross at all. *Canon Kevin*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clergy:

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Parish Safeguarding Reps:

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Director of Music

(St John's Wood)

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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Young Catholic Adults and the Traditional English Association of Catholic History will be

organising a pilgrimage to

Catholic York, including a visit to

St. Margaret Clitherow's Shrine,

the Bar Convent and St. Mary's

Bishophill – the oldest Church in

York - over the weekend of

26-27 October. It is aimed at

young Catholic adults and

Catholics interested in history.

For details of how to book this

free weekend and more

information please see:-

<https://bookwhen.com/youngcat>

[holicadults-yorkpilgrimage2024](https://bookwhen.com/youngcat)

PARISH NOTICES

Today is *Evangelii Gaudium* Sunday.

This day gives us the opportunity to reflect on the great mandate we have been given by the Risen Lord to evangelise the whole world. "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations," the Lord commissions, as we hear in Matthew 28:19. Inspired by our ongoing Synodal process, Scripture, and Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation, *Evangelii Gaudium*, the theme 'Growing as Missionary Disciples' has been chosen. For resources please visit: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/evangelii-gaudium-sunday/>

Tea/Coffee. St John's Wood -

After the 9:00am Sunday Mass.

Marylebone - After the 11:00am Sunday Mass.

Union of Catholic Mothers' (UCM)

meeting takes place on Monday 16 September at 8:00pm in the Upper Hall, St John's Wood. All welcome.

God of Compassion: The Psalms in Conversation is on Thursday 19 September from 6:00pm - 8:00pm

at the London Jesuit Centre, W1K 3AH. Tickets are free. For more information and to reserve your place please visit:

<https://god-of-compassion-psalms-event.eventbrite.co.uk>. or see the poster in the porch.

A Day With Mary takes place at Five Precious Wounds Parish, Stonebridge, Brentfield Road NW10 8ER on Saturday 21 September, from 10:00am until 5:00pm. Please see the poster in the porch.

Sister Marthe Marie, a Rwandan Sister of the Assumption, will talk

on 'Our Lady of Kibeho' on Saturday 21 September, after Mass at 10:00am at Our Lady of the Rosary & St Patrick's, 61 Blackhorse Road, E17 7AS. All are welcome.

The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) is holding

a one-day conference on Saturday 28 September, at Holiday Inn, Regent's Park, Carburton Street, W1W 5EE. Tickets are £40, including lunch. Bookings can be made via the SPUC website at: www.spuc.org.uk/conference-2024. For further details please email: katherinehampton@spuc.org.uk

Seeds of Hope Evangelisation Day

on Saturday 28 September, 10:30am - 3:30pm, at Holy Apostles' church and hall, Pimlico. Everyone who is interested in evangelisation and wants to see the faith of those they care about come alive is welcome to attend. For more information see the poster in the porch or visit: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/seed-s-of-hope-evangelisation-day-tickets-909962431127?aff=oddttdtcreator>

St Francis Leprosy Guild invite you to celebrate Mass at Westminster Cathedral on Friday 4 October at 5:30pm and join them afterwards for their Annual Assembly at *The Passage*, Carlisle Place. For further details please see the poster in the porch.

For those in both parishes applying to Catholic secondary schools and sixth forms, please follow this link for admissions:

<https://catholiceducation.org.uk/guidance-for-schools/admissions> and read the Guidance for Clergy document. If you can meet the criteria for a priest to complete a Certificate of Catholic Practice form, contact Kathleen in the parish office to arrange an appointment. Please note that all appointments will take place in the St John's Wood office. Appointments for those applying for Catholic nursery, infant and junior schools will be announced via the newsletter after the October half-term break.