

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

54 Lodge Road, NW8 8LA

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[parish.rcdow.org.uk/stjohnswood](http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stjohnswood)

[parish.rcdow.org.uk/marylebone](http://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

+ TWENTY- FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
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**“Show me a good loser and I’ll show you a loser.”**

We all like to win, whether in a school football match, securing a work contract, playing the lottery, or even a family game of Monopoly. Winning is undeniably attractive, but while winning may bring us joy, the methods people sometimes use to achieve it can be less so. From selfish ambition to undermining others, the desire to win can lead us down an ugly path if we're not careful.

In our Gospel, we see Jesus turning the world's idea of winning upside down. The disciples were arguing about who among them was the greatest. Rather than condemning their desire for greatness, Jesus redefines what it means to win: “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all” (Mark 9:35). True greatness, true victory, is found not in defeating others but in serving them with humility. In doing this we show that true mastery, that true victory, over ourselves, the world and the devil. Jesus invites us to seek a different kind of victory—not in status, wealth, or power, but in the love of God and neighbour. This is the true “winning” that leads to eternal life.

Our second reading reminds us that where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, disorder and evil follow. These qualities might bring us a short-term benefit, but lead to conflict and strife, not peace and fulfilment. Our world often celebrates winning at all costs, but we are called to rise above this, seeking the wisdom that “comes from above,” marked by purity, peace, and mercy.

As St. Augustine wisely put it, "It is better to be defeated by truth than to win by falsehood." This speaks to the heart of what matters most—winning where it really counts, in the eyes of God, not the world. The ultimate prize is eternal life with Him, and the path to that victory lies in humility, service, and love. So as we pursue success in our daily lives, let us remember where winning truly matters. Let us strive to win by loving God, serving others, and seeking the eternal reward that He has promised.

*Fr Alex*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clergy:

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Director of Music

(St John's Wood)

Martin Toyer

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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, 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/youngcatholicadults-yorkpilgrimage2024>

**Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes** will take place next year from 25 July to 1 August 2025. Further details will follow.

## PARISH NOTICES

### Tea/Coffee at St John's Wood.

Please join us for tea & coffee today after the 9:00am Mass in the parish hall, a nice way of catching up with old friends and making new ones. All are welcome.

### Children's Liturgy of the Word

has resumed, during term time, at St John's Wood. If you can help with this important ministry at either parish please contact the parish office or speak with either Canon Kevin or Fr Alex after Mass.

### A Macmillan Coffee Morning

is being hosted by Sr Brigid at 53 St John's Wood Court, NW8 8QS, on Friday 27 September from 10:30am onwards. Coffee, tea and lots of homemade cakes will be available. All donations will be used to help fund people living with cancer. For more information please visit: <https://www.macmillan.org.uk/> Please see the poster in the porch.

### The 110th World Day of Migrants and Refugees is next Sunday 29 September.

Pope Francis has chosen as this year's theme, 'God walks with his people'. The full text of the Pope's message can be found by visiting the following link: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wdmr24-pope-francis> The World Day will also be marked in this diocese by the celebration of the annual International Mass in the Cathedral on Saturday 28 September at 6:00pm at which the Cardinal will preside. All are welcome at this Mass in which the ethnic chaplaincies in the diocese will have a leading role.

### Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM) Dance Party

takes place on Saturday 5 October from 2:00pm until 6:00pm, in the Lower Hall at St John's Wood. Cost is £10, which includes a cocktail. Over 18's and women and primary carers only.

### National Mass for Altar Servers

The Archconfraternity of St Stephen holds its annual National Mass in Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 5 October at 2:30pm. The principal celebrant will be Cardinal Nichols, Superior General of the Guild. All altar servers and their families from across the diocese and further afield are invited to attend. Servers who wish to take part are asked to arrive and vest in the Cathedral Hall from 12:30pm onwards, to bring their own vestments with them and to wear dark coloured footwear. Please see the poster in the porch.

### Are you a student at one of the universities or colleges in London, or in Hatfield?

Our Catholic Chaplaincy is for you and is based at Newman House, 111 Gower Street, WC1E 6AR. They have Sunday Masses for students and regular events during the week. Go to: [www.universitycatholic.net](http://www.universitycatholic.net) to find out more. If you are a full-time student heading to a university outside London, please visit: <https://www.catholicSATuniversity.org.uk/> to identify the Catholic chaplaincy in your place of study.

### 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.