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
10:00am
Thursday 7:00pm
Friday 10:00am
Saturday 10:00am

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

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How Does Your Garden Grow?

A friend of mine commented that on 7 January he found Easter eggs on sale in Tesco. He wondered (jokingly) why they had taken so long to put them out.

The world has decidedly moved on from Christmas and now anticipates the next Christian festival mainly as a marketing opportunity. But in a way we all do that to some degree - we look for the next "big thing.". We never seem to be satisfied with the stability of our status in life, our relationships or our faith. We imagine that somehow the next big step and passing a distant milestone will make everything better and ignore how much daily life can enrich us

In October I did what I thought would be the last cut of the lawn. Within a few days I wondered if I would need to get the mower out again. And while it did get a little longer then, even during the recent cold months some growth occurred. Growth occurs even when you do not expect it to.

So it should be with us. In this season of ordinary time before Lent begins we don't have any major feasts other than the Presentation of the Lord. Instead, Sunday by Sunday, we hear Gospel stories about Christ's ministry which underpin the fundamentals of what it means to be a Christian. And in the first reading we see how the Old Testament points to what Christ proclaims, while the second reading gives us sections of the letters of apostles to deepen our knowledge, wisdom and understanding of the faith.

These passages may not have the sparkle and joy of Christmas and Easter, nor the penitential nature of Advent and Lent, but they contain the Word of God which is "living and active...piercing to the division of soul and of spirit...and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart" (Heb 4:12) Thus we should reflect on these sections of Scripture, pray with them, be challenged by them, learn from them - perhaps by attending some of the Jubilee Scripture talks advertised - and be nourished by them as much as we are by those of the major feasts.

There is a clue in the colour of vestments we wear at this time: green may not have the glitz of gold or the finery of purple, but like the green grass which grows at all times, it should encourage us to grow spiritually even in this seemingly mundane period of our liturgical calendar. *Canon Kevin*

Contact Information

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Musical Director (St John's Wood)
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Forthcoming Events

Retrouvaille
can help couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage.
Next programme,
27 February to 2 March,
Email: info@retrouvaille.org.uk
telephone/text 07887 296 983
or visit: www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes
25 July to 1 August 2025
Visit:
https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/email:
elizabethuwalaka@rcdow.org.uk
or telephone 020 7798 9173

Parish Notices

Day of Prayer for World Peace is celebrated today Sunday 19 January. Pope Francis' message for the World Day of Peace is 'Forgive us our trespasses: Grant us your peace'. The message speaks of how we must listen to the 'pleas of an endangered humanity', how the year of Jubilee inspires us to seek the liberating justice of God in our world and how by 'opening our hearts to our brothers and sisters, we will restore God's justice on earth' and 'move forward to achieve the goal of peace'. The Holy Father's full message is at: https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/events/event.dir.html/content/vaticanevents/en/2024/12/12/messaggio-pace.html

White Flower Appeal 2025. The Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC) will be holding its annual collection this weekend at both parishes. SPUC exists to radically transform culture so that abortion is not only abolished but becomes truly unthinkable. This year's appeal postcards call on the Government to adhere to the United Nations' Convention on the Rights of the Child. Fill in a postcard, available from the back of the church, and post it to SPUC. Please be as generous as you can to help SPUC.

Tea and Coffee

- St John's Wood - after the 9:00am Sunday Mass.
- Marylebone - continues after the 11:00am Mass on 9 February

Children's Liturgy of the Word has resumed, during term time, at St John's Wood and the next one at Marylebone will be on the 2 February. If you can help with this ministry please speak with either Canon Kevin or Fr Alex after Mass.

Rest in Peace, James O'Driscoll. Requiem Mass is at Our Lady's, on Tuesday 21 January at 11:00am, burial at Mill Hill Cemetery at 1:00pm.

Jubilee Year 2025. The Holy Father has decreed that 2025 will be a year of jubilee. The theme is "Pilgrims of Hope" and it will be a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and a climate crisis. There are a number of events planned to mark this special time. Please pick up a Jubilee Companion Booklet and prayer card from the back of the church today.

Vocations: 'Come and See'. If you know of any men who may be interested in exploring a vocation to the priesthood or permanent diaconate, then please invite them to come along to one of the vocations team's 'Come & See' vocations mornings on Saturday 25 January, 10:00am-2:00pm at Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, SW1P 1QN; or Saturday 8 February, 10:00am-2:00pm at Ss Peter & Paul parish hall, 38 Camborne Ave, W13 9QZ: or Saturday 1 March, 10:00am-2:00pm at Sacred Heart of Jesus and St Joseph parish hall, 1 King Edward's Road, Ware, SG12 7EJ.
Please contact Canon Roger Taylor, Vocations Promoter, at rogertaylor@rcdow.org.uk or Deacon Tito Pereira, the Assistant Director of the Permanent Diaconate, at titopereira@rcdow.org.uk or phone 07977 599 110 for more information.

World Day of the Sick is on Saturday 8 February and the annual Mass of Our Lady of Lourdes is at Westminster Cathedral at 2:00pm, celebrated by Cardinal Vincent Nichols, during which Anointing of the Sick will be offered. This is a ticket only event. Tickets can be requested by emailing the parish office stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk no later than Sunday, 2 February advising if you are booking for either 1. Wheelchair users who require anointing, 2. Walking sick who require anointing or 3. Assisting the sick, who do not require anointing.