

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

Weekday Mass

Monday, Tuesday,
10:00am
Wednesday 10:00am & 7:30pm,
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

+ EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME PAGE 144 - YEAR C - 2 MARCH 2025

The Danger of Speaking Without Knowing

I remember a geography class where we were learning about the depth of the sea and the heights of the mountains. Our teacher told us that the Dead Sea was 304 kilometers deep. If that were true, the earth would implode! However, for a not insignificant time in my life, I was under the impression that the Dead Sea was the deepest place on earth. Such is the danger when teachers do not know their subject.

Jesus raises a similar theme in today's Gospel—the problem of bad teachers. The issue with a bad teacher is that because they don't know enough, or are just plain wrong, what they pass on will be extremely limited or even misleading.

This is particularly important when it comes to matters of faith. As Catholics, we are called to evangelize, to share the good news of Jesus Christ, but we must do so with both wisdom and humility. There are two common errors: some speak with too much confidence on subjects they know little about, while others, fearing their own ignorance, remain silent. Neither approach fulfills our baptismal call.

Jesus warns of the blind leading the blind—both will fall into a pit. We cannot share what we do not know. At the same time, we cannot shy away from our duty to proclaim the Gospel. So how do we strike the balance? By deepening our relationship with Christ and learning about our faith before speaking about it. Later in Luke's Gospel, Jesus sends out seventy-two disciples to preach the Kingdom of God, but only after they have spent time with Him, learning and growing.

St. Teresa of Avila reminds us, "We need no wings to go in search of God, but have only to find a place where we can be alone and look upon Him present within us." To be effective witnesses of the faith, we must first be students of it. Let us take the time to pray, to read Scripture, to understand Church teachings—so that when we do speak, we do so with the love and truth that Christ calls us to share.

Fr Alex

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clergy

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Parish Safeguarding Reps

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Musical Director (St John's Wood)

Martin Toyer
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

Mass for Bereaved Parents

Westminster Cathedral
celebrated by
Bishop Paul McAleenan
Saturday 5 April at 2:00pm.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony

Westminster Cathedral,
17 May 2:30pm.
Mass for all couples in the diocese who are celebrating significant wedding anniversaries of Catholic marriage in 2025. Email: stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk with your details by Monday 31 March.

PARISH NOTICES

Tea and Coffee

- St John's Wood - after the 9:00am Sunday Mass, term time
- Marylebone - after the 11:00am Mass every second Sunday of the month.

It would be wonderful if we had some more volunteers at both parishes. Please contact Kathleen in the parish office if you can help. Thank you.

Ash Wednesday —the start of Lent.

Masses on Wednesday 5 March will be at 10:00am and 7:30pm at St John's Wood and at 12:30pm at Marylebone. Don't forget to do something extra as well as giving things up during Lent—perhaps an extra Mass or pray the Stations of the Cross on Thursdays at 6:15pm in the church at St John's Wood or 11:45pm on Fridays at Marylebone. Or offer your time to help in the running of our parishes and their ministries?

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2025. This Holy Year invites us to be 'Pilgrims of Hope'. We invite you to consider supporting work being done in the Diocese of Westminster to bring hope into many lives. Your contributions will help fund vital projects across our diocese. Donation envelopes are available at the back of the church today. You can also contribute online using the QR code on the envelope or on the poster displayed in the porch. Thank you for your kindness and support.

Join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk in the Jubilee Year and journey together with Catholics in England, Wales and Scotland as Pilgrims of Hope - walking 200km over 40 days during Lent. Journey to one of the churches or shrines designated as places of pilgrimage in our diocese as part of your Big Lent Walk. Every £1 you raise supports communities experiencing the worst impact of the climate crisis, and helps to rebuild their lives. Sign up at: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

Rest in Peace, David Hutchins. Requiem Mass is at Our Lady's, on Monday 10 March at 11:00am, Cremation at Golders Green Crematorium at 1:00pm.

Jubilee Churches programmes. The six Jubilee churches in the Diocese – Westminster Cathedral, Corpus Christi, Maiden Lane, St Mary and St Joseph, Poplar, The Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden, St Gregory the Great, South Ruislip and Our Lady, Queen of Apostles, Welwyn Garden City – are devising their programmes for the year. Please consult their websites, and as well as the diocesan website, for further information. Remember that the Jubilee Indulgence is available in these churches throughout the Holy Year.

The Jubilee prayer

Father in heaven,
may the faith you have given us in your son, Jesus Christ, our brother, and the flame of charity enkindled in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, reawaken in us the blessed hope for the coming of your Kingdom.
May your grace transform us into tireless cultivators of the seeds of the Gospel.
May those seeds transform from within both humanity and the whole cosmos in the sure expectation of a new heaven and a new earth, when, with the powers of Evil vanquished,
your glory will shine eternally.
May the grace of the Jubilee reawaken in us, Pilgrims of Hope, a yearning for the treasures of heaven.
May that same grace spread the joy and peace of our Redeemer throughout the earth.
To you our God, eternally blessed, be glory and praise for ever. Amen.

Official prayer from Pope Francis for the Jubilee year 2025, "Pilgrims of hope"