

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

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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.

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**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

+ FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
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**It's A Wonderful Life**

As a new priest in 2000, Pope St John Paul II told me, "Never forget the joy you feel now – it will sustain you in the years ahead."

Since then I have been entrusted with the formation of many seminarians and new priests. It has always been and still is a great joy for me. This is not least because their enthusiasm keeps me feeling young even as the bathroom mirror reveals an increasing tally of wrinkles and grey hairs each morning!

Just last week the diocese sent an email to the 19 parish priests who have assistants and share in their ongoing formation. It reminded us that with the deaths of five serving parish priests in the past year and a further twelve over the retirement age of 75, those assistant priests "may be appointed to serve as parish priest[s] sooner than might have been anticipated." There then followed a list of 13 areas we must ensure they are competent in with regard to running a parish – administration, care of property and staff, legal compliance, etc. At the end was added, "alongside pastoral, liturgical and sacramental ministry."

Rightly, compliance with those 13 fields of responsibility cannot be

ignored. But the last three are the ones that keep us going. Regular visits to the homebound who are so eager to receive the sacraments reminds us of what we give to you, Indeed, one of them receives Communion and then kisses these unworthy hands with real tenderness and devotion. It is a beautiful act of faith in the true meaning of Priesthood. And then there is much to be enjoyed afterwards when we then talk about their faith, their history, their families and friends, the "good old days" in our parishes, and so on. That sense of real purpose also comes in confession by allowing someone to lay down a massive burden they have been carrying for years, even decades. Then there is the trust you place in us by inviting us to bring Christ and His Church into the most intimate moments of your lives – births and deaths, the highs and lows of daily life. And as for the fraternity, the friendships with brother priests I have? – priceless.

Yes, juggling administrative burdens can bring down the dark clouds. But the *true* reality of being a priest, answering the call of Christ in today's Gospel? I wouldn't do anything else. It really is a wonderful life.. *Canon Kevin*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Parish Clergy

Canon Kevin Jordan

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Fr Alex Balzanella

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### Parish Sister

Sr Brigid Collins, RSM

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### Parish Administrator

Kathleen Reddington

stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk

marylebone@rcdow.org.uk

### Bookkeeper (both parishes)

Asha Stephen

stjohnswoodbookkeeper

@rcdow.org.uk

### Parish Safeguarding Reps

Frances Uchea (St John's Wood)

stjohnswoodsg@

safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Valeria Naipan (Marylebone)

marylebonesg@

safeguardrcdow.org.uk

### Musical Director (St John's Wood)

Martin Toyer

martintoyer@rcdow.org.uk

## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### Mass for Bereaved Parents

Westminster Cathedral

celebrated by

Bishop Paul McAleenan

on Saturday 5 April at 2:00pm.

### Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

25 July to 1 August 2025

Please visit:

<https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or email:

[elizabethuwalaka@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:elizabethuwalaka@rcdow.org.uk)

or telephone 020 7798 9173

## PARISH NOTICES

### Tea and Coffee

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

**The SVP Foodbank Collection** takes place this weekend. Please leave non-perishable items on the table in the porch. Thank you.

**Jubilee 2025.** For the feast of the Chair of St Peter, a special Jubilee Mass will be celebrated at Corpus Christi, Maiden Lane, which has been designated as one of the Jubilee churches for the Diocese of Westminster. 10:00am - Confessions & Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, 11:00am - Sung Jubilee Mass. It is possible to obtain the special plenary indulgence for the Jubilee by attending this Mass, under the usual conditions. More information and full details on how to obtain the indulgence can be found at: [maidenlanejubilee.co.uk](http://maidenlanejubilee.co.uk). For further Jubilee Year information and events this year please visit: <https://rcdow.org.uk/jubilee-2025/>

**Children's Liturgy at Marylebone** will next take place on 23 February. In this session, we will reflect on the words of the Gospel that have been heard throughout February, so do discuss and talk to your children about the words Christ shares with us over the next few weeks. At St John's Wood the children's liturgy takes place during term time. If you would like to volunteer to help with this ministry please speak with either Canon Kevin or Fr Alex after Mass.

**A Day With Mary** is taking place at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 1 March from 9:45am until 5.00pm. For further information please visit: <https://www adaywithmary.org/> or <https://eventcatholic.com/> Please also see the poster in the porch.

**National Novena to St Joseph** takes place from 10 - 18 March at St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead. Every year the Mill Hill Missionaries prepare for the feast of St Joseph, their society's patron, with a special novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their missionary outreach, and for the intentions of all those who support their work. Masses are at 10:00am every day of the novena except Sunday when it is at 11:00am. Masses are available via: [www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena](http://www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena) A novena prayer booklet is also available. For details of how to obtain a booklet and full details of the novena please see the poster in the porch.

**Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony** takes place at Westminster Cathedral, on Saturday 17 May at 2:30pm. The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the diocese who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2025. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please email Kathleen in the parish office at: [stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk) with the following details: husband's and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email) by Monday 31 March. Your details will be sent to the diocese who will post you an invitation prior to the event.

**WE NEED YOU - Church Cleaning Volunteers.** We are currently extremely short of volunteers at St John's Wood for this important ministry. Thank you to those who came forward following last week's appeal. However, we still need more volunteers. If you can help, please let Kathleen in the parish office know as soon as possible. Thank you so much.