

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

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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, 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

+ SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
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**Less is More: The Power of Jesus' Teaching**

The Seed Potatoes (England) Regulations Act sets out certification requirements, marketing standards, and disease control measures for seed potatoes in England. Spanning 43 pages, it is essential reading for farmers. However, I must confess I have never read it. While it may contain valuable information for those in the industry, I do not feel my life is poorer for not pouring over its 10,000+ words on potato regulation.

Our Gospel today stands in stark contrast to such verbosity of little consequence. In just 130 words, Jesus outlines how divine justice will unfold in the Kingdom of God. With remarkable brevity, He reveals a perspective radically different from our expectations:

"Blessed are you when people hate you, and when they exclude you, and revile you, and spurn your name as evil on account of the Son of Man! Rejoice in that day... woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation."

In these few words, Jesus conveys profound truths. He reminds us that wealth, status, and good fortune in this life are not signs of divine favour, just as suffering and

hardship are not signs of divine punishment. It is a difficult reality: bad things happen to good people, and the unjust sometimes prosper. But Jesus assures us divine justice will come. All will be laid bare; the hidden things of this world will be brought into the light. His message is clear: do not measure your worth by earthly success, but trust in God's love and His eternal rewards, especially in times of difficulty and trial.

At the same time, Jesus teaches that a life centred on God is the greatest blessing. Riches and prestige may seem desirable, but they are fleeting imitations of the joy that comes from trusting in Him. The Kingdom of God offers something far greater—true peace, lasting joy, and a hope that endures beyond this life. That's a lot to be said in under 200 words! If deepening your faith sounds daunting, remember—it isn't! The words of Jesus succinctly give us the foundation for true joy. Open your Bible or Catechism and open your heart to God. If nothing else, it'll be less daunting than reading The Seed Potatoes (England) Regulations Act.

*Fr Alex*

## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Parish Clergy

Canon Kevin Jordan  
kevinjordan@rcdow.org.uk  
Fr Alex Balzanella  
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### Parish Sister

Sr Brigid Collins, RSM  
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### Parish Administrator

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### Bookkeeper (both parishes)

Asha Stephen  
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### Parish Safeguarding Reps

Frances Uchea (St John's Wood)  
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safeguardrcdow.org.uk  
Valeria Naipan (Marylebone)  
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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](mailto:stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk) with  
your details by Monday 31 March.

## PARISH NOTICES

**Racial Justice Sunday** takes place today and the theme this year: "Pilgrims of Hope: Our Journey Together Towards Racial Justice". Reflections on racial justice from different contributors, prayers, resources can all be found at: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/racial-justice-sunday/>

**Rest in Peace**, Andrew Congreve . Requiem Mass is at Our Lady's, on Thursday 20 February at 2:00pm, burial at Send Cemetery, Woking on Friday 21 February at 11:00am.

**Children's Liturgy at Marylebone** will next take place next Sunday 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 week. 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.

**Retrouvaille** – Do you need support in your marriage? Retrouvaille has helped many couples find new hope, nourishment and growth in their marriages. There is no group therapy or group work. The next programme commences with a Virtual weekend on 27 February - 2 March or there is a face to face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 20 - 22 June. Call or text 07887 296 983 or 07973 380 443, email: [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) or visit: [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**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 see the poster in the porch.

**Jubilee Volunteer Fair**, 8 March, 3:00pm - 5:00pm in Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Avenue, London SW1P 1QW. To celebrate the Jubilee of Volunteering, Caritas Westminster are inviting you to a Volunteering Fair. For more information please email: [cvs@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:cvs@rcdow.org.uk) or visit: <https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/event/jubilee-volunteering-fair/>

### Westminster Cathedral Choir School

– opportunities for boys with musical potential currently in Years 2, 3 and 4. All 'choristers' receive generous scholarships with bursaries up to 100% of fees available on a means-tested basis, a top education as well as the excitement of joining and touring with one of the world's great choirs. Find out more with a 6:30pm Zoom session on 12 March or email: [lfreeman@choirschool.com](mailto:lfreeman@choirschool.com). For more details please see the poster in the porch.

### Assisted suicide committee bias.

The Committee stage of Kim Leadbeater's assisted suicide Bill has begun, raising serious concerns about its conduct.

- The Committee has been 'stacked' with a higher number of MPs who support the Bill
- Nearly twice as many witnesses supported assisted suicide than the number who opposed it
- Important voices have been excluded, including the Government's chief Suicide Prevention Strategy Advisor, the British Geriatrics Society and a number of disability rights groups, senior palliative care doctors and legal experts with relevant expertise

MPs must be aware of the serious issues in the scrutiny of Kim Leadbeater's Bill. It is vital they know your concerns and vote against it at Third Reading. Please visit: [www.righttolife.org.uk/ASBillAction](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/ASBillAction) to write to your MP. Thank you.