

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

+ FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

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Relax. It's Lent

A parish priest told me that his curate shouted at a parishioner who arrived late for Mass. Later, her fellow parishioners berated him and the lady explained that she'd been delayed finishing her night shift at the local hospital. The Faithful's devotion to the Eucharist never ceases to amaze me: many parents with young children make it to church in good order, the journey to Mass for many of our sick and elderly is a hard pilgrimage of love.

On that note, the first two precepts of the Catholic Church – we must, firstly, attend Mass on Sundays and holydays of obligation and, secondly, receive Holy Communion after Confession during Lent or Eastertide – are not well-known. These mean that the obligation is to attend Mass every Sunday, not to “get” Communion. In Lent we are asked to pray, fast and give alms. We forget that of all the prayers we know, the best is the Mass. It is a prayer given to us by God Himself. It unites us in the most intimate way with Christ. And, if we are in a state of grace, we can receive Communion and say “Amen”, and assent to the whole story of our salvation: our acknowledgment of our sins in

the penitential rite declares what we need, Christ is foretold by the Old Testament, His Way is revealed in the Gospel, and then that sacrifice which washes away our sins is manifest in the real presence of Christ in the Eucharist. It is all one action, one movement. So let us all try to make time this Lent to prepare ourselves for this most wonderful prayer. We would want to to be settled before the start of a film, play or football match, so why not the Mass too? The whole liturgy will make more sense and touch us more deeply if we make the time to be at peace when it begins. As Mgr Langham used to say “The Lord hung on the cross for three hours: we should sit with him for one hour.”

And if we fear we might be or are delayed for our regular Mass, there are seven each Sunday in our two parishes alone, not to mention numerous others in the area. After all, it is the same Body of Christ at very Mass whenever or wherever we go. We don't need to rush in. The Lord offers us a Banquet of Life to be enjoyed at leisure with Him, not a quick snack to speed us on our way. So take your time, relax and enjoy the fullness of the work done to save us. *Canon Kevin*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clergy

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Parish Sister

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Bookkeeper (both parishes)

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Parish Safeguarding Reps

Frances Uchea (St John's Wood)
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Musical Director (St John's Wood)

Martin Toyer
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS

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
Email: stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk
with your details by 31 March

Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

25 July to 1 August 2025
Registration is now open at:
<https://pilgrimages.rcdow.org.uk>
or telephone 020 7798 9173.
Submissions by 30 April.
Please see the poster in the porch

PARISH NOTICES

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. You can also contribute online using the QR code on the envelope or on the poster displayed in the porch. Thank you.

Stations of the Cross during Lent will take place every Thursday at 6:15pm before evening Mass in the church at St John's Wood or 11:45pm on Fridays at Marylebone.

Altar Servers at Marylebone. If you have served for more than 1 year (and have yet to receive a Guild of St Stephen bronze medal) and if you have served for more than 10 years (and applicable for a Guild of St Stephen silver medal) please sign the list in the Sacristy today. This will enable us to order the appropriate medals for you which will be presented at Mass later in the year.

The SVP Foodbank Collection takes place this weekend at St John's Wood. Please leave non-perishable items on the table in the porch. Thank you.

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

CAFOD Family Fast Day/Lent Appeal. Family Fast Day is on Friday 14 March. This Lent be a 'pilgrim of hope' with CAFOD in this Jubilee Year. You' will be supporting communities experiencing the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope. Please either use the CAFOD

envelope in church, or donate online: cafod.org.uk/envelope or call on 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10. Our parish CAFOD volunteers will speak after all Masses at St John's Wood this weekend.

A Day With Mary is taking place at Our Lady Mount Carmel & St George, Enfield on Saturday 15 March For further information please visit: <https://www adaywithmary.org/> or please see the poster in the porch.

Bach's 'St John's Passion' As part of its Lenten devotions, Westminster Cathedral Choir will perform J.S. Bach's 'St John Passion' on Tuesday 18 March at 7.30pm. The Cathedral Choir will be conducted by Simon Johnson, the Cathedral's Master of Music, accompanied by a Baroque orchestra and soloists James Gilchrist (as the Evangelist) and William Thomas (Christus). Discounted tickets are available at the following link, using the password below: <https://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/event/1F006179F7594403?did=30off> Click and enter offer code: SJP30.

URGENT PETITION: Assisted Suicide Bill Threatens Vulnerable People. Care not Killing (CNK) has launched a petition calling on MPs to reject proposals for an assisted suicide law in England and Wales. In April (or possibly May), MPs will again vote on Terminally Ill Adults (End of Life) Bill. Despite an initial vote of 330-275 in favour, there is now a realistic chance the Bill can be defeated. The *Independent* newspaper reports that 142 MPs who initially backed the Bill could withdraw their support (citing safeguarding concerns). NOW is the time for Catholics to make their voices heard. Please sign the petition which is available at the back of the churches today calling on MPs to reject any proposal to legalise assisted suicide. Thank you.