

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

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SERVICE TIMES

St John's Wood

Holy Saturday

8:00pm The Easter Vigil
in the Holy Night

Easter Sunday

9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00 noon,
6:00pm

Easter Monday

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday

10:00am

Easter Thursday

7:00pm

Easter Saturday

10:00am

Second Sunday of Easter

6:00pm (Saturday) 9:00am, 10:30am,
12:00 noon, 6:00pm

Confessions

Holy Saturday

10:00am–11:00am

Easter Saturday

10:30am–11:00am

5:15pm - 5:45pm

Marylebone

Holy Saturday

8:00pm The Easter Vigil
in the Holy Night

Easter Sunday

11:00am (Sung)

Easter Monday, Wednesday & Friday

12:30pm

Second Sunday of Easter

6:00pm (Saturday) 11:00am (Sung)

Confessions

Easter Saturday

5:00 - 5:30pm

+ EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD
AND SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

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Absence Makes the Heart Grow Fonder

The tomb is empty – Christ is not held prisoner by death. So like the women, we too must seek the risen Lord. But where do we find Him?

A major part of the answer lies in the richness of the sacramental life which has been in short supply these last few days with the beautiful but pared-back liturgies of the Triduum. In the Sacrament of the Eucharist, Jesus is present in the most sublime way where He continually gives us His body and blood. He is also with us as we anoint the sick, baptise and confirm, reconcile sinners to the Father, and enter into marriage or holy orders. Through each sacrament's symbols and actions, and the words associated with them (the matter and form respectively according to St Thomas Aquinas), we experience God's ongoing love, compassion and mercy mediated through a human being. This continues Christ's earthly and "hands-on" ministry in a very real sense. Hence, in all the key moments of life – birth and death, love and commitment, the forgiveness of sins – the risen Lord is present and manifest to accompany us on our Christian journey through the perils of daily life. Christ is found present in the sacraments which mark both the glory and the misery of our human condition.

Thus He is with our worshipping community here but also with the patient in hospital or the nursing home or the housebound individual who might no longer communicate with the world but is a powerhouse of prayer. He is with the prisoner serving a sentence for a crime. He is with the stranger seeking a home because they have been driven out of their own land through persecution. He is with them all because the sacraments exclude no-one with a heart open to finding and living with our risen Saviour.

In addition, as the Word made flesh, the risen Lord is found in the scriptures. By contemplating God's Word, we encounter Christ as the shepherd who never leaves His flock untended. We need but read a little every day to find Christ truly alive. Yes, the tomb is empty. The Lord is not there. But He is in the sacraments, in our own community and the wider world, in His Word.

We pray that each of you may engage more deeply with those three elements in which the risen Christ is truly present, find Him anew in the depths of your hearts, and rise to a new way of living with Him. And we wish you and your loved ones a most happy and holy Easter. God bless you all.

Canon Kevin, Fr Alex & Sr Brigid

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clergy

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PARISH DIARY

Children's Liturgy of the Word

SJW - 9:00am, term time,

MB - 11:00am, 27 April

Tea and Coffee

SJW- after 9:00am Mass, term time

MB - 11 May

Parent/Toddler Group (SJW)

9:30am - 11:30am Tuesdays,
Wednesdays & Thursdays,
term time, upper hall,
recommencing 29 April

First Holy Communion Masses (SJW)

Saturday 26 April at 12:00 noon
(Rehearsal 6:00pm on Thurs 24 April)

Saturday 3 May at 12:00 noon
(Rehearsal 6:00pm on Thurs 1 May)

PARISH NOTICES

An Easter Week leaflet with the times of all Masses and Confessions is available at the back of the church. Please take one home with you.

Easter Offering envelopes are available at the back of the church. This is your Easter gift to the parish which can be given in at any time during the Easter season. Thank you for your kindness, thoughtfulness and generosity throughout the year, especially in these financially challenging times.

First Holy Communion 2025. The children from St John's Wood parish will receive the Lord for the first time over the next two Saturdays - 26 April and 3 May - and the children from Marylebone parish on Sunday 11 May. Please keep all the children and their families in your prayers. May the Lord bless them in their future Christian lives.

Concert for Ukraine takes place on Saturday 3 May at 3:00pm at the Eleventh Church of Christ, Scientist, 11 St Chad's Street, King's Cross, London WC1 8BG. This is a fundraising concert for Ukraine to be given by international harpist, Veronika Lemishenko and Andrew Sackett (organist). Please see the poster in the porch.

A Service of Healing and Hope takes place on 10 May at 2:30pm, with Cardinal Nichols at Westminster Cathedral. This is a service to which all are welcome as a sign of solidarity, care and hope for those who have been impacted by abuse, as well as those who work with or support them. Before the service there will be a workshop from 10:00am in the Cathedral Hall, run by LOUDFence showcasing materials used in their work. If attending, please bring a packed lunch and see the poster in the porch for more details.

The annual May Procession in honour of Our Lady will take place at the Shrine of Our Lady of Willesden on Sunday 11 May, at 3:00pm at which the preacher will be the Rt Rev Hugh Allan, O.Praem. Please see the poster in the porch.

Thy Kingdom Come, 29 May to 8 June (from Ascension to Pentecost).

Be part of this global ecumenical prayer movement, which invites Christians around the world to pray for more people to come to know Jesus. We invite you to take part and join in this prayer for evangelisation. For more information please visit: www.thykingdomcome.global

The Annual Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes

will be led by Cardinal Nichols and take place from 25 July to 1 August using the sanctuary's theme for the Jubilee Year 'With Mary, Pilgrims of Hope'. Registration is now open with options to travel by plane or train. Volunteer nurses are needed urgently, as are youth volunteers aged 16 to 18, and there are many volunteering opportunities for all those wishing to serve. Parish and school groups are very much encouraged to join to make the event truly diocesan. To register please visit the website at: <https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or email Elizabeth Uwalaka at: elizabethuwalaka@rcdow.org.uk or telephone 020 7798 9173. Please note that all applications to join this year's pilgrimage need to be submitted by Wednesday 30 April at the latest.

CAFOD Myanmar Earthquake Appeal

will support families affected by the disaster and provide essentials like water, food, solar lights, and mosquito nets. You can donate online: cafod.org.uk/myanmar or by calling 0303 303 3030 or you can text EARTHQUAKE to 70450 to donate £10. Thank you.