

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

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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

+THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER
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"Do You Love Me?"

In this Sunday's Gospel, the Risen Christ asks Peter a question: "Do you love me?" It's not asked in a moment of triumph, but after Peter's denial of the Lord at His Passion, and his return to his former life in the uncertainty that followed the empty tomb. Yet Peter, who abandoned Jesus, is not disqualified. Instead, he is entrusted with the care of Christ's flock.

"Do you love me?" lies at the heart of what the Church is. Does it show, by what it does, that it loves Christ? A church driven by strategy, vision, or popularity is not worthy of the name. Its purpose is to love Christ, to awaken that love in humanity, and to reveal that love to the world.

It's a question every Christian must answer personally. This weekend we mark 80 years since VE Day. After devastation and division, Europe stood at a crossroads. Would it return to rivalry and resentment, or choose another way? Two Catholics—Konrad Adenauer and Robert Schuman—from Germany and France, helped forge a future rooted not in vengeance, but in reconciliation. Their faith didn't erase the past, but allowed them to imagine a future no longer shaped by it.

They were not naïve. They were able to forgive because they had first heard, and answered, that same question: "Do you love me?" And from that answer flowed political courage and Christian hope.

As the Church prepares for a conclave, many will look for a pope who fits certain categories: intellectual or pastoral, reforming or traditional, European or global. But these are secondary. What matters is that the next successor of Peter can answer as Peter did: "Lord, you know that I love you." That is enough. From that love flows the strength to teach, to suffer, to lead.

The second reading this Sunday reminds us who stands at the centre of the Church's life: "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain." Not ideology. Not governance. Not strategic planning or risk assessments. But Christ alone. His voice we follow. His Church we belong to. And through Him, we receive the hope of salvation.

Peter was called, not for his strength, but because he loved. Each of us is called in the same way. And today, as then, Christ entrusts His flock to those who love Him.

Fr Alex

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clergy

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PARISH DIARY

Children's Liturgy of the Word

SJW - 9:00am, term time,
MB - 11:00am, 4 May

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

Creative Writing Group (Scribes in the Wood) (SJW)

10:30am - 12 noon Thursdays

PARISH NOTICES

The conclave to elect the 267th Pope will begin on 7 May, following the conclusion of the *Novendiales* Masses to pray for the eternal repose of the late Pope Francis.

Prayer for the Successor of Pope Francis

O God, who chose your servant, in succession to the Apostle Peter as shepherd of the whole flock, look favourably on the supplications of your people and grant that, as Vicar of Christ on earth, he may confirm his brethren and that the whole Church may be in communion with him in the bond of unity, love and peace, so that in you, the shepherd of souls, all may know the truth and attain life eternal. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. Amen

Your Easter Offerings were incredibly kind and we thank you for your generosity. Any offering can be given online via: <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/stjohnswood/donating-to-the-parish/> or <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/marylebone/donate/>. If you pay UK tax, please complete the Gift Aid form on those pages too. Standing orders, are the easiest way to give regularly, and can also be set up there. Contactless Giving Devices are available in the church for those parishioners who would like to donate to the parish in a swift and simple way using a contactless debit/credit card or smart phone/device to donate. God bless you for whatever and however you give to us and to those in need.

The 80th anniversary of VE Day takes place on Thursday 8 May, 2025. VE Day, or Victory in Europe Day, commemorates the surrender of German forces to the Allied powers at the end of World War II. The evening Mass on Thursday will commemorate and give thanksgiving for this day.

Baptism preparation. The next course to prepare parents for the baptism of their child will be held in our upper hall at St John's Wood on Saturday 10 May from 2:00pm. Please contact the parish office if you are interested in attending.

Priest Training Fund. Next Sunday is Good Shepherd Sunday, the day we pray for priests and for vocations to the priesthood and when the annual collection for the Priest Training Fund takes place which pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. This fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Please take home a donation envelope from the back of the church, read the information therein, and bring it back next weekend with your offering. Above all, continue to pray for vocations and for our priests. You can use the QR code on the envelopes or poster in the porch, to make your donation at: www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity.

SVP Foodbank collection at St John's Wood, takes place next weekend. Please leave non perishable items on the table in the porch. Thank you for your support.

Rest in Peace, Heather Dupre. Requiem Mass is at Our Lady's, St John's Wood, on Monday 12 May at 11:00am, with committal at Golders Green Crematorium at 12:30pm.

Assisted Suicide Bill. The report stage of the Assisted Suicide Bill is 16 May. It is vital that you contact your MP urgently about this issue. Please visit: www.righttolife.org.uk/ASVote to email your MP and if you have the time, please also visit your MP - you can arrange a meeting at: www.righttolife.org.uk/meetyourMP