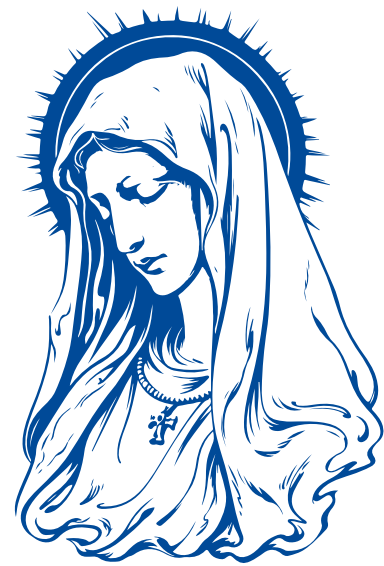


OUR LADY'S,
ST JOHN'S WOOD &
OUR LADY OF THE ROSARY,
MARYLEBONE

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parish.rcdow.org.uk/stjohnswood
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,
Friday & Saturday 10:00am;
Thursday 7:00pm

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 3:00pm - 5.30pm

+ PENTECOST SUNDAY

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What Goes Up Must Come Down

When I was at primary school, we once did an experiment. Every child released a helium balloon into the sky, each one tied to a note with their name and the school's address. The challenge was to see whose balloon would be found the furthest away. It was fun, slightly chaotic, and vaguely educational. We learnt a basic law of physics: what goes up must come down.

Before worrying about how many trees, reservoirs, or airport runways (we were rather near Gatwick) ended up scattered with rubber and string, it's worth pausing on the lesson. Because something like this happens in today's feast. Forty days after the Resurrection, Jesus goes up to heaven. Ten days later, the Holy Spirit comes down.

The Jewish feast of Pentecost was already about a kind of coming down. It commemorated the moment Moses descended Mount Sinai carrying the Ten Commandments. Wind and fire surrounded the mountain, as God gave not just rules, but a gift of freedom. The Law made it possible for Israel to live not in chaos, but as one people.

Yet centuries later, the prophet Ezekiel saw the Spirit of God leave the temple in Jerusalem. The

people's sin had driven God's presence away. Then, on Palm Sunday, hope stirred again. Jesus entered the city from the same direction the Spirit had departed. God had returned. But his coming to dwell in the midst of his people would not be fulfilled until Pentecost, when fire once more descended—this time onto the Apostles' heads—and the Spirit was poured out.

From Sinai to Jerusalem, from scattered tribes to the universal Church. The Holy Spirit does not erase our differences, but unites us in communion. A people from all peoples.

This weekend, our candidates for Confirmation receive that same Spirit. They have learnt much: prayers, truths of the faith, how to live as Christians. But grace is what transforms knowledge into life. The Spirit does not simply endorse their efforts, but empowers them. He strengthens what is weak, deepens what is shallow, and enkindles what may lie dormant. Confirmation is not the end of formation, but the beginning of bold discipleship.

What goes up must come down. Christ ascended, that the Spirit might descend. The Spirit descends, that we might be raised. *Fr Alex*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clergy

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Musical Director (St John's Wood)

Martin Toyer
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PARISH DIARY

Children's Liturgy of the Word

SJW - 9:00am, term time,
MB - 11:00am, 15 June

Tea and Coffee

SJW- after 9:00am Mass,
term time
MB - 8 June

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

Confirmation 2025. Today at our 12 noon Mass in Our Lady's, St John's Wood, 24 of our young people from both parishes will be confirmed. Please pray for them and their families as they make this big step in their lives as Catholic Christians.

The SVP Foodbank collection takes place this weekend. Please leave non-perishable items on the table in the porches. Thank you for your ongoing support.

Rest in Peace, Nicholas Richard Driver. Requiem Mass is at Our Lady's, St John's Wood, on Tuesday 10 June 11:30am, with committal at West London Crematorium at 1:00pm.

Corpus Christi Processions through the local streets will take place on Sunday 22 June after the 11:00am Mass in Marylebone and 12 noon Mass in St John's Wood. All are welcome but our First Holy Communion children are particularly invited to participate in their celebratory outfits. In the days leading up to this, please deadhead your flowers or approach florists you know and place the petals in the buckets in our church porches. The children will walk ahead of the Blessed Sacrament and lay them as a path worthy for the Lord truly present in the Eucharist.

Mass of Thanksgiving for Caritas Bakhita House. On 30 June at 5:30pm, Cardinal Vincent Nichols will celebrate a Mass of thanksgiving to mark the tenth anniversary of the opening of Caritas Bakhita House, our safe house supporting women escaping trafficking and exploitation. The Mass will take place at Westminster Cathedral and all diocesan parishioners are warmly invited to attend. You can find out more about Caritas Bakhita House at <https://caritaswestminster.org.uk/bakhita-house/>

Stella Maris (formerly called Apostleship of the Sea) is seeking one volunteer from this parish to help with Sea Sunday which falls on 12/13 July this year. This is the day when the Church comes together to pray for seafarers, fishers and their families, and takes a second collection to support their work. The volunteer will read out the appeal (which Stella Maris will provide) at the end of Masses that weekend. If you can help, contact: roland.hayes@stellamarismail.org, or telephone 07887 893 763. All parishioners are warmly invited to an online webinar being run by Stella Maris on Thursday 19 June from 7:30pm to 9:00pm. You will hear about the work that Stella Maris has been doing with seafarers and fishers over the past year or so, including the use of the funds kindly donated on Sea Sunday last year. To attend this webinar, please visit the website at: www.stellamaris.org.uk/thankyouwebinar

Pilgrimage to St Edmund's College, Ware. Cardinal Nichols will lead a Pilgrimage to St Edmund's College, Ware, on Saturday 12 July and all are encouraged and invited to attend. The day will commence with Mass in the grounds at 12 noon. Please see the poster in the porch.

Mass Intentions. Thank you for your greatly appreciated Mass intentions. The Sacrifice of Christ brings our prayers right to the heart of the Father. There can be no greater gift for another person. If you would like one offered, please either take a Mass offering envelope from the church and place it in the collection or contact Kathleen by emailing stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk or telephone 020 7286 3214. The offering suggested by the Diocese is £10 per Mass. Payment can be made online or in cash at the parish office at St John's Wood.