

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,
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

+ TWENTY- THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
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And Then There Were None

The title of this piece probably has you thinking that your sadness at the departure of that dynamic, friendly and young Fr Alex is about to be assuaged by that tired, cynical and aged Canon Kevin packing his bags. Sorry to disappoint you, but it isn't. Well, not until the Archbishop's Council has decided on the new Mass schedule in our parishes at the earliest. Rather it refers to 24 September to 7 October and again between 22 and 29 November when there will be no resident priest here. All the Masses will be covered by supply priests coming in and out. While this will come as a shock to those who remember there being three, four and even five priests in each parish, it was inevitable with fewer priests around and is quite normal across our diocese and the country. And where that is the case, parishioners take responsibility for opening the churches, setting up for the kind priest who will offer the sacraments, and then closing the church when necessary. This is what happened in Highbury between the former parish priest leaving in January and this weekend when Fr Alex takes up the reins. Yes, they did that for eight months, including Easter. We need it for just three weeks this year and a total of seven weeks a year from 2026 onwards.

But my last general appeal for help yielded five volunteers, two of whom were over 80. So this is focussed. At the back of the church is a sheet with the dates and times we need someone to open up, set up for Mass and welcome the visiting priest, and the (flexible) time for locking up. Between now and the end of September I will show anyone new how to do these simple tasks. And it is essential – Sr Brigid, Ana and Gerrardo cannot do it every day in St John's Wood. Nor in Marylebone can Marion, Maureen and Jane carry the whole burden especially as the caretaker will be on paternity leave at the same time. We could be defeatist and prepare ourselves for days when the churches will have to remain closed and there may be no Mass. But what about being more hopeful? As I write this on my "day-off", I had to set up Marylebone for the visiting priest. Wouldn't it be wonderful if we had a team of people who did these three little ministries every day? Indeed, as I'm not getting any younger, who knows what incapacitating ailment may strike me one morning when I'm supposed to do all these things? Literally, it's over to you now but I have absolute confidence in your love for your parishes. *Canon Kevin*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clergy

Canon Kevin Jordan
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Parish Sister

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Parish Administrator

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Bookkeeper (both parishes)

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Parish Safeguarding Rep

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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

Sunday Tea and Coffee

SJW- after 9:00am Mass,
term time

MB - 14 September

Parent/Toddler Group (SJW)

9:30am - 11:30am Tuesday,
Wednesday & Thursday,
(recommences 9 September)

Creative Writing Group (SJW)

10:30am - 12 noon Thursdays

Fr Alex's Leaving Party

Sunday 19 October following
12noon Mass

PARISH NOTICES

Children's Liturgy Group at St John's Wood starts this week. If you are in Reception, Year 1, 2, or 3, we would love for you to join our Children's Liturgy Group on Sundays during the 9:00am Mass in term time. You'll have the opportunity to learn about the Gospel for the day and your Catholic faith. We look forward to seeing you.

The SVP Foodbank Collection takes place this weekend. Please leave non-perishable items on the table in the porches. Thank you.

Mary's Meals. Special Mary's Meals envelopes are now available at the back of church for you to place any of your foreign coins/notes (and UK coins/notes that are no longer legal tender) no matter how old or obscure, and post through the presbytery door. Currently the charity feeds over 2.6 million young children one good meal every day in their place of education in over 17 countries. By giving Mary's Meals this currency you can help feed the next hungry child. Thank you so much for your support.

St John's Wood Parish Patronal Feast of the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary, takes place tomorrow Monday 8 September and will begin with Mass at 7:30pm celebrated by HE Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendía, the Apostolic Nuncio to the Court of St James's, and be followed by a bring-and-share social in the parish centre. We'll provide drinks.

A Day with Mary takes place at the Five Precious Wounds, Stonebridge on Saturday 13 September. Please see the poster in the porches for full details of the programme.

Union of Catholic Mothers (UCM) meeting takes place on Monday 15 September at 8:00pm in the upper hall in St John's Wood. All welcome.

Exhibition: Icons for Hope and Faith. Explore more than a hundred icons in this special exhibition in Westminster Abbey's medieval undercroft from Thursday 18 – Saturday 20 September. The exhibition is free with entry to the Abbey. Further information www.westminster-abbey.org/abbey-events/special-tours-and-events/2025/september/exhibition-icons-for-hope-and-faith

Baptismal Preparation. The next course preparing parents for the baptism of their child, will be held on Saturday 20 September at 11:15am. Please contact the parish office to book a place.

Job Vacancies. For details regarding diocesan job vacancies, including a parish administrator's role with Fr Alex in Highbury (he's great to work with), visit: <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk>

Divine Word Missionaries have kindly sent the parishes some free 2026 diaries. Please pick up one from the porch.

Help London's Pro-Life Pregnancy Centre Stay Open. The Good Counsel Network's funds are dangerously low. They offer expectant mum's help with housing, financial assistance, legal, and medical support, baby goods and clothes, advice, and ongoing support after the baby is born. They cannot continue to help Mothers keep a roof over their head. Donate at: www.goodcounselnetwork.com Please see the poster in the porch.

Catholic Listeners is a phone service and website dedicated to being present, when you want to talk to someone about faith and life's big questions. For more information please visit the website: <https://www.catholiclisteners.com/>