

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

54 Lodge Road, NW8 8LA
020 7286 3214

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

+ ALL SAINTS

PAGE 194 - 2 NOVEMBER 2025

And How Do I Know You?

The media make a canonisation sound like the Pope wakes up in the morning and decides to declare, for example, that Carlos Acutis or Pier Giorgio Frassati are now in heaven. Rubbish. Canonisation is the end of a long process. When someone considered to be holy dies, their cause for canonisation may be opened if they had a reputation for holiness or were martyred, and then an extensive investigation into their lives begins. At least one verified miracle attributed to their intercession is also required before they are announced as being with God. That last point indicates they have the "ear" of God, and their "asking Him" on our behalf brings the grace of healing to one on earth. Canonisation is thus God revealing to us that so-and-so is in heaven. And logically, there are countless people unknown to us who are in heaven: as St John says today in the first reading, even he doesn't know who they all are! (Rev 9:13) And neither will we recognise all those beyond the pearly gates should we get there. It is those we celebrate today along with all the more well-known individuals who have lived and died heroically for our Faith.

The canonisation process also takes at least five years from the date of death. For example, it took 1173

years for St John Chrysostom - yes, he of the "golden mouth" - who I often quote.

This "delay" helps us to understand All Souls' Day on Monday when we pray for the holy souls in purgatory. Speaking of purgatory is unpopular. But there are four last things - death, judgement, heaven and hell. From hell, there is no way back as we heard in the story of Dives and Lazarus recently (Luke 16:19-31). Therefore, purgatory, when the scars of our sins are removed so that we feel comfortable in the presence of our perfect God, and about which Pope Francis wrote most beautifully in *Pilgrims of Hope*, is a part of heaven, a waiting room, a final cycle of purification. As Yazz sings, "the only way is up" but it takes time. And we speed that process with prayers and Masses, especially in November.

So pray that this may be the day of those whose faith inspired you. But also write their names on the November dead list and have Masses offered for them in case they are still *en route*. If they are in heaven, God will transfer your prayer to a soul still in need. Then we will swell the heavenly host and be sure to recognise and be helped and thanked by many more saints when we get there. *Canon Kevin*

CONTACT INFORMATION

Parish Clergy

Canon Kevin Jordan
kevinjordan@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Sister

Sr Brigid Collins, RSM
brigid@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Administrator

Kathleen Reddington
stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk
marylebone@rcdow.org.uk

Bookkeeper (both parishes)

Asha Stephen
stjohnswoodbookkeeper@rcdow.org.uk

Parish Safeguarding Rep

Frances Uchea (both parishes)
stjohnswoodsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Musical Director (SJW)

Martin Toyer
martintoyer@rcdow.org.uk

PARISH DIARY

Children's Liturgy of the Word

SJW - 9:00am, term time
MB - 11:00am, 2 November and every Sunday in Advent

Tea and Coffee

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

Parent/Toddler Group - SJW Upper hall

9:30am - 11:30am Tuesday,
Wednesday & Thursday,

Legion of Mary - MB

after 12:30pm Mass, Wednesdays

PARISH NOTICES

All Souls' Day will be celebrated on Monday 3 November with Masses at 10:00am in St John's Wood and 12:30pm in Marylebone.

Bi-Annual Concelebrated Requiem Mass at St. Mary's Cemetery, Kensal Green NW10 5NU will be on Monday 3 November at 11:30am.

Rest in Peace, Peter Bulmer. Requiem Mass is at Our Lady's on Monday 3 November at 1:50pm.

Rest in Peace, Shamsa Karmali. Requiem Mass is at Our Lady's on Wednesday 5 November at 11:00am with burial at East Finchley Cemetery, East End Road at 1:00pm.

A Day with Mary takes place at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 8 November from 9:45am to 5:00pm. Further information is available at <https://www adaywithmary.org/> or <https://eventcatholic.com/> Please see the poster in the porch for the full programme of the day.

Remembrance Sunday, 9 November
The 10:30am Mass in St John's Wood and the 11:00am Mass in Marylebone will be Solemn Requiems for the Fallen and will conclude with the Act of Remembrance.

Remembrance Sunday - Service for Animals. Once again, an ecumenical service remembering the animals that died in war will be held by the Anglican Society for the Welfare of Animals, on Sunday 9 November at 3:00pm at the Animals' War Memorial in Park Lane. All are very welcome to attend this open-air service. The speaker this year will be Drew Tootal MRCVS, who is a vet.

SVP Foodbank Collection takes place in both parishes next weekend. Please leave non-perishable items on the tables in the porches. Thank you for your continued support.

St Mary's Christmas Concert. On Monday 1 December, the *Schola Cantorum* of the London Oratory School, directed by Charles Cole, will lead a Christmas Carol Concert as part of St Mary's University's 175th anniversary celebrations. The service will be a mixture of readings, traditional carols and schola pieces followed by mince pies and mulled wine. Tickets are priced at £10 and can be purchased here:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/st-marys-christmas-carol-concert-1st-december-2025-tickets-1733560749869?aff=oddttdcreator>

UCM Afternoon Vintage Tea takes place in the Upper Hall at St John's Wood on Saturday 6 December at 2:00pm. Tickets cost £10 per head and will be available after all Masses. If anyone can donate a prize for the raffle this would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be left at the parish office.

Planned Giving Envelopes for the new tax year will commence on 12 April 2026. If you have a set of envelopes and no longer use them or would like to have a set of planned giving envelopes for the new tax year, please let Asha in the parish office know. However, standing orders are the easiest way to contribute to the church. Both planned giving envelopes and standing orders can allow your contributions to be gift-aided. This means that the parish can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give. It will not cost you any extra. Please contact Asha, the bookkeeper, if you have any questions regarding planning your giving to our parishes.