

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, Vigil),  
9:00am,  
12:15pm,  
6:00pm

**Weekday Mass**

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday  
10:00am

**Confessions**

Saturday  
5:15pm - 5:45pm

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**Marylebone**

**Sunday Mass**

10:45am (Sung)

**Weekday Mass**

Monday & Wednesday 12:30pm  
Friday 6:30pm

**Confessions & Adoration**

Friday 5:30pm - 6:20pm

+ FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME  
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**Phoenixes from the Flames**

One of my friends has been asked to lecture at St Mary's University and contribute to formation of new priests. For various reasons few of us in this diocese have a licence (a master's degree) in theology which is the necessary qualification to teach in a pontifical university. St Paul's says to the Corinthians: "I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified." (1 Cor 2:2). When we get time (!), we should all try to deepen our understanding of the truths of our faith, perhaps just by subscribing for free to Vatican News or various other websites. But in a world that prizes clever arguments, strong opinions, and impressive credentials, St. Paul's words are deeply liberating. And those words would have been startling to the Corinthians who were an educated, argumentative, and status-conscious community. Yet Paul deliberately strips everything back to the heart of the Gospel: Jesus Christ, God's Son crucified. For Paul, the Cross is not an abstract idea or a decorative symbol. It is the place where God's love is revealed most clearly and most powerfully. The crucified Christ exposes the illusion that we can save ourselves through intelligence, success, or moral superiority. Instead, salvation comes though humility, self-gift, and love poured out completely. This message remains profoundly relevant for Catholics today. Our faith is not first about mastering doctrines—important as they are—but about encountering a Person, Jesus Christ at once true God and true man which is the starting point of our catechetical programmes for every age-group. When parish life, ministry, or personal spirituality become overly focused on knowledge, techniques, programs, or debates, Paul gently calls us back to the essential question: Are we centred on Christ crucified? The Cross invites us to trust God's wisdom rather than our own, and to embrace lives marked by sacrificial love. It is why making the ashes for Ash Wednesday by burning last year's palm crosses is so meaningful: we acknowledge our arrogance by marking ourselves with the remnants of a symbol of Christ crucified because only in knowing and believing in Christ crucified will we discover not weakness, but the very power of God at work in us. So bring in your old blessed palms over the next week and I'll put them to a good use which is something I or any priest can do without any qualifications whatsoever.

*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

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## PARISH DIARY

### Children's Liturgy of the Word

**SJW** - 9:00am, term time  
**MB** - 10:45am, 15 February

### Tea and Coffee

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

### Parent/Toddler Group - SJW Upper hall

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

### Legion of Mary - MB

after 12:30pm Mass,  
Wednesdays

## PARISH NOTICES

**SVP Foodbank Collection** takes place in both parishes this weekend. Please leave non-perishable items on the tables in the porches. Thank you.

### The Installation of His Grace the Most Reverend Richard Moth as Archbishop of Westminster.

Solemn Vespers will be celebrated at 5.30pm on Friday 13 February and most of the Cathedral will be open to all, without a ticket. The Mass of Installation will take place on Saturday 14 February in Westminster Cathedral and is a ticket only event. As all the diocesan priests will be attending, there cannot be Mass at 10:00am in St John's Wood nor confessions and exposition between 10:30am and 11:00am on Saturday 14 February. The evening confessions and Mass will take place as normal. Both the Vespers and the Mass will be live-streamed at: [www.westminstercathedral.org.uk](http://www.westminstercathedral.org.uk).

### Westminster Cathedral Choir School

offers opportunities for boys with musical potential currently in years 2, 3 and 4. All choristers receive generous scholarships with bursaries up to 100% of fees available on a means-tested basis, a top education as well as the excitement of joining and touring with one of the world's greatest choirs. Find out more by attending a 6:30pm *Zoom* session on Wednesday 11 March. Please contact Rachel Bonnet via email at: [rbonnet@choirschool.com](mailto:rbonnet@choirschool.com) for a link or telephone 020 7798 9081. For more details also see the poster in the porches.

### Little Sisters of the Poor

are inviting young women, aged 17-35, for a four-day retreat at St Anne's Home, 77 Manor Road, Stoke Newington, N16 5BL. It will start at 3:00pm on 2 April (Maundy Thursday) and finish at 6:00pm on 5 April (Easter Sunday). To register and for further information email Sister Caroline at: [ms.stanne@lsplondon.co.uk](mailto:ms.stanne@lsplondon.co.uk).

### Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony

takes place at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 23 May at 2:30pm. Archbishop Moth is inviting to this Mass all couples in the diocese who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2026. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please email at: [stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk) with the following details: husband's and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email) by Thursday 16 April. Your details will be sent to the Marriage and Family Life office and closer to the time an invitation will be sent to you.

### Altar Servers.

Thank you very much to all our altar servers who carry out this important ministry of service by helping the priest and the worthy celebration of Mass. From time to time, we need to be able to contact our altar servers regarding training and serving at special parish liturgies. I therefore ask that all altar servers please update the consent form in the sacristy. If you are 18 or over, you may complete the form yourself; those under 18 must have the form completed and signed by a parent or guardian. We also welcome anyone who has received First Holy Communion and feels they would like to serve in this important ministry to add their details to the form. Thank you and God bless you.

### Junior Choir.

We are looking for new young singers to join our junior choir. For those who have heard the choir over the past five years, you know how wonderfully they sing each Sunday during term time at the 12:15pm Mass. Please get in touch with Martina to find out how to join. Martina will be available to chat after the 9:00am or 12:15pm Mass or email: [martinasmyth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:martinasmyth@rcdow.org.uk).