



CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY, ST JOHN'S WOOD



+ 3rd Sunday of Lent, Year C - 20 March 2022

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity Number 233699

The New Exodus

I have often said to people who want to know more about our faith that, "if we truly want to understand the essence of the Christian life we must first go back to the account of Exodus in the Old Testament". For the Israelites were freed from the bondage of slavery by the sacrifice of a lamb, they were brought into a loving relationship with God by crossing through the waters of the red sea, which as St. Paul says, was a type of Baptism. They then had to cross the desert, learning to rely only on God who dwelt amongst them in the tabernacle, being fed by his manna (miraculous bread), renouncing their former lives so as to reach the promised land that God had prepared for them, which they did, by crossing once again through the parted waters of the river Jordan. When we discern this basic outline it shouldn't be too hard for us to see that the account of Exodus is a historical prefigurement of what Jesus Christ was to accomplish. But instead of freeing us from the dominion of an earthly power, through his sacrifice on the Cross, Jesus, the Lamb of God, frees us from the dominion of sin, freeing us to pass through the waters of Baptism to be spiritually resurrected into a new spousal relationship with God as he comes to dwell in us like a temple. We are however baptised into the desert. We must as Christians make our pilgrimage across the desert of life, learning to rely only on God, to be fed by him, on him, in the Holy Eucharist. We too must renounce our former lives, we cannot afford to look back to the world we left behind, we cannot be found longing after the dominion of sin, for sin only brings death. Instead we must look forward to the promised land that lies ahead, that dwells in us even now through God's Spirit. We must journey through this desert with the assured hope that God is with us so that when we die, just as the waters of the river Jordan parted for the Israelites to cross into the promised land, so too will death part for us when we are bodily resurrected into the bosom of God's Trinitarian life. Therefore, let us heed the words of our Holy Mother Church and renew our efforts this Lent in prayer, fasting and almsgiving, so that we can shake off and detach ourselves from the empty promises of sin and set our faces like flint towards the glory that awaits us in the land that God has called us to.

Seminarian Robert

Mass Times

Sunday

6:00pm (Saturday)
9:00am, 10:30am, 12:00 noon,
6:00pm

Weekdays

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday:
10:00am
Thursday: 7:00pm
Friday & Saturday: 10:00am

Rosary

After weekday Mass

Exposition & Confessions

Saturday 10:30am—11:00am

Confessions

Saturday 5:15pm—5:45pm

Music for Sunday

Morales - Missa Mille Regretz
White - Ad te levavi oculos meos
201 All people that on earth do dwell
72 When I survey the wondrous cross
65 My song is love unknown

Sunday Readings, page 160

Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15
Psalm 102:1-4, 6-8, 11 R. v 8
1 Corinthians 10:1-6, 10-12
Luke 13:1-9

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Facebook: Our Lady's RC Church, St John's Wood <https://www.facebook.com/ourladysjw>

Parish Clergy:

Fr Kevin Jordan (kevinjordan@rcdow.org.uk)

Fr Ben Woodley (benwoodley@rcdow.org.uk)

Seminarian Robert Smialek (robertsmialek@rcdow.org.uk)

Parish Sister:

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

Parish Administrator:

Claudia McHugh (stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk)

Director of Music:

Martin Toyer (martintoyer@rcdow.org.uk)

Tea and coffee in the parish hall after 9:00am Mass today so please join us.

Confirmation Programme continues on Sunday 20 March from 4:00pm—5:30pm in the parish hall.

Stations of the Cross during Lent take place every Thursday at 6:00pm before evening Mass.

New Glass Panels for St Mary's Hospital Chapel, Paddington One of the panels has been broken and the original designs for the panels have been mislaid; do you have any photographs of both panels or are you able to remember what they looked like in some detail? If so please let Fr Giles Pinnock know: giles.pinnock@nhs.net. Thank you.

'The God Who Speaks' Fr John Hemer MHM, Scripture scholar, will present online Part Two of his talk on Isaiah the 5th Gospel, The Ecstasy & The Agony on 22 March at 7:00—8:00pm, <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/.e/288514353197>. Donations <https://rcdow.org.uk/donations/agency-for-evangelisation/>

Consecration of Russia and Ukraine to the Immaculate Heart of Mary, 25 March 2022 please see our Bishops' website for details: <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/pope-to-consecrate-russia-and-ukraine-to-immaculate-heart-of-mary/>

First Holy Communion Programme continues on Saturday 26 March from 12:00 noon—1:00pm in the parish hall.

Covid Regulations. Please continue to wear a mask in church to protect yourselves and others and to sanitize your hands on entry and exit. And also follow our parish website www.olsjw.org.uk and Our Lady's RC Church, St John's Wood Facebook page which are updated regularly.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 14 May 2022 at 3:00pm. The Cardinal is inviting 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 2022. If you would like to attend please email Claudia with: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or 'phone number) by **Sunday 27 March 2022.**

Ukrainian Appeal/Caritas. Currently the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral are overwhelmed with collections. We can best help by donating via cheques payable to *AUGB LTD - Central Appeal Fund* and either giving them to Fr Kevin or by posting them to the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of the Holy Family of London Chancery Office, 21-22 Binney Street, London W1K 5BQ. See noticeboard for update from Caritas regarding refugees.

The Society of Friends of Westminster Cathedral—Vacancy Part time Organising Secretary to help administer the charity, assist in recruiting new members and in organising events, based in Westminster Cathedral Clergy House. 20 hours per week, salary in the region of £14,500 pa. The appointment is for 12 months. Closing date 27 March 2022. Visit <https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/the-friends-seek-an-organising-secretary/>.

Lent Retreat for Young Adults (18-30s) Saturday 2 April, 10:30am-6:30pm, 23 Kensington Square, W8 5HN. Please contact the Assumption Sisters: tramy@assumptionreligious.org for details.

Ecumenical Prayer Service for Ukraine and the Oppressed 12:00 noon 11 April at the Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral, Duke St, London W1K 5BQ.

The Universe Catholic Weekly launched their new online newspaper, their first subscriber was His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols. For your Digital 4 weeks **free** trial contact Michelle on 07436 617650 or at michelle.jones@universecatholicweekly.co.uk.

Offerings. The contactless *Collectins* can now collect *GiftAid* on all your donations if you register a particular card on the tin itself or scan the QR code on the poster next to them and fill in the form at home. We can then collect the *GiftAid* on all you have given with that card since April 2021. Standing orders are the easiest way to give regularly and can be set up via www.olsjw.org.uk.

Day	Location	Time	Group
Monday	Upper & Lower Hall	10:00am-12:00 noon	English Class
Tuesday, Wednesday,	Upper Hall	9:30am-11:30am	Parents & Toddlers
Tuesday	Upper Hall	1:00pm-4:30pm	Over 50's