



# CATHOLIC CHURCH OF OUR LADY, ST JOHN'S WOOD



+ 4th Sunday of Lent, Year C - 27 March 2022

Westminster Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust: Registered Charity Number 233699

## Mary was Permeated, Saturated by the Love of God

As I write these words, the Holy Father, in communion with his brother Bishops, is on the cusp of consecrating Ukraine and Russia to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on the Solemnity of the Annunciation, Friday 25th March. These neighbouring countries will be consecrated under the patronage of the same holy woman, Mary, Mother of God. Each country, both her children, will be called to respond to the particular gifts she will give to them; she will not force or coerce, but extend her mantle of sublime graces according to the will of the almighty and everlasting God.

The Gospel reading for this Sunday, the "Prodigal Son", presents us with a situation which has certain parallels to this historic event. The father in the parable, in whom Jesus is portraying His Father, has two sons. So the similarity between history and parable lies in the Mother of God and her two daughters, Ukraine and Russia, and how they will respond to her maternal love; and the father, who is God the Father, offering his love and true friendship to his sons and seeing how they will respond to his generosity, which is not of this world. Reflecting on the sons' behaviour is a mirror to our own motives and responses.

The first son well nigh rejects his very own father's life: he asks for his inheritance prior to his father's passing; further he rejects his father's religion by working with pigs, which were considered as unclean; too, he squanders his wealth and uses women as mere objects. It is; therefore, no exaggeration when the father exclaims to his other son that the returning son, "was dead". The other, resident 'dutiful' son has ever served his father with a childish mentality, from which now pours poisonous resentment, "I have slaved for you and never once disobeyed your orders, yet you never offered me so much as a kid". In both cases the father runs to his sons, this is unusual as head of the family. Respecting their freedom to choose, he lives to give and share all with his sons. His total generosity of self-gift to his sons needs to permeate, saturate their hearts, that they may become like their father. That indeed is the path to Life for all, to find our lives in complete self-gift to the other in prayer, sacrifice, and works, like Jesus. Mary responded to her gifts from the Lord with an unequivocal, "yes". She has much to teach us. May we, her children, listen. *Fr Ben*

## 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

Victoria - *Missa Quarti Toni*

Lassus - *Pater peccavi*

246 Now thank we all our  
God

260 Praise to the holiest

265 The King of love my  
shepherd is

## Sunday Readings, page 168

Joshua 5:9-12

Psalm 33:2-7, R. v 9

2 Corinthians 5:17-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11-32

**Catholic Church of Our Lady, St John's Wood, 54 Lodge Road, London, NW8 8LA**

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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](mailto:kevinjordan@rcdow.org.uk))

Fr Ben Woodley ([benwoodley@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:benwoodley@rcdow.org.uk))

Seminarian Robert Smialek ([robertsmialek@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:robertsmialek@rcdow.org.uk))

Parish Sister:

Sr Brigid Collins, RSM ([brigid@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:brigid@rcdow.org.uk))

Parish Administrator:

Claudia McHugh ([stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:stjohnswood@rcdow.org.uk))

Director of Music:

Martin Toyer ([martintoyer@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:martintoyer@rcdow.org.uk))

**Planned Giving Envelopes** are available for collection at the back of the Church after all Masses from this weekend. If you would like to give regularly by standing order or learn about other ways of giving or use weekly offertory envelopes, please see the member of the Finance Committee who is distributing the envelopes.

**Confirmation Programme** continues on Sunday 27 March from 4:00pm—5:30pm in the parish hall.

**Next UCM Meeting** on Monday 28 March 2022 at 8:00pm in the parish hall.

**Parents and Toddlers Group** Last session on Thursday 31 March 2022 and will resume on Tuesday 26 April 2022.

**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](mailto:tramy@assumptionreligious.org) for details.

**The Good Shepherd Company from the Holy Land (Bethlehem)**, based in Nottingham, will be here after all Masses on 2 and 3 April selling olivewood crosses, rosaries, religious statues and cribs on behalf of Christian families in the Holy Land to support and help them to stay in work as olive wood carves is one of the most important source of income for them, 90% of the Christians rely on this sale. By selling their produce here it will prevent Christians from leaving the country in search of better work opportunities, there are only 41,000 Christians left in the area.

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

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

**Over 50s Group** Last session on Tuesday 12 April 2022 and will resume on Tuesday 26 April 2022.

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

**Catholic Children's Society—Crib Collection** £382.64 was donated. Thank you.

**Happy Mother's Day** We wish all Mothers a very happy and relaxing day. (Daffodils kindly donated by R P Sherry & Son Funeral Directors.)

**Ukrainian Appeal/Caritas.** Donations can be made by cheque (payable to AUGB LTD - Central Appeal Fund and sent to Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of the Holy Family of London, Chancery Office, 21-22 Binney Street, London W1K 5BQ), directly to the central appeal fund (AUGB Ltd, Account Number: 80038237, Sort code: 20-65-89, ref: HelpUkraine) or online: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/helpukraine>.

**The Passion of Jesus—Live in Trafalgar Square** On Good Friday 15 April at 12:00 noon and 3:15pm. It will also be livestreamed. For more info please visit [www.wintershall.org.uk](http://www.wintershall.org.uk).

**First Holy Communion Programme** continues on Saturday 23 April from 12:00 noon—1:00pm in the parish hall.

**Mass for Migrants at Westminster Cathedral** On Monday 2 May 2022 from 2:00pm Banner Procession, 2:30pm Mass. See noticeboard.

**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](http://www.olsjw.org.uk) and Our Lady's RC Church, St John's Wood Facebook page which are updated regularly.

**Offerings.** The contactless *CollectTins* 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](http://www.olsjw.org.uk).

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