

## The Week Ahead

Mon 16th	Ss Cornelius & Cyprian	7.15am, 12.30pm, 6.00pm
Tues 17th	feria	7.15am, 12.30pm, 6.00pm
Wed 18th	feria	7.15am, 12.30pm, 6.00pm
Thur 19th	feria	7.15am, 12.30pm, 6.00pm
Fri 20th	S Andrew Kim & Companions	7.15am, 12.30pm, 6.00pm
Sat 21st	<b>S MATTHEW</b>	10.00am; 6.00pm ( <i>Vigil</i> )

**Sun 22nd** **Twenty Fifth Sunday** 8.30am  
**in Ordinary Time** 9.30am [*Extraordinary form*]

10.30am [*Solemn Latin*] Missa Nascé la gioja mia *Palestrina*; Laudate Dominum *Palestrina*; O sacrum convivium d'Evry  
Prelude and Fugue in D (BWV 532) *Bach*  
12.00, 4.00pm, 7.00pm

Next weekend (21/22 September) **Father Frank Nolan will** make an appeal at all Masses for the Missionaries of Africa (*"The White Fathers"*). *Thanks to the heroic efforts of missionaries working in Africa since 1868, the increase in the number of African Christians is vastly outpacing the supply of African priests, brothers and co-operators required to attend to the spiritual needs of these peoples ... there are vast areas where the fulfilment of the Church's commission to the world has still to be initiated or consolidated. It is especially here that the Missionaries of Africa find their task today.*

The next **"Family Mass"** will be at 4pm on Sunday 29<sup>th</sup> September – this is designed for our young people to play a more active part than usual!

The **Saint Vincent de Paul Society** are planning their next major fund-raiser which will be the 20<sup>th</sup> Souper Ball on **Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> October** at the Lansdowne Club in Mayfair. Everyone is invited. It is £100 for dinner & dance and £40 for dancing only. We are looking for raffle and auction prizes. The SVP is in immediate need of volunteers to join a rota of drivers for their van on the Tuesday and Friday runs to distribute food to the homeless.

**What happens if you go into hospital?** In the light of the strict data protection rules which now exist, it is essential that on entering hospital you indicate that details, or those of your relatives, are passed to the Roman Catholic chaplain, stating that you or your relative would like the chaplain to visit.

### Holy Hour and Benediction

Saturday  
4.45pm-5.45pm

### Confessions

Weekdays  
12.00-1.00pm  
Saturday  
10.30am-Noon  
✠  
5.00pm-5.45pm

### Last week's giving

**£3,202-00**  
(includes envelopes  
but not bankers'  
orders)

## St James's Roman Catholic Church, Spanish Place 22 George Street, London W1U 3QY



## Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

15th September  
2019

Latin texts  
on  
pages 73/74

### TODAY'S LITURGY

[Parish Mass Book - page 136]

Exodus 32:7-11,13-14; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; St Luke 15:1-10

Psalm Response: **I will leave this place and go to my father.**

10.30am Jubelmesse *Weber*; Pater peccavi A. *Gabrieli*;  
Praeludium in D minor *Böhm*

*Refreshments (Tea & Coffee) are served after the 9.30am Mass & wine together with soft drinks are available after the Solemn Mass in the Social Centre (in the Crypt). Do join us (especially our visitors) if you have the time.*

The Reverend Christopher G. Colven (Rector)  
The Reverend Canon Stuart Wilson  
The Reverend Hugh MacKenzie (in residence)  
The Reverend Mark Elliott Smith (in residence)

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The Rector writes . . . . .

Saint Paul writing to his protégé Timothy could say: “*my advice is that, first of all, there should be prayers offered for everyone – petitions, intercessions and thanksgiving – and especially for kings and others in authority, so that we may be able to live religious and reverent lives in peace and quiet*”. 2,000 years on and the Apostle’s words seem as relevant as ever they can have been. We are going through a time of political and national turbulence and it is hard to see where the pieces, having been thrown into the air, might now fall. Present uncertainties are clearly putting strain on the coherence of the United Kingdom and the febrile atmosphere has brought added layers of tension into many personal relationships. Following the advice given by Saint Paul, all Christians have a duty to pray for their elected leaders and to try to emphasise a human solidarity which seeks to find and serve the common good. It is also incumbent on all of us to speak gently to one another and to do nothing to exacerbate the general spirit of negativity.

“*Human society can be neither well-ordered nor prosperous unless it has some people invested with legitimate authority to preserve its institutions and to devote themselves as far as is necessary to work and care for the good of all*” These words of Pope Saint John XXIII remind us that to play a part in civil society – at both local and national levels – is a worthy form of service. It is good to know that there are a number of Westminster councillors in our congregation and we are grateful to them for the time and energy they expend in trying to ensure good government for this part of the metropolis. At a time when it seems to be open season on politicians, it does us well to consider the generosity with which most of them respond to the needs of their constituents and we should be asking God that with a General Election on the horizon a fresh generation of men and women will be fired with a genuine desire to build a compassionate society in which the dignity of every citizen is respected.

Another pope, this time Saint Clement of Rome (Saint Peter’s immediate successor) provides the Church’s most ancient prayer for political authorities: “*Grant to them, Lord, health, peace, concord and stability, so that they may exercise without offence the sovereignty that you have given them*”. The point being made here is that any right exercise of authority needs to understand itself as rooted in the acceptance that God is God, and that he is the source of everything that has existence. “*Direct, Lord, their counsel, following what is pleasing and acceptable in your sight, so that by exercising with devotion and in peace and gentleness the power that you have given to them, they may find favour with you*”. Clearly first century

Rome and twenty-first century London are very different places, but a fresh injection of an understanding of the natural law would not go amiss in our own times!

Some words of Benedict XVI are prescient: “*wherever God does not have pride of place human dignity is at risk. It is therefore urgent to bring our contemporaries to rediscover the authentic face of God, who revealed himself to us in Jesus Christ*”. Benedict’s saintly predecessor constantly underlined the linkage between human dignity and social justice. Communities at every level – local, national and international - which are well-ordered and compassionate, need to be built: as John Paul II has it: “*what is at stake is the dignity of the human person, whose defence and promotion have been entrusted to us by the Creator, and to whom the men and women at every moment of history are strictly and responsibly in debt*”. The obvious dis-ease of our current situation should impel us to pray fervently for the wise and good government of our own nation. The Catholic Church has an honourable and developing core of social teaching with which we should not only be familiar but confident enough to share its insights with those of differing views. We must never tire of the understanding that: “*charity is at the heart of the Church’s social doctrine*” (Benedict XVI)

Christopher Colven

## NOTICES

Enrolment for the **new sacramental programmes** are available at the back of church. If you have a child to be prepared for First Holy Communion, or are a teenager looking towards the Sacrament of Confirmation, or an adult wanting to come into full communion with the Catholic Church, or to learn more about the Faith, then fill in the appropriate form and return it by the very latest on **6<sup>th</sup> October**

We welcome some of the students from our seminary at **Allen Hall** in Chelsea who will be joining us for this Sunday’s Solemn Mass – if you have not yet said “hello” to **Canon Stuart Wilson** (who has now moved to us from the seminary) please make sure you do so.

**Marion (Mas) Sharman** died in University College Hospital on Sunday (8<sup>th</sup>). She will be much missed. Her Requiem Mass will be offered here on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September at 11am before cremation at Golders Green. **RIP**