

Please **DO NOT** give money to those begging on the steps or at the gates, as we have established charities who operate here four nights a week. We ask all parishioners - **and visitors** - to keep a close eye on their belongings. **DO NOT** leave bags unattended when approaching the altar - it really does only take a moment for someone to spot an opportunity.

Radio Maria England is a Catholic radio station offering prayer, catechesis, uplifting music, and inspiring testimonies — 24 hours a day. A tool for evangelisation and a companion in faith for listeners across the UK.

You can tune in via DAB+ radio, the free Radio Maria Play mobile app, or online at www.radiomariaengland.uk



St. James's Young Adults Group (Ages 18-35)
Looking to grow your faith and connect with people your own age? Join our vibrant young adults community! Whether you are into faith talks, social events or just making new friends, there is a place for you here.

Parish Repository

(located in the Memorial Chapel)

Weekdays 11.00 - 12.30
Saturday 15.45 - 16.45
Sunday 09.45 - 10.30
11.30 - 13.00 & 15.00 - 16.00

Reminder: The crypt is best accessed via the Blandford Street staircase, which leads directly to the Accessible toilet, where there are baby changing facilities, and to the corridor on which the other cloakrooms are located.

If you can help the parish by making a donation or by a commitment to regular giving, it would be greatly appreciated. More information from the parish office or use the details set out below:-
HSBC Sort code: 40-05-20 Acc no: 91094394
WRCDT St James Spanish Place

We have '**one-off**' **Gift Aid envelopes** at various locations in church for cash offerings at Sunday Mass. Please complete all sections before ticking '**This**' or '**all subsequent**' donations.

Donations of any amount, for specific categories, using Contactless or Chip and PIN can be made AT FOUR STATIONS WITHIN THE CHURCH, online at [Give a Little](#) or by using the QR code.



GIFT AID enables the Parish to claim from HMRC an additional 25% of a donor's gift (offertory, candles, mass intentions) and costs you **NOTHING** (apart from your signature). If you are a UK taxpayer please ask for a form - if we are able to identify your earlier gifts we can backdate the claim for up to 4 years.

St James's Roman Catholic Church

- *Spanish Place* - 22 George Street, W1U 3QY



PALM SUNDAY

29th March 2026

Live-streamed on [YouTube](#) Readings available on [Universalis](#) Foreign language sheets available at the back of the church

TODAY'S LITURGY - page 182

The LATIN responses for the Solemn Mass 77/78 in the Parish Mass Book.

The Week Ahead

Sunday Cycle A Weekday Year II

M 30th 12.30pm and 6.00pm
T 31st 12.30pm and 6.00pm
W 1st 12.30pm and 6.00pm
T 2nd HOLY THURSDAY 6.30pm
F 3rd GOOD FRIDAY 3pm
S 4th HOLY SATURDAY 8pm

5th APRIL 2026
EASTER SUNDAY

8am and 9am[1962]
10.30am Solemn Latin,
12pm, 4pm & 7pm

MONDAY 6th 10am only

Isaiah 50:4-7

'I hid not my face from disgrace, and I know that I shall not be put to shame.'

My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

Philippians 2:6-11

'He humbled himself, therefore God has highly exalted him.'

Matthew 26:14-27:66

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Monsignor Philip Whitmore (Rector)

Father Domenico Lando

The Reverend Mark Elliott-Smith (in residence, Ordinariate)

Telephone: **020 7935 0943** [Parish Office: 020 3475 9097]
Email: spanishplace@rcdow.org.uk Web: www.sjrcc.org.uk

Church opens at 8am on weekdays and 9am on Saturdays.
Confession between 12 noon and 1pm on weekdays.
On Saturday a priest is available from 4.45pm - 5.30pm

The Rector writes

We begin the great week, **Holy Week**, as we commemorate the events of Our Lord's Passion and death. This Sunday is **Palm Sunday**, when there will be blessing of palms before each Mass. The 10.30 Mass on Sunday will begin with a gathering at 10.15am in Manchester Mews, when palms will be blessed and a procession will take place along Manchester Street and George Street, as we recall Our Lord's solemn entry into Jerusalem. Do remember that the clocks will need to be adjusted on Saturday evening - they go forward by one hour - it would be a shame to miss Mass on Sunday on account of failing to note this adjustment.

There is a flyer available at the back of the church with all the Holy Week service times. It should be noted that on Good Friday, although it is the first Friday of April, there will be no exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Instead, we commemorate the Lord's Passion at 3pm and we celebrate the Stations of the Cross at 7pm, with veneration of the relic of the True Cross.

On **Tuesday** of this coming week, at 12 noon in Westminster Cathedral, our new Archbishop, Richard Moth, will preside at the **Chrism Mass**, when holy oils will be blessed for the coming year and the priests of the diocese will renew their promises. All are welcome to attend, but be sure to arrive early, as space will be at a premium.

The new oils will be used for the catechumens and candidates who are to be baptised and confirmed at the Easter Vigil. Do please remember them in your prayers as the great day approaches when they will become members of our Catholic parish community. The catechumens will be anointed on Saturday morning, in anticipation of the ceremony in the evening, when we light the Easter fire at 8pm and celebrate the Lord's resurrection during the Easter Vigil, the most important night of the Christian year. It is during the liturgy of baptism at the Easter Vigil that the baptisms and confirmations will take place, the culmination of all the work that has taken place in the RCIA over the past year. Many thanks to our catechumens, candidates and catechists for their commitment and dedication.

Once we reach **Holy Thursday**, Lent is technically over, but that doesn't mean that the Lenten fast can be suspended. On the contrary, it gives way to the Triduum fast, which is even more demanding. Only on Easter Sunday, after the Vigil celebration, can we consider Easter to have arrived.

Holy Thursday is the occasion when we recall the Last Supper, the occasion of the institution of the Eucharist and of the priesthood. For that reason, it is a day of celebration of the priesthood. During the evening Mass, the celebrant will wash the feet of a certain number of the faithful, recalling the humble gesture made by Our Lord during the Last Supper (cf. Jn 13). At the end of the evening Mass, the Blessed Sacrament will be carried in solemn procession to the richly decorated Altar of Repose in the Lady Chapel. Members of the faithful are welcome to visit the altar of repose and to pray there after the service, recalling the night of Our Lord's arrest and the beginning of his Passion.

On **Good Friday**, in addition to the solemn proclamation of the Passion according to Saint John, the afternoon service will include solemn intercessions and veneration of the Cross, before the distribution of Holy Communion. By ancient tradition, Mass is not celebrated on that day, or on Holy Saturday. The collection on Good Friday is for the upkeep of the holy places in Jerusalem.

Then at the **Easter Vigil**, which in our case begins at 8pm, although it can be at any point during the hours of darkness, we celebrate the Lord's Resurrection. The new paschal candle will be lit from the Easter fire and from that one candle, the light spreads to everyone in the church, as all will be holding candles. We listen to a series of readings recalling the great events of salvation history, all of which point towards the culminating moment of the resurrection. The Easter "alleluia" makes a glorious reappearance after the forty days of Lent, and that joyful proclamation of praise remains characteristic of the entire Easter season, which lasts until Pentecost Sunday on 24 May.

The new Easter water will be blessed in the third part of the Vigil Liturgy, and it is used for the baptism of our catechumens and then, after the general renewal of baptismal promises, it is used for sprinkling all the faithful present, as a reminder of their own baptism. The liturgy concludes with a liturgy of the Eucharist, making this the **first Mass of Easter**.

We are asked to draw your attention to an Eastertide retreat for young women discerning a call to serve the Lord in the religious life. The Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ sisters) will be organising this retreat, due to take place in Liverpool from 15 to 17 May. For more information contact Sr Lynne FCJ at fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com or visit the website www.fcjsisters.org Registration is needed at <https://bit.ly/Vocation2026>.

Do remember that on **Saturday 23 May**, the Archbishop will celebrate a **Mass at the Cathedral for married couples** who have reached a significant anniversary. Those who wish to take part are asked to give their names and addresses to the parish office, together with the date of their marriage. The new life of Easter manifests itself in countless ways in the lives of our parishioners. As Christians, we are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song!

Philip Whitmore

A special welcome to our visitors. Refreshments are served in the Social Centre (in the crypt) after the 9.00am and 10.30am Masses. Do please join us.

The St Vincent de Paul Society Needs You:
Would you like to help distribute food, and a kind word to those in need? The "Soup Run" serves an eclectic array of clientele in Lincoln's Inn Fields in Holborn. We have been successfully supporting this community for over 33 years. Join us in the Social Centre (Hall), under St James's Spanish Place on Tuesdays and/or Fridays between 5:30pm and 6:00pm. We are a friendly team of volunteers. Come join us.