

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 if you have the time.

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 the corridor on which the other cloakrooms are located.



St. James's Young Adults Group (Ages 18-35)
Looking to grow your faith and connect with people your 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.

Taizé Pilgrimage for Young Adults (aged 18-35) in Paris with the Assumption group from **28 Dec 2025 to 1 Jan 2026**. The Taizé European Meeting is a "Pilgrimage of trust on Earth" gathering thousands of young people for prayer, reflection, and community. Cost: €110 + travel. Register by 15th November; for more information visit www.assumpta-eu.org/taize-pilgrimage. Email rebecca@assumpta-eu.org

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 69 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5EY
Sort code: 40-05-20 Acc no: 91094394

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 a 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 up to 4 years).

St James's Roman Catholic Church

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



THIRTIETH SUNDAY 26th October 2025

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

Responses for the Solemn Latin Mass - pages 73/74 in the [red] Parish Mass Book

The Week Ahead

Sunday Year C Weekday Cycle I
Mass at 12.30pm and 6.00pm

M 27th feria

T 28th SS SIMON AND JUDE

W 29th Blessed Martyrs of Douai

T 30th feria

F 31st feria

S 1st Nov BVM on Saturday 10am
Vigil Mass of Sunday 6pm

2nd November 2025

ALL SAINTS

8am and 9am

10.30am Solemn Latin

12pm, 4pm & 7pm

TODAY'S LITURGY Parish Mass Book page 155

Sirach 35:15b-17, 20-22b

'The prayer of the humble pierces the clouds'.

**The lowly one called,
and the LORD heard him.**

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

'There is laid up for me the crown of righteousness.'

Luke 18:9-14

'The tax collector went down to his house justified, rather than the Pharisee.'

The Reverend Monsignor Philip Whitmore (*Rector*)

The Reverend John Njorteah

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

The Church opens 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

Greetings from Rome! At the time of writing, the parish pilgrimage is drawing to a close. We have passed through three of the four holy doors, and the fourth is on the schedule very soon. We attended the General Audience given by the Holy Father on Wednesday, and those of us who are associated with the Friends of the Holy Father were able to greet him personally, because of the gift made by the Friends to the Holy See at the start of the Jubilee Year - a studio that can be mounted and dismantled very speedily, within the colonnade in St Peter's Square, very close to the action when Papal ceremonies take place there.

Then, as you will have seen from the news, the King and Queen of England were in Rome this week, and an ecumenical service took place in their presence at Saint Paul's outside the Walls, in which our tour operator Anthony Coles and I were privileged to take part. It was a beautifully planned service and it focused particularly on the official welcome of His Majesty as a Royal Confrater of the Basilica and Abbey of Saint Paul, built over the Apostle's tomb. The King was seated on a specially commissioned chair, bearing his coat of arms and the Latin phrase "*Ut unum sint*", a quotation from chapter 17 of Saint John's Gospel, expressing the goal of the ecumenical movement, "*that they may be one*". It is particularly fitting that such a service should take place during this Week of Prayer for Christian Unity,

Pilgrims from our parish group were able to visit the English College on Wednesday evening, the seminary that I attended myself, where I was subsequently Rector. There is a Westminster seminarian there now, Joshua Aghadiuno, whom we were able to meet. It was a joy to be able to introduce the pilgrims to a place I know so well, indeed the place where I spent lockdown in 2020.

It will be welcome news for our tired pilgrims that the clocks go back one hour this weekend, giving an extra hour of sleep to a somewhat sleep-deprived group. Mornings will be lighter than they have been, but be prepared for the evenings to be considerably darker.

I am sure we all feel a mixture of emotions at the news that Bishop Nicholas Hudson will soon be moving to Plymouth to become the bishop there. We are pleased for him and we assure him of our good wishes and prayers, but we will miss him, especially as we were looking forward to his visit for the confirmation of our teenagers in May 2026. While we do not yet know who will take his place on that occasion, we can be sure that his diary commitments will be respected, even if he cannot fulfil them in person.

As we are now approaching the month of November, when we pray particularly for our deceased loved ones, worshippers are encouraged to let us know the names of deceased family members and friends to be prayed for at Mass each day during November. Envelopes will be available for this purpose at the back of the church from the start of November.

The tradition of praying for the dead is linked to the feast of All Souls, normally held on 2 November, the day after **All Saints**. This year, however, as 1 November

is a Saturday, the feast is kept on **Sunday 2 November** in England and Wales, while **All Souls** is celebrated on **Monday 3 November**. So the obligation of Mass attendance applies only to the Sunday. Mass will be celebrated at the normal Sunday times for the feast of All Saints, but there will be an additional celebration according to the 1962 Missal on 1 November at 11am. Then, on the Monday, there will be a celebration according to the 1962 Missal at 11am, in addition to the regular weekday Masses. The Choir will sing at the 6pm Mass that day.

The following Sunday we keep the **Dedication of the Lateran Basilica**, which displaces Sunday, but as it is also **Remembrance Sunday** we are allowed to celebrate one Mass for the Dead in honour of those who gave their lives in the World Wars of the 20th century and subsequent conflicts. An uncle of mine lost his life at the age of 21 during the Second World War, and I am sure that many parishioners also had close relatives who lost their lives.

The Lateran Basilica is the Cathedral in Rome, and as we read from one of the panels on its facade, it serves as the "*mother and teacher of all churches in the city and in the world*", a reference to the universal apostolic ministry of the Bishop of Rome. Our pilgrims passed through the Holy Door of the Lateran Basilica on Thursday 23 October.

Please note that, owing to half-term, there will be no children's liturgy this weekend or next, but we return to normal on Sunday 9 November.

A concert will take place in St James's Church on the evening of **Saturday 8 November**, marking the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicea. It will be an ecumenical event, with choirs from different Christian traditions singing parts of the Nicene Creed. You are encouraged to come if you can. Then on **23 November in the Wigmore Hall at 3pm**, there will be a recital given by our own musicians to mark the return of the church's refurbished organ and the end of the Appeal launched almost a year ago. Renewed thanks to all those who have supported the Appeal so far.

Parishioners should be aware that it is increasingly challenging to meet our current schedule of Mass and Confession, owing to a decline in the number of available priests. Very soon we will be losing our regular Friday confessor, Fr Barry Braum from Tyburn Convent, to whom we are much obliged for his service. We wish him well as he travels to Rome for a new mission there and we hope to be able to find a replacement soon.

I have been asked to draw to your attention a consultation taking place on the new Admissions Policy to be followed at **St Michael's Catholic Grammar School** in Finchley. If you would like to take part in the consultation, please visit <https://www.st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk/home/admissions/consultation-on-admission-arrangements-2027-28>.

To conclude, I would like to assure all our parishioners of a special remembrance in prayer here in Rome, the city made holy by the martyrdom of the great Apostles Peter and Paul. I look forward to seeing you again very soon.

Philip Whitmore