

The **Social Centre** is best accessed via Blandford Street - *the stairs lead directly to the Accessible toilet - where there are also baby changing facilities* - and the corridor on which other cloakrooms are located.

Children should always be accompanied

THE CAMINO TO SANTIAGO REDISCOVERING ITS SONGS

Booking now open at <http://bit.ly/caminosongs1>

The pilgrimage ceremony will be 11am-1pm on Saturday 17th October.
[To sing in the final session you should have attended at least one of the learning sessions]
Learning sessions will be
Sunday 4th October (4-6pm Farm Street), Wednesday 14th October (7-9pm Spanish Place)

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.



GraceMeet is a new Catholic matchmaking service built by a young Catholic in London for single adults seriously seeking marriage. There is no swiping. Each week an AI suggests a small number of carefully chosen matches based on faith, values and life stage, every profile is identity verified, and the service is free while in its early stages.
Find out more at gracemeetapp.com.

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 of any amount, for specific categories, using Contactless or Chip and PIN can be made AT FOUR LOCATIONS WITHIN THE CHURCH, or by using the QR code.



We lack contact details for a number of generous donors whose gifts come directly in to our bank account. If **GIFT AID** was a possibility for these individuals could they please contact the Parish Office to discuss and/or request the necessary form. **GIFT AID** allows us to claim 25% from HMRC and costs the donor **NOTHING** (other than their signature). If you are a UK taxpayer please ask for a form; we can backdate claims by up to 4 years (if we have sufficient evidence).

PARISH REPOSITORY (located in the Memorial Chapel)

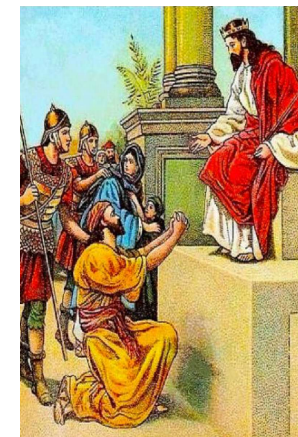
Weekdays 11.00 - 12.30
Saturday 15.45 - 16.45
Sunday 09.45 - 10.30
11.30 - 13.00 & 15.00 - 16.00

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

Twenty Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 13th September 2026

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

LATIN responses for the Solemn Mass
73/4 in the green Mass Book



TODAY'S LITURGY [Mass Book page 128]

Sirach 27:30-28:7

'Forgive your neighbour the wrong he has done, and then your sins will be pardoned when you pray.'

The LORD is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger and rich in mercy.

Romans 14:7-9

'Whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's.'

Matthew 18:21-35

'I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.'

The Week Ahead

Sunday Year A Weekday Cycle II
Masses at 12.30pm and 6.00pm

M 14th HOLY CROSS
T 15th Our Lady of Sorrows
W 16th Ss Cornelius and Cyprian
T 17th St Robert Bellarmine
F 18th feria
S 19th BVM on Saturday 10am

Vigil Mass of Sunday 6pm

20th September 2026
XXVth Sunday in Ordinary Time

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

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

The Rector writes

The recent twenty-fifth anniversary of the destruction of the Twin Towers in New York reminds us forcibly of the need to pray and work for peace, a message which Pope Leo has constantly emphasized ever since the evening of his election. *Dona nobis pacem*, we pray at every Mass - no mere pious thought, but an urgent and much-needed prayer for our world today. The pioneering Papal pronouncement on the subject remains *Pacem in Terris*, the encyclical issued by Pope St John XXIII in 1963, but Pope St Paul VI in his own *Populorum Progressio* four years later, added the significant idea that “*development is the new name for peace*”, and our present Holy Father, in his encyclical issued earlier this year, *Magnifica Humanitas*, emphasized that profound economic disparities are major catalysts for modern conflicts.

In this context, our hearts go out to those who suffer in modern conflicts, in the Middle East, in Africa, and in our own continent, in Ukraine. Many of our parishioners will be aware of the nearby Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral on Duke Street, which has been encouraging prayer for peace and care of refugees ever since the conflict in Ukraine began more than four years ago.

On **Wednesday** of this week, our **Young Adults** are to host a speaker evening, when a representative of the Society of Saint John Chrysostom will take as his theme the Apostolic Letter *Oriente Lumen* (https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/apost_letters/1995/documents/hf_jp-ii_apl_19950502_orientale-lumen.html), with which Pope St John Paul II in 1995 urged Western Catholics to develop a greater knowledge and awareness of Eastern Christian traditions and to pray and work for reunion with those churches of the East that are no longer in communion with Rome. It may come as a surprise to some that there are Eastern Churches which remain faithful to their own spiritual and liturgical traditions while maintaining communion with Rome. The Ukrainian Catholics on Duke Street are an example of this, as are the Syro-Malabar Catholics, whose Cathedral in this country is in Preston. There are many other Eastern Catholic churches too, but the two named above are the only ones currently to have jurisdictions based in this country.

Nearer home, we are asked next weekend to celebrate **Home Mission Sunday**, when we focus on initiatives for evangelization in our own country. Formerly known as *Evangelii Gaudium* Sunday, after Pope Francis’s pioneering Apostolic Exhortation of 2013, it has returned to its original name, on the recommendation of our bishops. Further details can be found on the website of the Bishops’ Conference at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home-mission-sunday/>.

The coming week sees an abundance of liturgical celebrations. This Sunday would have been the memorial of Saint John Chrysostom, mentioned above, had not the Sunday taken precedence. **Monday** will be the feast of the **Exaltation of the Holy Cross**, a time when we give thanks especially for the redemption won for us by Christ Our Lord, through his sacrifice on the Cross. There will be an opportunity for us to venerate the parish’s relic of the True Cross after the evening Mass on Monday.

Tuesday is the memorial of **Our Lady of Sorrows**, when we picture Our Blessed Lady at the foot of the Cross, in anguish as she witnesses her son’s cruel death. The *Stabat Mater* has its origins as the sequence for this feast.

On **Wednesday** we remember two martyrs of the pre-Christian Roman Empire, **Saints Cornelius and Cyprian**, the former a bishop of Rome, the latter a bishop of Carthage. They gave their lives in the third century, during the persecution of the Emperor Decius, who wanted all his subjects to offer sacrifice to the pagan gods of Rome. Then on **Thursday**, we remember a more recent saint, **Robert Bellarmine**, Jesuit and Cardinal. As Robert is the baptismal name of our current Holy Father, it is his name-day, and a Vatican holiday in consequence.

We are delighted to be able to announce that a seminarian will be working in the parish once again this year. **Adam Trzebinski** is in formation for the priesthood in the diocese of Portsmouth, not our own diocese, but as he studies at Allen Hall, he will be coming to us throughout the year to assist us, just as James Surry did last year. We look forward to welcoming him. Needless to say, we continue to remember both James and Adam in our prayers.

As mentioned in recent newsletters, the forms with which to enrol for **sacramental preparation** are now **available at the back of the church** as well as on the parish website in the “*Catechetics*” section (<https://www.sjrcc.org.uk/catechetics>). Parents of Year 3 children, who wish to put them forward for **First Holy Communion** preparation, parents of Year 9 students, who wish to put them forward for **Confirmation** preparation, and adults, including Catholics, who wish to know more about the Catholic faith (**RCIA**) will find application forms in these places, and are urged to hand them in to the parish office by the first weekend in October.

Similarly, parents of children who are seeking a **Certificate of Catholic Practice** in connexion with a school application can find postcards at the back of the church with which to request one. Please note, the certificate itself is issued subsequently and needs to be signed by the parish priest, whereas the cards at the back of the church should be signed by whichever priest celebrates the Mass you attend on each of three successive Sundays, in order to provide evidence of Catholic practice. On the basis of this information, a certificate can be issued.

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 if you have the time.

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