

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.

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.



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).

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

Twenty Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time 27th 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 134]

Ezekiel 18:25-28

'When a wicked person turns away from the wickedness he has committed, he shall save his life.'

Remember your compassion, O LORD.

Philippians 2:1-11

'Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours, in Christ Jesus.'

Matthew 21:28-32

'He changed his mind and went. The tax collectors and the prostitutes go into the kingdom of God before you.'

The Week Ahead

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

M 28th feria
T 29th Ss MICHAEL, GABRIEL and RAPHAEL
W 30th St Jerome
T 1st St Thérèse of the child Jesus
F 2nd Holy Guardian Angels
S 3rd BVM on Saturday 10am

Vigil Mass of Sunday 6pm

4th October 2026
XXVIIth 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

Next **Friday, 2 October**, is the day designated as **Harvest Fast Day**, when we devote some of what we save through fasting to the **CAFOD** collection, which will be the second collection on Sunday 4 October. Envelopes will be distributed this weekend, and collected next weekend. Cf. Elizabeth Carey's article on the parish website, which can be viewed via the link.

The same **Friday, 2 October**, is the **first Friday** of the month, and so we hope to expose the Blessed Sacrament for **adoration** between the lunchtime and evening Masses. If you are able to make a commitment to be present for a part of the period of exposition, please sign your name against one of the timed slots on the list at the back of the church.

As **October is the month of the Holy Rosary**, there will be an opportunity to pray the rosary in the Lady Chapel each weekday evening after the 6pm Mass throughout October. Please stay for this if you are able.

On **Wednesday 7 October**, the feast of **Our Lady of the Rosary**, (the reason why October is kept as the month of the rosary), we will be hosting a **Wigmore Hall concert at 7.30pm**, given by the **Sixteen**, under the direction of Harry Christophers, and they will be singing a concert of Renaissance polyphony with music by Lassus and Josquin, among others. Tickets can be purchased from the Wigmore Hall Box Office, not from the church.

A few days later, on **Saturday 10 October**, there will be an opportunity to take part in the **National Eucharistic Congress** (Adoremus), at Westminster Cathedral, which will include a Blessed Sacrament Procession from St George's Cathedral, Southwark, to Westminster Cathedral. The procession is due to leave St George's at 3pm and to finish at 5pm with Solemn Benediction at Westminster Cathedral presided over by Bishop Jim Curry. This will be followed by Mass at 6pm celebrated by Bishop Gerard Bradley, Auxiliary Bishop of Southwark. Registration is necessary for other elements of the Congress (via the link <https://westminstercathedral.org.uk/adoremus/>), but not for participation in the procession, Benediction or Mass.

Another quite different procession is planned for the following **Saturday 17 October**, when pilgrims will make their way from Farm Street Church to Saint James's Church, singing medieval pilgrim songs associated with the **camino to Santiago de Compostela** in northern Spain, where the relics of Saint James are venerated. Prior booking is necessary, as music rehearsals are involved - in order to reserve a place, visit <http://bit.ly/caminosongs1>.

Next weekend is the date by which forms are due to be handed in to the Parish Office in connexion with enrolment for parish sacramental preparation programmes, that is to say, for **First Holy Communion** Preparation, **Confirmation** preparation, and the **RCIA** (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults), aimed at those interested in learning more about the Catholic faith, whatever their background.

We continue to receive requests for **Certificates of Catholic Practice** in connexion with applications for school places. There are postcards available at the back of the

church which can be used to obtain evidence of Mass attendance on three successive Sundays. If these are submitted to the Parish Office, with a sufficient number of signatures from the priests who celebrated the Mass that you attended, a certificate can be produced.

On **Tuesday 13 October**, an event is to take place online that may be of interest to some of our parishioners, organized by the Good Steward - Catholic Philanthropy. Places can be booked for the online presentation through <https://www.ticketsource.com/catholics-in-fundraising/the-good-steward-catholic-philanthropy/e-jpobab>. I do commend this worthy initiative to your attention.

On Tuesday of the coming week, we have a great feast to look forward to, the feast of the **Archangels Michael, Gabriel and Raphael**. It is this occasion that gives rise to the name "*Michaelmas*", often used to designate the term that has just begun. Saint James's Church includes a rather striking statue of Saint Michael wielding a sword, at the right-hand end of the altar rails. What must once have been Saint Michael's altar was re-purposed in 1929 as an altar of the English martyrs, many of whom were beatified in that year, but the statue of Saint Michael remains. As he is the patron of Vatican City and well known for combating evil in the form of the devil and his angels, his patronage is greatly needed.

The other archangels - Gabriel and Raphael - are given roles in Scripture in the areas of communication and healing respectively. It is often maintained that the honour accorded them of the title "*archangel*" has to do with the importance of the missions entrusted to them.

Wednesday sees the memorial of **Saint Jerome**, priest and doctor of the Church, whose biblical scholarship led to the translation of the entire Bible into Latin - the so-called "*Vulgate*" Bible is the fruit of his labours. He is famed for saying that "*ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ*" - a sombre admonition to us all.

On **Thursday** we celebrate the liturgical memorial of **Saint Thérèse of Lisieux**, a great Carmelite mystic and herself one of relatively few female Doctors of the Church. We have an altar dedicated to her, surmounted by a statue, in our church, just inside the Memorial Chapel, which currently serves as the repository.

Friday, besides being the Harvest Fast Day and the first Friday of the month, happens to be the liturgical memorial of the **Guardian Angels**, who are assigned to each one of us as an expression of the particular personal care that God takes of every human creature. We rejoice in the protection and intercession that our Guardian Angels offer to each one of us.

As autumn is now well and truly under way, Father Domenico and I wish all our parishioners a blessed season in preparation for the Christmas festivities.

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.
