

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.

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

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 parishioners - **and especially 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.

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 **THREE 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



DIVINE MERCY

12th April 2026

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

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

TODAY'S LITURGY - page 255

Acts 2:42-47

'All who believed were together and had all things in common.'

Give praise to the LORD, for he is good, his mercy endures for ever.

1 Peter 1:3-9

'He has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.'

John 20:19-31

'Eight days later, Jesus came.'

The Week Ahead

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

M 13th Easter Feria
T 14th Easter Feria
W 15th Easter Feria
T 16th Easter Feria
F 17th Easter Feria
S 18th Easter Feria 10am

Vigil Mass of Sunday 6pm

19th APRIL 2026
THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER

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

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

Divine Mercy Sunday is so-called because of the Gospel on this feast, the Octave day of Easter Sunday, when we hear the Johannine accounts of Our Lord's appearances to the disciples in the Upper Room in Jerusalem, during which he institutes the sacrament of Confession, giving them the power to forgive sins. We all stand in need of the mercy that pours forth from the wounded side of Christ our Saviour. The famous image of the Divine Mercy, shows two beams of light emanating from the Saviour's wounded side. When Saint Faustina Kowalska asked Our Lord about the meaning of these two rays, she received the following response: *"the two rays denote Blood and Water. The pale ray stands for the Water which makes souls righteous. The red ray stands for the Blood which is the life of souls. These two rays issued forth from the depths of My tender mercy when My agonized Heart was opened by a lance on the Cross."*

Divine Mercy devotions begin at 2pm in the church and continue until the 4pm Mass, to be celebrated by Monsignor Keith Barltrop, parish priest of Saint Mary of the Angels in Bayswater. There will be opportunities for Confession throughout.

This devotion was particularly dear to the heart of Pope Saint John Paul II, who decreed that the Second Sunday of Easter should be kept as Divine Mercy Sunday throughout the world. He did this in the year 2000, during the canonization of Saint Faustina, whose mystical experiences gave rise to the devotion. As Pope Saint John Paul argued in his final book, *"Memory and Identity"*, divine mercy was the only answer to the horrors and cruelties of the totalitarian regimes of the twentieth century, experienced with particular intensity in his native Poland. Fittingly, it was on the eve of Divine Mercy Sunday that Pope Saint John Paul died, on 2 April 2005.

Here at Saint James's Church, we continue to offer sacramental confession six days a week, from midday to 1pm on working days (i.e. Monday to Friday), and during the Holy Hour that precedes the Vigil Mass on Saturday evening, that is to say from 4.45pm to 5.30pm. It is not easy to offer opportunities for confession at other times, given the great demands that are placed on the clergy here, but we try to make it a priority to continue the generous provision for which Saint James's church is well known. Please try to come at the advertised times if you wish to avail yourself of the sacrament. And remember that one of the *"precepts of the church"* asks every Catholic to make a minimum of one Confession per year.

The confirmation catechesis begins again this Sunday, at 2.30pm in the Social Centre. There are just four weeks remaining until the great day of the **Confirmation** itself, to be celebrated by Bishop Michael Campbell, Emeritus Bishop of Lancaster, on **Sunday 10 May at the 4pm Mass**. The previous day, **Saturday 9 May**, sees the **First Holy Communion celebration**, for which the final classes are also due to begin this week, on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday in the Rectory. We remember in our prayers all the candidates involved in these sacramental celebrations, not to mention their parents and catechists.

The adult catechumens and candidates have now entered our Catholic community, having been baptised and confirmed at the Easter Vigil. Please extend a warm welcome to them if you encounter them at Mass. Until Pentecost, there will be some further sessions of the RCIA on Sunday afternoons in the Rectory, offering them the opportunity for *"mystagogia"* - the stage of exploration of the mysteries that follows sacramental initiation. Those wishing to become Catholic are invited to enrol in September for next year's RCIA.

The Easter season, which began last Sunday, continues for seven weeks as far as Pentecost Sunday. Throughout this time, the Paschal Candle will be visible on the sanctuary, the sign of the risen Christ in our midst, duly honoured with incense during the more solemn celebrations of the season. The liturgical colour is almost always white. This is the ideal time to celebrate the sacrament of baptism, in view of the paschal meaning of this great sacrament, although parents are asked to arrange for their children to be baptised as soon as possible after their birth, whenever that may be.

Easter water, that is to say, water blessed during the Easter Vigil, is still available for the faithful to take away with them. The large container at the back of the church is the one that was used at the Vigil service, in which water was blessed with the new paschal candle, and almost immediately used for the baptism of our catechumens.

The Alleluia, which is the most characteristic Easter proclamation, continues to resound loud and clear throughout the liturgy of this joyful season. Having been omitted altogether throughout the season of Lent, it is now back with a vengeance.

During the month of April, the Holy Father invites us to pray for priests in crisis. *"Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer."* Towards the end of April, we mark *"Good Shepherd Sunday"*, when we focus particularly on the training of priests, inviting contributions to the Priest Training Fund. On that occasion we look forward to hearing from James Surry, the seminarian from Allen Hall who has been assisting us throughout the year so far, particularly with the confirmation catechesis. We are privileged to have had him with us during this time, and we pray that the experience of working in the parish will help him to deepen his sense of vocation.

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.



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.