

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



Acts 10:24a, 37-43

'We ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.'

This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice in it and be glad.

Colossians 3:1-4

'Seek the things that are above, where Christ is.'

John 20:1-9

'He must rise from the dead.'

EASTER SUNDAY

5th April 2026

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

TODAY'S LITURGY - page 251

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

The Week Ahead

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

M 6th EASTER OCTAVE 10am only
T 7th EASTER OCTAVE
W 8th EASTER OCTAVE
T 9th EASTER OCTAVE
F 10th EASTER OCTAVE
S 11th EASTER OCTAVE 10am

Vigil Mass of Sunday 6pm

12th APRIL 2026
SECOND SUNDAY of EASTER
[Divine Mercy]

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

Happy Easter to all our parishioners! Christ is risen, he is risen indeed! We rejoice at the presence of the risen Jesus in our midst, represented by the paschal candle, which we blessed at the start of our Easter Vigil ceremony and which will be visible throughout the Easter season in a prominent place on the sanctuary. And the acclamation “*alleluia*” is back with a vengeance. Praise the Lord! The new life of Easter pours over us like an ocean. Already, at the Easter Vigil, we saw the baptism and confirmation of numerous new members of our community, the “*first-fruits*”, if you like, of the new life that is bursting out among us.

Easter Monday is a Bank Holiday, and accordingly **the church will be closed after the 10am Mass**. The whole week is the Octave of Easter, so there is a sense in which every day during the week is a continuation of Easter day. For this reason, we are not asked to abstain from meat on the Friday of the Easter Octave, 10 April. In the Roman canon, throughout the Easter Octave, we pray for the newly-baptized among us. And throughout the Octave, the dismissal at the conclusion of Mass, as well as the response, is followed by a double alleluia.

Easter Sunday is one of the days when a sequence is provided for the liturgy, to be used just before the Alleluia, namely the Victimae Paschali Laudes. On the Sunday itself we are required to use it, while on the weekdays of the Easter Octave its use is optional.

The Octave concludes with **Divine Mercy Sunday**. Devotions that day will take place in the church from 2pm, concluding with the 4pm Mass, to be celebrated by Mgr Keith Barltrop. The Gospel recounts the resurrection appearances to the eleven from Chapter 20 of St John’s Gospel, when our risen Lord instituted the sacrament of Confession. Hence the choice of this particular Sunday for the principal devotion to the Divine Mercy, particularly associated with Saint Faustina Kowalska and very dear to the heart of Pope Saint John Paul II. The image of the Divine Mercy will be displayed for veneration and the Blessed Sacrament will be exposed for adoration. Throughout much of the afternoon, there will be opportunity for Confession.

We are asked to draw to your attention a **Divine Mercy Pilgrimage to Aylesford Priory on Saturday 11 April** led by the Marian Fathers as a Preparation for Divine Mercy Sunday. The coach will leave Ealing Broadway station at 7.30 am and it will depart from Aylesford at 5 pm.

Throughout the season of Easter, we pray the Regina Caeli in place of the Angelus. So just before the start of the 6pm Mass from Monday to Saturday and just before the 8am and 12 noon Masses on Sunday there will be prayers to the Queen of Heaven, as we rejoice at the Resurrection of her divine son.

As Saint Paul says, in his first letter to the Corinthians (15:14), “*if Christ has not been raised, your faith is in vain*”. It is true that our Easter faith is at the very heart of our Christian commitment. This is why any challenge to our belief in the

Resurrection is a fundamental challenge to our faith. As Pope Benedict says, “*Whether Jesus was or whether he also is - this depends on the Resurrection. In answering yes or no to this question, we are taking a stand not simply on one event among others, but on the figure of Jesus as such.*” Our belief that Jesus was raised from the dead changes everything - it underpins our belief that he is the Son of God, not just an inspiring teacher. And he is able to share his risen life with us. The use of the Paschal Candle at baptisms and funerals signifies the sharing of Easter life that is at the heart of these celebrations.

During the Easter season, we have some significant celebrations in our parish, in our cathedral, and in our nation. In our parish we have the **First Holy Communion on 9 May** and the **confirmation of our teenagers by Bishop Michael Campbell on 10 May**. In our Cathedral we have the **Mass in celebration of Matrimony on 23 May**. Couples marking a significant anniversary of their marriage this year who would like to attend this Mass are asked to supply us with their names, wedding date, full postal address and e-mail address, so that we can forward this information to the organisers by Monday 20 April. The **Mass for new Catholics follows on 20 June**, after the return to Ordinary Time, to which all those baptised, received or confirmed at this year’s Easter Vigil are warmly invited.

In our nation, the Easter season includes a vocations weekend for young women in their 20s and 30s who are discerning a call to serve God in the religious life. It is organised by the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ sisters) and it is to take place in Liverpool from 15 to 17 May. For more information contact Sr Lynne FCJ at fcjvocationeurope@gmail.com.

The Easter season lasts until Pentecost Sunday, which makes it slightly longer than Lent. The season of penance that is now behind us has prepared us well for the extended period of joy that we have now entered. As Pope Saint John Paul II famously said in November 1986, “*We are an Easter people and Alleluia is our song.*” Indeed so.

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.