

Reminder: The **Social Centre** is best accessed via the Blandford Street staircase, which leads directly to the Accessible toilet, where there are also baby changing facilities, and the corridor on which the other cloakrooms are located.

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 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.

Room Sought: Quiet professional/St James parishioner seeks room for 6-12 months. Trainee pilot, regular hours. Known to Parish Priest; references available. Contact Ousi: 07432 474060.

On Tuesday 23rd June, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this country. For information on the days of Prayer and Fasting contact The Good Counsel Network on 020 7723 1740, or via www.goodcounselnetwork.com. *"And the people of Ninevah believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least...God saw their efforts to renounce their evil ways. And God relented about the disaster which He had threatened to bring on them, and He did not bring it."* (Jonah 3:5,10)

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
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 LOCATIONS WITHIN THE CHURCH, online at [Give a Little](#) or by using the QR code.



We lack contact details for a number of generous donors whose gifts come directly 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 an extra 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 even 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



Twelfth Sunday in Ordinary Time 21st June 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 pages 73/4
in the green Parish Mass Book

TODAY'S LITURGY [Mass Book page 93]

Jeremiah 20:10-13
'He has delivered the life of the needy from the hand of evildoers.'

In your great mercy, answer me, O Lord.

Romans 5:12-15
'The free gift is not like the trespass.'

Matthew 10:26-33
'Do not fear those who kill the body.'

The Week Ahead

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

M 22nd SS JOHN FISHER and THOMAS MORE
T 23rd feria
W 24th St JOHN THE BAPTIST
T 25th feria
F 26th feria
S 27th St John Southworth 10am
Vigil Mass of Sunday 6pm

28th June 2026

SS PETER and PAUL, Apostles
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

As the **Marylebone Music Festival** draws to a close we are preparing for our annual appearance in Manchester Square for what may well be the best attended Mass of the whole year. It isn't easy to transplant our solemn choral Mass from the church to the square, and it involves a great deal of work for our servers and sacristans, not to mention musicians and carpenters. Nevertheless, we always feel the result is worth it, as we carry out the late Pope Francis's clear instruction to go out of the church and bring the good news of salvation to the people, wherever they are.

As there is no organ in the square, the musicians are accompanied by members of the Orion Orchestra as they sing Mozart's *Missa Brevis* in D, K. 194. Unusually for Saint James's Church, this will include the Credo, in contrast to the usual organ-accompanied Credo III that we sing in church. As this is now the fifth year that we have done this, expectations among festival-goers are becoming established, and we know that people look forward to this opportunity to pray the music of the Mass in its proper liturgical context, not simply as a concert performance.

Summer is here at last, and this Sunday, 21 June, marks the start of so-called "*astronomical summer*", which begins with the longest day, the summer solstice. It is also kept by the Bishops of England and Wales as the **Day for Life**, when we pray especially that life will be respected from conception to natural death. Further information can be found at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/day-for-life/>.

We have a week of feasts awaiting us during the first week of summer. **Monday** is the national feast of **Saints Thomas More and John Fisher**, it being the anniversary of the martyrdom of the latter. Thomas More followed not quite three weeks later, but the two are celebrated together on the same date. Saint John Fisher had been Bishop of Rochester, and he was the one bishop to resist the King's plans to take over the governance of the Church in England, in consequence of his choice to ignore the Pope's refusal to grant an annulment of his first marriage. About a month before his death, John Fisher was created a Cardinal by Pope Paul III, and he is always represented in cardinal's attire, even though he was never free to assume the rank conferred upon him.

Wednesday sees the Solemnity of the **Nativity of Saint John the Baptist**. Indeed, Saint John's mother Elizabeth was said to be in her "*sixth month*" by the angel Gabriel at the time of the Annunciation to Mary (Lk 1:36), so it has always been the tradition of the Church to mark the Baptist's birth six months before that of Our Lord, at the height of summer. There are just three figures whose birth is celebrated in the Church - Saint John the Baptist, Our Lady and Our Lord - all intimately involved in the mystery of our salvation.

Saturday sees the diocesan memorial of **Saint John Southworth**, the elderly priest who was martyred at Tyburn in 1654 after ministering to plague victims in the London area and whose remains are preserved at Westminster Cathedral. These remains were discovered almost a century ago when what had been the English College at Douai, now in northern France, was finally excavated in the course of new building work in the area. Clearly the martyr's body had been taken back to the seminary where he had been formed for the priesthood more than 30 years earlier, and buried there in an unmarked grave. He was beatified by Pope Pius XI in 1929, and that was the occasion for the reinvention of Saint Michael's altar in our church, just behind the far right-hand end of the altar rails, as an altar of the English Martyrs. Saint John Southworth is the prominent figure in the middle of the central panel there, in the painting commissioned from Geoffrey Webb. John Southworth was later canonized by Pope St Paul VI in 1970 as one of the Forty Martyrs of England and Wales.

The memorial of Saint John Southworth is also the day of our annual **SVP bike ride**, the aim of which is to raise funds for people experiencing homelessness or the adverse effects of the cost of living crisis. The plan is to ride from Saint James's Church to Saint Alban's Abbey and back. Details can be found on the posters at the back of the church. Do please consider taking part, if you are free and sufficiently able-bodied, or else consider sponsoring or accompanying those who do.

Finally, next Sunday is the **Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul**, the great founding Apostles of the Church and the greatest of the many martyrs who gave their lives for Christ in the city of Rome. Their feast would normally fall on 29 June, but in this country, Holydays of Obligation that fall on Saturday or Monday are transferred to Sunday. So the Solemnity displaces the ordinary Sunday. This is also the day when we pray especially for the reigning Pope and we hold the annual collection for Peter's Pence, intended to raise money both for the Pope's charitable causes and for the administrative costs of the Holy See. Peter's Pence was originally thought to be an English practice that has now spread all over the world. According to tradition, it was initially offered to the Pope by a Saxon king in atonement for the murder of a neighbouring king. ***There will be a collection for Peter's Pence after each Mass next Sunday.***

Philip Whitmore

A special welcome to our visitors. Refreshments are served in the Social Centre (in the crypt) after the 9.00am Mass. 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.
