

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.

A reminder that the crypt is best accessed via the **staircase on the Blandford Street side** of the church, leading as it does directly to the Disabled toilet - where there are ***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

Parish Pilgrimage to Rome 20th-25th October



Visits to the four major basilicas, each of which will have a Holy Door for Jubilee pilgrims, as well as the two English seminaries, the Vatican, the Catacombs and the English College summer residence on Lake Albano, and much more besides. The cost is likely to be £1,595 per person (sharing a bedroom) or £1,895 per person (single, with limited availability). **Those interested, or wanting further information, contact the parish office.**

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
WRCDD 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 (including both **PARISH and ORGAN appeals**) can be made AT FOUR STATIONS WITHIN THE CHURCH, online at [Give a Little](#) or by using the QR code.



Confessions between 12 noon and 1pm on weekdays.
A priest is available from 4.45pm - 5.30pm on Saturdays

The Church opens at 8am on weekdays and 9am on Saturday

St James's Roman Catholic Church

- *Spanish Place* - 22 George Street, W1U 3QY



THIRD SUNDAY of EASTER

4th May 2025

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

Responses for the Solemn Latin Mass pages 77/8 in the Parish Mass Book

TODAY'S LITURGY

[Parish Mass Book page 259]

Acts 5:27b-32, 40b-41

'We are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit.'

**I will extol you, LORD,
for you have raised me up.**

Revelation 5:11-14

'Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth.'

John 21:1-19

'Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and so with the fish.'

The Week Ahead

Sunday Year C Weekday Cycle I
Mass at 12.30pm and 6.00pm

M 5th	10am ONLY Easter feria
T 6th	Easter feria
W 7th	Easter feria
T 8th	Easter feria
F 9th	Easter feria
S 10th	Easter feria 10am Vigil Mass of Sunday 6pm

11th MAY 2025
**FOURTH SUNDAY
of EASTER**

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

The Reverend Monsignor Philip Whitmore (*Rector*)
The Reverend John Njorteah

The Reverend Mark Elliott-Smith (*in residence, Ordinariate*)

Telephone: 020 7935 0943 [Parish Office: 020 3475 9097]

The Rector writes

Last weekend, we were moved to watch the funeral of Pope Francis - now we prepare for the Conclave, due to begin next Wednesday, 7 May. In accordance with ancient custom, for nine consecutive days, particular celebrations of the Eucharist have been held in Rome in memory of the late Pope, starting with the funeral Mass. That takes us up to Sunday, 4 May. During this period, most of the major office-holders in the Holy See cease to exercise their previous functions, although exceptions are made for those with a vital role to play during the sede vacante period.

Before the start of the **Conclave**, several meetings, or General Congregations of Cardinals, take place, chaired by Cardinal Giovanni Battista Re, the Dean of the College, who presided at the funeral. Cardinal Re is not an elector himself, as he is over 80 years old. On Wednesday morning, he will preside at the Mass **“for the election of the Roman Pontiff”** in Saint Peter’s Basilica, then, on Wednesday afternoon at 4.30pm, the voting cardinals will enter the Conclave. They are accommodated at the Domus Sanctae Marthae in the Vatican, the place where Pope Francis lived throughout his pontificate - he never moved out after the last Conclave! The normal residents of this place, most of whom are priests working in the Secretariat of State, are required to find other places to live in Rome while the Cardinals are lodged there.

Although those actually taking part in the Conclave in the Sistine Chapel are a fairly restricted group, namely Cardinals below the age of 80 (including our own Archbishop, Cardinal Vincent Nichols), the whole Church is asked to pray for the Holy Spirit’s guidance over this vitally important vote. The Apostolic Constitution, *Universi Dominici Gregis*, which sets out the procedures for the election of the Roman Pontiff (https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/apost_constitutions/documents/hf_jp-ii_apc_22021996_universi-dominici-gregis.html), includes the following stipulation:

“I therefore lay down that in all cities and other places, at least the more important ones, as soon as news is received of the vacancy of the Apostolic See and, in particular, of the death of the Pope, and following the celebration of his solemn funeral rites, humble and persevering prayers are to be offered to the Lord (cf. Mt 21:22; Mk 11:24), that he may enlighten the electors and make them so likeminded in their task that a speedy, harmonious and fruitful election may take place, as the salvation of souls and the good of the whole People of God demand.”

With this in view, there will be a **Votive Mass of the Holy Spirit** celebrated in **Westminster Cathedral on Tuesday, 6 May, at 5.30pm** to pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit on the Cardinals gathered in Rome. The principal celebrant of this Mass will be His Excellency the Papal Nuncio, Archbishop Miguel Maury Buendia. All are welcome to attend.

It is usual for Cardinals to elect one of their own number, although technically they are not bound to do so. The successful candidate needs to secure at least two thirds of the votes. A temporary stove and a temporary chimney are set up in the

Sistine Chapel, so that the voting slips can be burned after each ballot. The smoke emerging from the chimney is visible to those gathered in Saint Peter’s Square. Care is taken to ensure that the colour of the smoke gives a signal to the world outside - black smoke indicates an inconclusive result, white smoke indicates that a Pope has been elected. In recent years, white smoke has been seen by the third day of the Conclave - if that trend is continued, we should have a new Pope by next weekend! It is a happy requirement that, after his election, the new Pope receives the homage of all the Cardinal electors, one by one. This tends to take more than an hour, during which time news of the election spreads and the crowds gather in Saint Peter’s Square, so that by the time the new Pope is introduced to the world from the balcony of Saint Peter’s Basilica, a large crowd has gathered below to greet him. Participants in our October Jubilee Pilgrimage to Rome will have the opportunity to meet the new Pope at his Wednesday General Audience.

Clearly the election of a new Pope is the principal news for this week. In other news: on Tuesday 6 May at 7pm at the London Jesuit Centre beside Farm Street Church, the Good Counsel Network will host a talk by The Sisters of Life (NY, USA), on *‘Why Pro-Life Vigils Matter.’* Admission is free. For Further details, contact 07795205117.

Another event taking place at Farm Street on the afternoon of Sunday 18 May is a panel discussion on AI (cf. <https://www.farmstreet.org.uk/events>).

The parish’s **First Holy Communion Mass** is scheduled for next Saturday, 10 May. At the noon Mass on Sunday 11 May, one of the candidates is due to receive her First Holy Communion and one of our RCIA candidates is due to be received into the Church.

As **May is Mary’s month**, the **rosary is prayed each weekday evening in the Lady Chapel after the 6pm Mass**. The Apostolic Letter, *Rosarium Virginis Mariae*, by Saint John Paul II, provides good background reading regarding this beautiful devotion (https://www.vatican.va/content/john-paul-ii/en/apost_letters/2002/documents/hf_jp-ii_apl_20021016_rosarium-virginis-mariae.html).

Next Sunday, a collection will be taken after all Masses for the Priest Training Fund. The fourth Sunday of Easter is kept as **“Good Shepherd Sunday”**, and is the World Day of Prayer for Vocations (cf. <https://worlddayofprayerforvocations.com>). Among our other prayer intentions at this time, let us not overlook the vital need to continue praying that the Lord will send labourers to his harvest.

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.

MONDAY 5th May is a BANK HOLIDAY - Mass at 10am ONLY after which the church will close [therefore no confessions]
