

Radio Maria England is a Catholic radio station offering prayer, catechesis, uplifting music, and inspiring testimonies — 24 hours a day.

Catholic singer-songwriter **Tim Hutchinson and his ensemble** will be performing a **concert here at St James on Saturday the 9th of August at 7:30pm**. The concert is arranged by Radio Maria where Tim has been a voice for almost 3 years and bids him farewell as he prepares to enter the Dominican Order. All are welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

Suggested donation: **£15**. Register at www.RadioMariaEngland.uk

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 the corridor on which the other cloakrooms are located.



Parish Pilgrimage Rome 20th to 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.**

- **MARRIAGE HELP** -
Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage.
Next course: 17th-19th Oct.
www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 0788 7296983

- **MARRIAGE HELP** -
Marriage Care provides a relationship counselling service for couples when life gets tough and it is hard to find a positive solution.
www.marriagecare.org.uk/
TEL: 0800 389 3801

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



St James's Roman Catholic Church

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

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

3rd August 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 73/74 in the [red] Parish Mass Book

TODAY'S LITURGY

[Parish Mass Book page 117]

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 2:21-23

'What has a man from all his toil?'

**O Lord, you have been
our refuge, from
generation to generation.**

Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11

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

Luke 12:13-21

*'The things you have prepared,
whose will they be?'*

The Week Ahead

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

M 4th St John Vianney

T 5th feria

W 6th TRANSFIGURATION

T 7th feria

F 8th St Dominic

S 9th St TERESA BENEDICTA 10am

Vigil Mass of Sunday 6pm

10th August 2025

Nineteenth Sunday

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]

Email: spanishplace@sjrcc.org.uk

Web: www.sjrcc.org.uk

The Rector writes

It was announced earlier this week that **Saint John Henry Newman** (1801-1890) is to be proclaimed a **Doctor of the Church**. This is a great honour for us in England, and our friends at the Oratory must be particularly proud. It is a mark of recognition of the extraordinary value of Newman's extensive writings and the importance of his teaching for the modern world.

People often ask what they should read if they wish to explore Newman's vast output. His prose is very beautiful, indeed he is hailed as one of the greatest Victorian masters of English prose, but the content is not always easy. A good introduction is his autobiographical *"Apologia pro Vita Sua"*, in which he explains what led to his conversion to Catholicism in 1845, a conversion that caused him the loss of much that he held dear, but one that followed logically from his extensive study of the thought of the early Church Fathers. Some of his sermons, such as the *"English Spring"* penned in 1852, shortly after the restoration of the hierarchy, give a good insight into his style.

His hymns are probably the best known of his writings. *"Lead, kindly light"* comes from his Anglican years, but is entirely consistent with his later thought. *"Firmly, I believe and truly"* and *"Praise to the Holiest in the Height"* come from his dramatic poem, *"The Dream of Gerontius"*, written in 1865, after his conversion. This great poem was made even more famous by Sir Edward Elgar, who used it as the basis of an oratorio composed in 1900, after Newman's death - one of Elgar's most ambitious and greatest works.

During his years of study for the priesthood in Rome, Newman developed a great admiration for Saint Philip Neri, the Apostle of Rome and founder of the Congregation of the Oratory. After his ordination as a Catholic priest, he returned to England to found an Oratory in Birmingham. The Oratory in London followed soon afterwards, and now there are several additional Oratories in England and Wales, all of whom look to Saint John Henry Newman as their local founder, while Saint Philip Neri was the original founder.

Newman was beatified by Pope Benedict on his visit to England in 2010, and canonized by Pope Francis in Rome in 2019. King Charles, while still Prince of Wales, was present for the canonization, and for the occasion he authored an article in the Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, in which he said:

"In the age when he lived, Newman stood for the life of the spirit against the forces that would debase human dignity and human destiny. In the age in which he attains sainthood, his example is needed more than ever – for the manner in which, at his best, he could advocate without accusation, could disagree without disrespect and, perhaps most of all, could see differences as places of encounter rather than exclusion."

Wednesday of this coming week sees the great **feast of the Transfiguration**, when we recall the moment of revelation of Christ's glory on Mount Tabor in the presence of just three of his closest disciples, including our own Saint James. We

heard the Gospel account on the second Sunday of Lent, in the context of our preparation for Our Lord's Passion and Resurrection, but now we celebrate the feast in its own right. This is also a moment to remember with gratitude the pontificate of Pope Saint Paul VI, who died on 6 August 1978 at Castel Gandolfo.

On **Friday** of this week we remember **Saint Dominic**, founder of the Order of Preachers. Along with Saint Francis, he revolutionized the style of consecrated life in the medieval church. Previously, the religious orders had adopted monastic withdrawal from the world as their pattern of life. The new mendicant orders of friars lived their consecration very visibly, in the world, and Saint Dominic's order adopted the particular charism of preaching. In many ways Saint Dominic's fame is eclipsed by that of some of the early members of his new order, such as Saint Thomas Aquinas and Saint Catherine of Siena, but they would be the first to pay tribute to their saintly founder. On this occasion we pray especially for our Dominican friends at the Rosary Shrine, Haverstock Hill - the London branch of the Dominicans and the seat of their provincial curia.

Then, on **Saturday 9 August**, we have the feast of a 20th-century saint, Carmelite, martyr and Patron of Europe, **Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross**, known in the world as Edith Stein, the Jewish philosopher who became a Carmelite and died in Auschwitz in 1942. It was our philosopher Pope, Saint John Paul II, who beatified and canonized her and then added her to the list of patrons of Europe in his Motu Proprio of 1999. In that Apostolic Letter, he wrote that she *"not only lived in various countries of Europe, but by her entire life as thinker, mystic and martyr, built a kind of bridge between her Jewish roots and her commitment to Christ, taking part in the dialogue with contemporary philosophical thought with sound intuition, and in the end forcefully proclaiming by her martyrdom the ways of God and man in the horrendous atrocity of the Shoah. She has thus become the symbol of a human, cultural and religious pilgrimage which embodies the deepest tragedy and the deepest hopes of Europe."*

We ask for the intercession of these great saints as we strive to live the Gospel faithfully in 21st-century Europe. Saint John Henry Newman, Saint Dominic, Saint Teresa Benedicta of the Cross, pray for us!

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.

**The Church is open from 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**
