

Come and learn about the [40 Days For Life](#) peaceful prayer vigil happening this year near the abortion centre in Brixton. We will hear the Testimony of a MOTHER WHO CHANGED HER MIND and kept her baby because she met people praying outside an abortion clinic. She will be accompanied by her daughter. **TUESDAY 10th FEBRUARY at 6:30pm**
Our Lady of the Rosary Church Hall, 364 Brixton Road London, SW9 0TH
 For more details visit our website:
<https://www.goodcounselnetwork.com> or contact Jacinta on 07503 151419



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.

A 12 day pilgrimage to Ireland 8 -19 May 2026
Theme: "Purification with the help of the Saints"
Cost: minimum 30 pilgrims - £2295, 40 pilgrims - £2215
this includes hotel accommodation, flights, coach hire, entry fees, etc. For further information, please contact 07733 223903.

Lough Derg Sanctuary,
 Our Lady of Knock Shrine,
 Croagh Patrick, Dublin,
 Skellig Michael and more

To book, please contact Tangney Tours: clare@tangney-tours.com, 01732 886666. Please book early.

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.



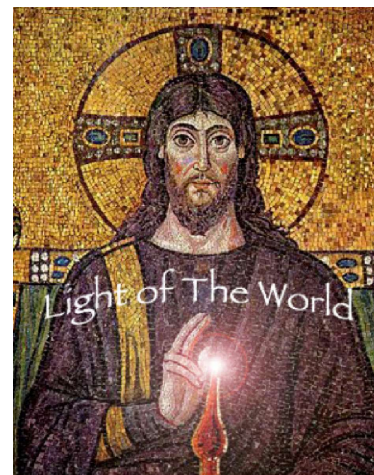
GIFT AID enables the Parish to claim from HMRC an additional 25% of a donor's gift (offertory, candles, mass intentions) and costs you **NOTHING** (apart from your signature). If you are a UK taxpayer please ask for a form - if we are able to identify your earlier gifts we can backdate the claim for up to 4 years.

St James's Roman Catholic Church

- Spanish Place - 22 George Street, W1U 3QY

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

8th February 2026



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

TODAY'S LITURGY - page 133

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

The Week Ahead

Sunday Cycle A Weekday (Week 3) Year II
 Mass on weekdays at 12.30pm and 6.00pm

M 9th feria
T 10th St Scholastica
W 11th Our Lady of Lourdes
T 12th feria
F 13th feria
S 14th SAINTS CYRIL and METHODIUS 10.00am
Vigil Mass of Sunday 6pm

15th February 2026
SIXTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME

8am and 9am[1962]
10.30am Solemn Latin,
 12pm, 4pm & 7pm

Isaiah 58:6-10
'Your light shall break forth like the dawn.'

A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

1 Corinthians 2:1-5
'I proclaimed to you the mystery of Christ crucified.'

Matthew 5:13-16
'You are the light of the world.'

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

This weekend we have an **Appeal** from the **Little Sisters of the Poor** after each Mass. This is the congregation that cared for Monsignor Miles towards the end of his life in their home at Saint Peter's, Vauxhall. They have another care home in London, namely Saint Anne's, Stoke Newington. At each Mass, those present will have an opportunity to meet some of the sisters, who will deliver a short address about their work shortly before the final blessing. I know that parishioners will want to support the Appeal generously.

Wednesday of this coming week is the occasion when we remember **Our Lady of Lourdes** in the liturgy. It is kept as the World Day of the Sick. The shrine of Our Lady, where she appeared to Saint Bernadette in 1858, is associated with many healing miracles, and for that reason it is customary for sick people to travel there on pilgrimage. Many pilgrims make their way to Lourdes in the course of the year, often bringing the sick with them. It is wonderful to see how the sick are effectively the VIP's at the shrine, treated with special reverence and care, given pride of place at the major liturgical celebrations. Our diocesan pilgrimage unfortunately clashes with the feast of Saint James, but there are many other pilgrimages in the course of the year.

The Pope issues an annual message for the World Day of the Sick. As we are still in the first year of the current pontificate, this is Pope Leo's first World Day of the Sick message
cf. <https://press.vatican.va/content/salastampa/en/bollettino/pubblico/2026/01/20/260120d.html>). He has chosen as his theme "*The compassion of the Samaritan: loving by bearing another's pain.*" Drawing on his experience of missionary work in Peru, he commends the example set by the Good Samaritan in the well-known parable from Chapter 10 of Saint Luke's Gospel. He draws inspiration from his two predecessors and from some of the Fathers of the Church, and concludes by proposing a prayer to Our Lady, Health of the Sick: "*Sweet Mother, do not part from me, turn not your eyes away from me. Walk with me at every moment and never leave me alone. You who always protect me as a true Mother; obtain for me the blessing of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.*"

The coming week is designated "**Marriage Week**", and as it also sees the installation of our new archbishop, Richard Moth, an article likening the commitment of the marriage covenant to the mutual commitment between a bishop and his flock has been produced by Deacon Roger Carr-Jones, Marriage and Family Life Coordinator of the diocese. The article can be seen at <https://rcdow.org.uk/marriage-and-family-life/news/with-this-ring-i-pledge-my-love-to-you-/>. Deacon Roger explores in particular the significance of the ring worn both by spouses and by a bishop, as a sign of the public commitment that has been made.

The **episcopal installation** itself, due to take place at **Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 14 February at noon**, is a ticketed event and those to whom tickets have been allotted know already who they are. The previous evening, though, there will be a celebration of Vespers in the Cathedral at 5.30pm, in the presence

of the Archbishop-elect, to which there will be free admission. All are welcome. From next Saturday evening, the name of our new archbishop will be included in the Eucharistic Prayer at each celebration of Mass, since it is our communion with him and his communion with the Pope that makes our Eucharist an authentically Catholic celebration.

In the middle of this month of February (18th, to be precise), we come to **Ash Wednesday** and the **start of the season of Lent**. This period of fasting and penance, in preparation for the celebration of Easter, has special significance for the catechumens and candidates who are preparing for baptism or reception into the Church and confirmation at the Easter Vigil this year. We keep them particularly in our prayers at this time. On the **first Saturday of Lent, 21 February**, the new archbishop will welcome them at the **Rite of Election** in the Cathedral as they embark upon this crucial stage in their journey of faith.

Parishioners will be glad to know that **Father John Njorteah** sends fond greetings from Nigeria. He has been asked by his archbishop to lead St. Gregory's College, Ikoyi. To begin with, he will shadow the current school leader - Fr Emmanuel Ayeni - and then he will fully assume the position at the start of the third term after the Easter holidays. We hope to see him from time to time on his visits to London. He greatly enjoyed his years at St James's and looks forward to meeting parishioners again.

Our worshippers will have noticed, no doubt, that the church is now pleasantly warm as the work on the boiler replacement is nearing completion. Similarly, the tent installed by the engineers in the Social Centre has now gone, as the engineers no longer need that space in which to relax. Let us hope that we can now enjoy a satisfactory level of heating throughout the church and the Hall, and that the fuel bills will be significantly lower as a result of this more efficient heating system.

As Cardinal Nichols said in his recent farewell celebration, archbishops come and go, but the real continuity in our diocesan life is founded on the firm faith of the people. Amid all the world's changes, one firm anchor holds fast, and that is our faith in Christ our Saviour, Redeemer of the world.

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.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 23rd May 2026 at 2:30pm.

The Archbishop is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2026.

If you are celebrating an anniversary, please provide the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and contact email (or telephone number, if no email).