

Church of the Immaculate Conception - Farm Street



Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time 22nd August 2021

PARISH CLERGY

Fr Dominic Robinson SJ, Parish Priest
Fr Chris Pedley SJ; Fr Michael Holman SJ

REGULARLY ASSISTING CLERGY

Fr Damian Howard SJ; Fr Paul Nicholson SJ
Fr Adrian Porter SJ; Fr Laco Sulik SJ;
Fr Michael Bossy SJ

PARISH STAFF

George McCombe, Parish Secretary
Email: farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk
Tel: 07561 611 248

Patricia Morgan, Finance Officer
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David Graham, Director of Music
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Leninha Assis, Catechist
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Kevin De Souza, Sacristan
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Sebastian Cichocki, Maintenance
Email: scichocki@jesuit.org.uk

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Steven Fachada, farmstreetppcchair@rcdow.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING OFFICER

Debbie Martin, farmstreetsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

Parish Office

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TELEPHONE: 020 7493 7811
E-MAIL: farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk
WEBSITE: www.farmstreet.org.uk

MASS SCHEDULE

Monday to Friday: 8am, 1.05pm, & 6pm

Saturday: 8am & 6pm

Sunday: 8am, 9.30am (Family), 11am (Latin), 12.30pm,
5.30pm, & 7pm (Young Adult, 18-35)

The dispensation from Sunday obligation remains in effect until further notice. All Masses can be viewed on our livestreaming page

<https://www.farmstreet.org.uk/livestream>

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday to Friday: 12 noon to 1pm

CONFESSIONS

Monday to Friday: 12 noon - 1pm

Saturday: 10am to 12 noon; 5.45pm – 6pm

Sunday: Fifteen minutes before every Mass
Also by appointment

BAPTISM AND WEDDINGS

By appointment.

CHURCH OPENING HOURS

Monday to Saturday: 7.30am - 6.30pm

Sunday: 7.30am – 7.00pm

LONDON JESUIT CENTRE

For more information, contact Anne Paolino at apaolino@jesuit.org.uk

Sunday Homilies & Articles Weekly newsletter articles are uploaded to our website on a weekly basis. They can be viewed at <https://www.farmstreet.org.uk/weekly-articles>. Our website also contains an archive of previous Sunday homilies.

Social Media

Farm Street Church has an active presence on social media, and we regularly update our Twitter account and Facebook page with information relating to the parish and the wider Catholic community.

HELP US TO HAVE PERFECT TRUST

Three weeks ago, on the feast of St Ignatius, the London Jesuit community celebrated mass with the parishioners of St Ignatius, Stamford Hill. Fr Damian Howard, our provincial, celebrated the mass and I gave the homily. On that morning, the church had as large a congregation as I had seen in the last 16 months which was an encouragement to us all.

After mass, I was standing outside the church, on the busy Tottenham High Road, when a parishioner came up to me and asked if I knew the prayer attributed to St Ignatius for those suffering from depression. I had to confess that I didn't, but I would be interested in seeing it. A few days later, I received several copies of this prayer in the post. I liked what I read. Here it is.

O Christ Jesus,
when all is darkness
and we feel our weakness and helplessness,
give us the sense of Your presence,
Your love, and Your strength.
Help us to have perfect trust
in Your protecting love
and strengthening power,
so that nothing may frighten or worry us,
for, living close to You,
we shall see Your hand,
Your purpose, Your will through all things. Amen.

Mental health is more often talked about these days. This is partly because the pandemic has been so hard for many people, especially for those who have felt the isolation of living and working from home, and partly because a number of prominent people have had the courage to speak about their own troubles which has in turn helped many others speak about theirs. This is altogether good since it not only helps others to understand and provide those who suffer with help but also to reflect on their own mental wellbeing.

I find this prayer attributed to St Ignatius a great help for a number of reasons. Firstly, because it speaks of darkness, weakness and helplessness. This is the reality of some people's lives, in all likelihood of all our lives at some time or another, and naming suffering in this way enables those affected by depression to put a name to their own suffering which can surely be an important stage on the road to healing.

Secondly, Ignatius speaks about the Jesus who is present: his is a protecting and strengthening presence. It is consoling, to say the least, that when we feel most

abandoned, the Lord is with us in this way, in precisely the way we need him. Indeed, Ignatius speaks about our living at these times, "close to you".

All of which, thirdly, helps us to trust. With him at our side in this way, "nothing may frighten or worry us". We shall see his hand, his purpose in all things. Once again, it can be consoling to think that suffering of this kind may have a purpose, hard though it is to see.

I am sure that one of the ways in which we are being called at this time to serve our brothers and sisters is to walk with those who are suffering from mental ill health. This requires great patience, self-restraint and a listening ear. We are not asked to give answers so much as to show compassion and offer steady support. As well as helping those suffering from depression, this prayer can also help those who are accompanying them to enter somewhat into the darkness and helplessness of another, to know the Lord is not only present but very close, to offer something of his protecting love and strengthening power and so to trust.

Fr Michael Holman SJ

Liturgical Calendar

Sun: Twenty-First Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mon: Feria; St Rose of Lima, Virgin
Tue: St Bartholomew, Apostle
Wed: Feria; St Louis; St Joseph Calasanz, Priest
Thu: Feria; Blessed Dominic of the Mother of God, Priest
Fri: St Monica
Sat: St Augustine, Bishop & Doctor
Sun: Twenty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Daily Bible Readings

Sun: Joshua 24:1-2,15-18; Ephesians 5:21-32; John 6:60-69
Mon: I Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 23:13-22
Tue: Apocalypse 21:9-14; John 1:45-51
Wed: I Thessalonians 2:9-13; Matthew 23:27-32
Thu: I Thessalonians 3:7-13; Matthew 24:42-51
Fri: Ecclesiasticus 26:1-16; Luke 7:11-17
Sat: I John 4:7-16 2:2-8; Matthew 23:8-12
Sun: Deuteronomy 4:1-8; James 1:17-27; Mark 7:1-23

Sunday Refreshments

Refreshments are served in the Arrupe Hall after the Sunday 9.30am, 11am, and 5.30pm Masses (*refreshments after 5.30pm Mass on 2nd and 4th Sundays only*). All are welcome to join us for a cup of tea or coffee and fellowship. We look forward to seeing you!

Mass intention

If you would like a Mass to be celebrated for a specific intention, please contact the Parish Secretary at farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk

MARCH FOR LIFE

The March for Life will take place this year in London on **Saturday 4th September**. The March for Life is the largest pro-life march in the UK, and it provides a necessary opportunity to speak up for the value and sanctity of life from the moment of conception. There will be events from 10am to 1pm in the Emmanuel Centre. The march itself will begin outside the Emmanuel Centre at 1.30pm, concluding with speeches in Parliament Square. The recent efforts to entirely decriminalize abortion, combined with an increasing number of local authorities prohibiting pro-life witness, means that it is more important than ever for people to come together and speak up in defence of the unborn. For more information, visit <https://www.marchforlife.co.uk/>

Face Covering Notice

In order to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and to respect the safety of all, we request that you wear a face covering in the church, unless you are exempt from doing so. Thank you for your cooperation

Confirmations 2021

The next programme for the Sacrament of Confirmation (teens age 14+) begins at the end of **September 2021**. To register, please contact farmstcatechist@rcdow.org.uk by the 27th September 2021.

The Pope's Monthly Prayer Intention

In the month of August, Pope Francis encourages us to pray for the Church. Let us pray especially that the Church may receive from the Holy Spirit the grace and strength to reform herself in the light of the Gospel.

Living Laudato Si'

The Ecological Conversion Group is offering two weekends of talks and discussions via Zoom, and practical activities, on living the message of Laudato Si' in and through the parish. The first weekend will take place from **3rd to 6th September**, with **Cardinal Vincent Nichols** and Bishop Paul Swarbrick delivering a prayer and reflection at the opening and close of the weekend. The second will take place from 15th to 18th October with Bishop Alan Williams and Bishop Mark O'Toole. For more details, e-mail Sr Margaret Atkins on margaret@boarbankhall.org.uk

Jesuit Missions Appeal

On Saturday 4th and Sunday 5th September, Lynn McWilliams from Jesuit Missions will be visiting Farm Street Church to make their annual appeal. Jesuit Missions supports Jesuits and their partners who work with poor and marginalised people in Africa, Asia and Amazonia. A diverse range of projects, including environmental sustainability, skills training, women's empowerment, and education work to create a more just world. Lynn will also be sharing information about the Jesuit Missions COP26 Growing Our Future campaign and environmental justice for Creation Sunday. Learn more about our programmes and ways that you can get involved. Jesuit Missions Gift Aid envelopes will be available to complete. Jesuit Missions is part of the international Xavier Network. For more information see <https://jesuitmissions.org.uk>

London Jesuit Centre

The London Jesuit Centre is a place for the teaching and discussion of theology, the study and practice of the spiritual life, and engagement with issues of social and environmental justice, for the greater glory of God and the common good. It offers a programme of events, courses, and retreats. It is also a centre for individual spiritual direction and training and professional development in spiritual accompaniment. All are welcome to participate in the London Jesuit Centre programme. For more information, please visit <https://londonjesuitcentre.org/>. To sign up to their regular email to receive news, event listings, and exciting ways how you can get involved, please visit <https://londonjesuitcentre.us4.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=ba5b3aa1bbd112142962fd5fd&id=ce6d0b5750>

Supporting the Parish

We continue to be grateful to everyone who has financially supported the church during the year of disruption caused by the pandemic. We are mindful that many people are struggling financially and may not be able to donate as they once did. If you can donate to the work of the parish, we would ask that you consider doing so in a way that avoids physical cash. Please consider donating via our website, setting up a standing order, or donating via the cashless terminals in the church. We are also implementing a new donating system called Givt, which will allow contactless donations via mobile phones. If you would like to donate via standing order, please contact the parish Finance Officer at farmstreetfin@rcdow.org.uk. Thank you again for your support.