



Jesuit Church of The Immaculate Conception

FARM STREET

Welcome to Farm Street Church, our vibrant and engaging Catholic Parish in the heart of London

www.farmstreet.org.uk



**Our Lord Jesus Christ,
King of the Universe
26th November 2023**

**YEAR A
TODAY'S RESPONSES**

ENTRY

How worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and divinity, and wisdom and strength and honour. To him belong glory and power for ever and ever.

RESPONSE

*The Lord is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.*

ACCLAMATION

*Blessings on him who comes in the name of the Lord!
Blessings on the coming of our father David!*

COMMUNION

*The Lord sits as King for ever.
The Lord will bless his people with peace.*

PARISH OFFICE

ADDRESS: 114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH

TELEPHONE: 020 7529 4829

E-MAIL: farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk

PARISH CLERGY

Fr Dominic Robinson SJ, Parish Priest
Fr Nicholas King SJ; Fr Michael Holman SJ

REGULARLY ASSISTING CLERGY

Fr Michael Barnes SJ; Fr David Birchall SJ;
Fr Peter Gallagher SJ

SAFEGUARDING OFFICE

Debbie Martin, Email:
farmstreetsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk

CHURCH OPENING HOURS

Monday to Saturday: 7.30am - 6.30pm
Sunday: 7.30am – 7.00pm

MASS TIMES

Monday to Friday: 8:00 | 13:05 | 18:00
Saturday: 8:00 | 18:00 (vigil)
Sunday: 8:00 | 09:30 (Family) | 11:00 (Solemn), 12:30 | 17:30 | 19:00 (Young Adult, 18-35)
Join us for a coffee after the 9:30 and 11:00 Mass.

All Masses can be viewed on our livestreaming page
<https://www.farmstreet.org.uk/livestream>

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

Monday to Friday: 12:00-13:00

CONFESSIONS

Monday to Friday: 12:00 – 12:55
Saturday: 10:00 to 12:00; 17:45 – 17:55
Sunday: Fifteen minutes before every Mass
Also by appointment

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

The Mass times for the Christmas period will be as follows:

- *Christmas Eve – 8am, 9.30am, 11am, & 12.30pm Mass
(Sun 24th Dec.) as normal
 - 4pm, First Vigil Mass of Christmas
 - 6pm, Children's Mass
 - 11.30pm, Carols
 - Midnight Mass
- *Christmas Day – 8am, Mass
(Mon 25th Dec)
 - 9.30am, Family Mass
 - 11am, Solemn Mass
 - 12.30pm, Mass
- * Boxing Day to
Friday 29th - 1.05pm Mass only
- * Saturday 30th
- & Sunday 31st - Normal Mass schedule
- * Monday 1st January – 12 Noon Mass
- Tuesday 2nd January – Normal schedule resumes

Please note that there will be no 7pm Young Adult Mass on the 24th or 31st December.

Catholic Listeners

Catholic Listeners is a confidential telephone helpline service. A Diocese of Westminster initiative, it has been set up for those who are returning to the faith. The helpline is all about listening to others, listening to those who might have become isolated due to the pandemic. This service is based on the Landings ethos of compassionate listening. Although not a counselling service, the helpline is staffed by a professional team of volunteers who are trained to signpost callers to other services and agencies. Sometimes just communicating with someone who listens and understands can help clarify a way forward. Simply talking about a problem can ease a burden. We aim to help those in need of a safe space to talk. Operating three days a week from 4pm-7pm on Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays calls are free on **0800 448 0704** For further information please email us at Catholiclisteners@gmail.com or visit our website at www.CatholicListeners.com.

Catholic Listeners are here to listen.

Welcome

If this is your first time here, we would like to especially welcome you to Farm Street, our vibrant and engaging Catholic parish in the heart of London. We aim to welcome all who come to our church to share in our faith and fellowship. Please do introduce yourself to a member of the clergy. You will always be most welcome here.
Fr. Dominic Robinson, SJ
Parish Priest

Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception

We will be celebrating our Patronal Feast on **Friday 8th December**. Mass will be celebrated at 8am, 1.05pm, and 6pm. The 6pm Mass will be a solemn Mass followed by refreshments. All most welcome to this very special occasion.

World AIDS Day Mass

The Mass for World AIDS Day will be celebrated at Farm Street Church at 6pm on **Friday 1st December**. This will be followed by refreshments in the Cana Lounge. All most welcome.

Farm Street Church Carol Service

Farm Street Church will be having its own parish service of nine lessons and carols on **Tuesday 12th December** at 7pm. Music will be provided by the renowned Farm Street Choir. Refreshments will be provided afterwards in the Arrupe Hall. All are most welcome. Do come along for what is sure to be an enjoyable and festive evening.

**Vatican II Documents – Faith Sharing Group
Tuesday Evenings 7.00-8.30pm in the Bellarmine Room at 114 Mount Street**

21st November – Dogmatic Constitution on the Church (Lumen Gentium)
28th November – Dogmatic Constitution on Divine Revelation (Dei Verbum)
5th December – Pastoral Constitution on the Church in the Modern World (Gaudium et Spes)
You are welcome to drop in for one session or come to them all. Facilitated by Colette Joyce, 07593 434905. Contact Fr Dominic at dominicrobinson@rcdow.org.uk for more info.

**Monthly Memorial Prayer Vigil
for refugees and asylum-seekers**

On the 3rd Monday of every month outside the Home Office SW1P 4DF from 12.30pm – 1.30pm. Praying for:
*Those who died trying to reach the UK
*Victims of current wars
*Those in detention & who are homeless
*The UK to be a more welcoming nation
Sign up to receive email news & alerts of changes or cancellations at: homeofficevigil@gmail.com

Blessing on the Ground Floor Corridor

On Sunday 3rd December we welcome Canon Paul Wright, Sub-Dean of the Queen's Chapel at St James's Palace, to participate in an ecumenical blessing of the new icon of St Claude la Colombière to be hung in the newly named Claude la Colombière Room. The icon has been written and donated to Farm Street by Dr Irina Bradley, Chief Icon Writer at the Prince's Foundation



CHRIST THE KING

Today we come very close to the end of the Church's Year, with the extraordinary feast of Christ the King. Now we need to look very carefully at this feast, to make sure that it is not an outbreak of triumphalism. For calling Christ our "King" might be conjuring up an image of a victorious king who could never be defeated, making sure that we are on the winning side; well that is true of course, but our king is one who was unfashionably vulnerable and who died that horrible death. It may be helpful to look at what the readings tell us about this "King" of ours. And the image that they project is that remarkable Old Testament picture of God as our "Shepherd". So in that first reading, the prophet Ezekiel makes it clear that what is expected of such a shepherd, is that he looks after the sheep, rather than using them as a source of money or votes. Because our God is one who is on the side of the poor and the marginalized; and we may reflect how good it would be if all the politicians of our time were to walk under his banner. Instead, we see them as the reading puts it, "butting the weak sheep with their horns". That is not the kind of Shepherd that is Christ our King.

Inevitably, the psalm for today is that loveliest of all Old Testament songs, "the Lord is my shepherd"; and, once again, we see that "King" does not mean "one who brings us military victory", but that gentle leader who looks after the weak and powerless, even when they "walk in the Valley of the Shadow of Death"; instead, we are invited to reflect on where this King will take us: "green pastures... still waters... paths of righteousness". This is a King who is worth following, as the old year shifts into the new.

Then the second reading, from near the end of Paul's first letter to Corinth, does not really mention the idea of "shepherd"; instead we find a rather different way of looking at the kingship of Christ. In this way of seeing it, the main thing we are invited to watch is the "resurrection of Christ". Here Jesus is described as "the first fruits of the dead", who hands over his Kingdom to God, including the "Last Enemy", which is Death. So the final enemy is to be conquered, and "God will be All in All". That is something that we eagerly await.

In the gospel for today we are back to the idea of "Shepherd". At first it all sounds rather grand, for he is enthroned "in glory, all his angels with him". So it is a demonstration of power; however this "King" has some surprises in store: for one thing, "all the nations shall be gathered before him".

Then he will perform the action that you can still see being done at the end of each day in the Judean desert, of separating sheep from goats. Here, however, it is a metaphor for what is expected of the disciples of the "King" whom we are invited to celebrate today. For if we are to be servants of this particular monarch, it turns out that we are not, after all, going to be clad in grand livery and drive around in Rolls-Royces. Instead, this King demands of us that we are to give him food and drink and clothing and visits when he is sick or in prison. Above all, we do not wish to hear from our King those terrible words that "I was hungry, and you gave me nothing to eat; I was thirsty, and you gave me nothing to drink; I was an immigrant, and you failed to gather me in; I had no clothes, and you did not give me anything to wear; I was sick and in prison, and you never visited me". Our King is one who can reasonably demand only the best of us; but we may be taken by surprise when we learn what that implies. Let us end our year with generous service to those whom God most loves; that way we shall indeed be worshipping the Lord as Christ the King.

Fr Nicholas King SJ

November Praying for the Dead

November is the month traditionally dedicated to praying for the dead. During the month of November, we will be praying for the faithful departed regularly at Mass. If you would like somebody to be remembered, please write their name(s) on the forms for this purpose at the back of the church and put in the designated wooden box. These names will then be placed on the altar during Mass to be prayed for.

Parish Prayer List

We pray for those in the parish who are sick: Debra Minty Baker, Marie Carroll Copestake, Felicity Ann Croft, Kyllikki Edelshain, Christian Engelhart, Asoka Fernando, Lady Antonia Fraser, Christopher Halliday, Caroline Harkink, Erin Lillis, Nikhin, Laura Marani, Donald Mathieson, Robert McCormack, Helen Murphy, Millon Nigussie, Ottilie, Graziella Pirovano, Mrs Katerina Porter, Sarah Esparza Regalado, Ian Rice, George Tabor, Francis Walsh, Natalie Williams, Anna Wright, & Michael Wymes

The LORD sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness you restore him to full health. Psalm 41:3
We pray for those in the parish who have recently died.

Paul Mphothandisizwe Mtimkulu
Requiescant in pace

Prayer intentions

Please consider asking for particular prayer intentions at Mass and the lamp before Our Lady of Farm Street. Contact the Parish Office or speak to the sacristan for information on how to make your requests. Details of Mass intentions are on the notice board outside of the sacristy.

The lamp this week is lit for Alessandro Patel's intention.

Sunday Refreshments

Refreshments are normally served in the Arrupe Hall after the 9.30am, 11am and 5.30pm Sunday Masses (second & fourth Sunday only for 5.30pm).

9.30am Mass Hymns

Entrance	321	Crown him with many crowns
Offertory	290	The head that once was crowned
Communion	938	Soul of my Saviour
Recessional	320	Hail, Redeemer, King divine

11am Solemn Mass Music List

Prelude	Fantasia in G-minor (BWV542) <i>JS Bach</i>	
Mass	Nelson Mass	<i>Haydn</i>
Motets	Cantemus Domini	<i>Rossini</i>
	Ave verum corpus	<i>Mawby</i>
Postlude	Fugue in G-minor (BWV542) <i>JS Bach</i>	

Liturgical Calendar

Sun:	Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Ezekiel 34:11-17; I Corinthians 15:20-28; Matthew 25:31-46
Mon:	Feria Daniel 1:1-20; Luke 21:1-4
Tue:	Feria Daniel 2:31-45; Luke 21:5-11
Wed:	Feria; Bl Bernard de Hoyos SJ Daniel 5:1-28; Luke 21:12-19
Thu:	St Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22
Fri:	Ss Edmund Campion, Robert Southwell & Companions SJ (Friday abstinence) Daniel 7:2-14; Luke 21:29-33
Sat:	Feria Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday Daniel 7:15-27; Luke 21:34-36
Sun:	First Sunday of Advent Isaiah 63:16-64:8; I Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:33-37

Canal Lunch Café

On Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, a café lunchtime café operates in the Canal Lounge at 114 Mount Street. Freshly made sandwiches and soup are available for a very reasonable suggested donation. The café operates between 12 noon and 2pm.

Tim Hetherington Film Club at Farm Street
Next showing: **Arrupe Hall 6.30pm for 7.00pm on Thursday 30 November 2023**

Cost: free – with drinks and refreshments (donations welcome)

Presenting: **'Karol A Man who became Pope'** (2005, 186 minutes) part two

Booking invited (but not necessary) at dthurst52@gmail.com

The next Film Club presentation will be **Karol A Man who became Pope** which details the life of Pope John-Paul II, from his youth as a writer, actor, and athlete in war-torn Poland to his election as Pope at the age of 58. This film shows an extraordinary and moving journey through 50 years of history, with an outstanding soundtrack from multi-award winner Ennio Morricone. **This is the second part of this remarkable film.**

Radio Maria Concert

Usher in the festive season with a charity Christmas concert in support of Radio Maria England. Join us for 'Wanderings' on December 5th at 7:30pm in the beautiful and intimate setting of St. Wilfrid's Hall at the Brompton Oratory for a magical evening of solo piano and song. From Schubert lieder to Beethoven sonatas, with award-winning pianist Rachael Shipard and baritone Christian Jenkins. The concert will be fundraising for Radio Maria England, the country's only Catholic radio station broadcasting over the airwaves, a Christian voice by your side. Refreshments will be provided. Book tickets at RadioMariaEngland.uk/events/

Night Shelter Volunteers

Farm Street Church is intending to participate in a night shelter during the coldest winter months. This will involve having homeless guests sleep in the Arrupe Hall and will be modelled on the winter night shelter that we ran at 114 Mount Street from 2015 to 2019. Volunteers will be needed for this. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Fr Dominic or send an email to centrallondoncatholicchurches@gmail.com

Faith and Us

A series of short lunchtime talks on issues relating to faith. Talks will begin at 1.35pm in the Canal Lounge at 114 Mount Street and will last fifteen minutes, followed by time for discussion.

Week 1. 5th October. Faith & Environment

Week 2. 12th October. Faith & Business

Week 3. 19th October. Faith & Work

Week 4. 26th October. Faith & Science

Week 5. 2nd November. Faith & Death

Week 6. 9th November. Faith & Mental Health

Week 7. 16th November. Faith & Scripture

Week 8. 23rd November. Faith & The Parish Community

Week 9. 30th November. Faith & The Margins