

# Church of the Immaculate Conception - Farm Street



**Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> May 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

## **PARISH STAFF**

George McCombe, Parish Secretary  
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## **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN**

Steven Fachada, [farmstreetppcchair@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:farmstreetppcchair@rcdow.org.uk)

## **SAFEGUARDING OFFICER**

Debbie Martin, [farmstreetsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:farmstreetsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

## **Parish Office**

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**WEBSITE:** [www.farmstreet.org.uk](http://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

By appointment

## **BAPTISM AND WEDDINGS**

By appointment. Dates are subject to lockdown developments.

## **CHURCH OPENING HOURS**

**Monday to Saturday:** 7.30am - 6.30pm

**Sunday:** 7.30am – 7.00pm

## **LONDON JESUIT CENTRE**

All events are suspended until further notice. For more information, contact Anne Paolino at [apaolino@jesuit.org.uk](mailto: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 a strong 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.

## THE VINE AND THE BRANCHES

For many people one of the consequences of Covid19 and the lockdown has been a loss of connection with people. The ordinary ways in which we meet each other have not been possible. We have not been able to go and visit family and friends, we have not been able to gather for events, even the everyday contact of things like going shopping has been much reduced. This has left many people, especially those living alone, isolated. We can be grateful that we live in an age where telephone calls, Zoom, social media and livestreaming are possible and these have helped to keep us together to some extent, however, they are not the same as meeting face to face.

In the Church we have been fortunate. We have been able to gather for Mass for longer than for most events. Gradually people have been feeling that it is safe to return. However, there are still restrictions, and we have to disperse afterwards rather than being able to gather and socialise as we normally would.

All this makes today's Gospel, where Jesus talks about the connectedness of his disciples, especially poignant. He uses the image of the vine and the branches. The image of the people of God as a vineyard is one which is familiar from the Old Testament and one which Jesus himself uses a number of times in the Gospel. Here Jesus tells us we are all connected because we are all part of the vine who is Christ. We can only bear fruit if we are connected to the vine. This interconnectedness is fundamental to what it is to be a Christian. Our relationship is not simply one of "me and God". Being a Christian involves being part of a community, part of the Church, part of the vine. We need that connection, we need that community, to enable us to bear fruit. As we come back together, we can renew those visible reminders of being part of a community, can begin to gather and share, in person and not just virtually.

Jesus ends by telling us that, "It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit and then you will be my disciples. What is this fruit? Next week we will hear Jesus saying, "love on another as I have loved you". In today's second reading John says, "Our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active". The fruit we are called to bear is a love which is a reflection of the love shown by Christ in his Cross and Resurrection. Indeed, the passage on which we have been reflecting comes from the Last Supper discourse, where Jesus is speaking to his disciples just before his passion. One of the encouraging things about the experience of the pandemic has been the way

that people have show self-giving love to those around them. We think of those in the health service and other services who have gone out of their way to care for others, including people who had retired on gone on to other jobs who came back to work in health care. We think, too, of those who have gone out of their way to keep in touch with those who were isolated. We think of our own volunteers here working providing lunches for the homeless twice a week. As we come back into physical contact with each other there will be new ways in which we are called to show that self-giving love of Christ to those around us, new ways in which we are called to bear fruit.

**Fr Chris Pedley S.J.**

### Liturgical Calendar

**Sun:** Fifth Sunday of Easter  
**Mon:** Ss Philip and James, Apostles  
**Tue:** The English Martyrs  
**Wed:** St Jose Maria Rubio SJ, Priest  
**Thu:** Easter feria  
**Fri:** Easter feria  
**Sat:** Easter feria  
**Sun:** Sixth Sunday of Easter

### Daily Bible Readings

**Sun:** Acts 9:26-31; I John 3:18-24; John 15:1-8  
**Mon:** I Corinthians 15:1-8; John 14:6-14  
**Tue:** Acts 7:55-60; Matthew 10:17-20  
**Wed:** Acts 15:1-6; John 15:1-8  
**Thu:** Acts 15:7-21; John 15:9-11  
**Fri:** Acts 15:22-31; John 15:12-17  
**Sat:** Acts 16:1-10; John 15:18-21  
**Sun:** Acts 10:25-48; I John 4:7-10; John 15:9-17

### Have you been away from the Church and seeking a way back to your faith?

Landings, the programme for returning Catholics, is run by regular Church goers and those who themselves have returned after doing the Landings programme. Through a series of storytelling, discussion topics, and prayers returnees are able to have their voices heard through compassionate listening in a confidential space where trust and hospitality are integral.

We know that many have been away from the Church for a while and there is a great yearning to reconnect with their faith, especially after the past year of lockdown and the ensuing isolation.

If you, or anyone you know is considering reconnecting with their faith then do please email Fr. Dominic Robinson at [landingsuk@gmail.com](mailto:landingsuk@gmail.com) or Ruby Almeida at [landingsouth@gmail.com](mailto:landingsouth@gmail.com)

## Bank Holiday

As Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> May is a Bank Holiday, the church will not open until 11am. Confessions will be heard at noon and Mass will be celebrated at 1.05pm, after which the church will be closed for the remainder of the day.

## Scripture Speaks

*“Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might. He changes times and seasons; He removes kings and sets up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding; He reveals deep and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness, and the light dwells with him. To you, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, for you have given me wisdom and might, and have now made known to me what we asked of you, for you have made known to us the king's matter.” Daniel 2:20-23*

## London Marathon

The London Marathon will take place this year on Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> October. This may seem like a long time off, but perhaps it might be worth turning your mind to training to run this year to support Jesuit Missions? For more information, contact: [joelene@jesuitmissions.org.uk](mailto:joelene@jesuitmissions.org.uk)

## The Pope's Monthly Prayer Intention

In the month of May, Pope Francis encourages us to pray for the world of finance. Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate financial markets and protect citizens from its dangers.

## The Day of the Lord

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales have issued a reflection on post-pandemic recovery and the challenges faced by the Church in encouraging people back to the Church and her sacraments. The full text can be read here: <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/bishops-encourage-catholics-to-place-sunday-mass-at-the-heart-of-their-post-pandemic-lives/>

## May Rosary Novena

We are planning an international rosary novena, with a rosary being said every hour across the twenty-four time zones of the world from the 23<sup>rd</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> May. For this to work, we need 216 participants to agree to pray the rosary in a booked time slot. The aim is for one rosary to be said every hour during the 9 days. Please email [Novenas@farmstreetchurch.com](mailto:Novenas@farmstreetchurch.com) to join us or for more information.

## 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](mailto:farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk)

## Help the Homeless Donation Hub

The Companions of the Order of Malta's Donation hub is looking for donations for the 600 - 800 homeless supported in the hotels.

Hub address: St Joseph's Hall, Brompton Oratory, 5 Thurloe Place, Knightsbridge, London SW7 2RR.

Items required: Men's and women's clothes and shoes (not children's clothes please)

Toiletries – unopened please

Entertainment items e.g. books/crosswords/puzzles/art and craft items (No Recipe books please)

### Please see the times for dropping off donations:

Tuesday 1.30 -4pm & 6.30 -7.30pm (by arrangement);  
Wednesday 2 – 4pm; Saturday 10 – 11am

**Please contact Kate MacKenzie on [companions.london@orderofmalta.org.uk](mailto:companions.london@orderofmalta.org.uk) if you would like to deliver some donations. Please do not leave them at the church.**

## Face Covering Update

‘Face coverings will be mandatory in Places of Worship from Saturday 8th August 2020. All those who are attending churches must wear a face covering unless they are exempt from doing so. This is for the good of all who gather in the Church for Mass [or for private prayer] as it is an enclosed public space where there are people from differing households who they do not normally meet.’ (Statement issued by the Bishops’ Conference).

## A Prayer if Anxious

*Do not look forward in fear to the changes in life;  
rather, look to them with full hope that as they arise,  
God, whose very own you are,  
will lead you safely through all things;  
and when you cannot stand it,  
God will carry you in His arms.  
Do not fear what may happen tomorrow;  
the same understanding Father who cares for  
you today will take care of you then and every day.  
He will either shield you from suffering  
or will give you unfailing strength to bear it.  
Be at peace,  
and put aside all anxious thoughts and imaginations.  
St Francis De Sales*

## Supporting the Parish

We continue to be grateful to everyone who has financially support 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](mailto:farmstreetfin@rcdow.org.uk). Thank you again for your support.

### 11am Music list for Fifth Sunday of Easter

Introit \* Cantate Domino – Claudio Monteverdi  
*Sing unto the Lord a new song because he has done marvellous things.*

Kyrie, Gloria Chanted (Missa Orbis Factor)

Alleluia \* Purcell.  
*Christus resurgens ex mortuis iam non moritur: Mors illi ultra non dominabitur.*

Offertory \* Jubilate Deo universa terra – Richard Dering  
*Shout joyfully to God, all the earth; sing a psalm in honour to his name. Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell you what great things the Lord has done for my soul.*

Communion #\* Ave virgo gloriosa – Richard Dering  
*Hail glorious virgin, sweeter than honey from the honeycomb. Glorious Mother of God, star brighter than the sun. You are the beautiful one, than whom nothing is fairer. Redder than the rose, whiter than the lily.*

Agnus Dei (Missa choralis “Orbis Factor”) – Vincenz Goller

### Scripture Speaks

*“We wait in hope for the LORD; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love be with us, LORD, even as we put our hope in you.”*

Psalm 33:20-22

### Act of Perfect Contrition

*My God, I am sorry for my sins with all my heart. In choosing to do wrong and failing to do good, I have sinned against You, whom I should love above all things. I firmly intend, with Your help, to do penance, to sin no more, to avoid whatever leads me to sin, and to confess my sins when possible.*

### Act of Spiritual Communion

*Jesus, I believe you are present in the most holy sacrament of the Eucharist. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You and draw closer to You. Since I cannot receive Your body and blood sacramentally at this time, come to me spiritually. Help me to embrace You more deeply and unite myself more wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from Your love. Amen*