

NEWSLETTER

JESUIT CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FARM STREET

Feast of the Immaculate Conception

We will be celebrating our Patronal Feast on Thursday 8th December. Mass will be celebrated at 8am, 1.05pm and 7pm (please note that this is *instead* of the usual 6pm Mass). The preacher at the 7pm Mass will be Bishop Kenneth Nowakowski, Bishop of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Holy Family of London. A reception will take place in the Arrupe Hall after the 7pm Mass. All most welcome.

World AIDS Day Mass

A Mass will be celebrated for World AIDS Day on Thursday 1st December at 6pm. This will be followed by refreshments in the Arrupe Hall. All are most welcome.

Online Advent Prayer Sessions

All are welcome to a series of four evenings of worship, prayer in the Ignatian tradition, and sharing to mark the Season of Advent. The series, led by Ignatian prayer guide David Hothersall, is a joint initiative of Farm Street and the Grosvenor Chapel, and will be held online on Tuesday evenings between 9pm and 10pm: November 22nd, 29th, Dec 6th and 13th. All welcome. To register and receive the Zoom link, e-mail the parish secretary at farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk.

ADVENT MUSIC

Farm Street Church will be hosting a number of Advent carol services in the upcoming weeks:

- *Monday 5th December – 7pm – *Stonyhurst carol service*
 - * Tuesday 6th December – 7pm – *PACT carol service*
 - * Monday 12th December – 7pm – *Aid to the Church in Need carol service*
 - * Tuesday 13th December – 7pm – *Farm Street Church parish carol service*
 - *Wednesday 14th December – 7pm- *The Tablet carol service*
 - *Thursday 15th December – 7pm – *Stella Maris concert*
 - *Friday 16th December – 7.30pm – *Young Adult Ministries carol service*
 - * Tuesday 20th December – 7pm – *Jesuit Refugee Service carol service*
- Please contact the relevant charity for more information.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

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

- *Christmas Eve – 4pm, First Vigil Mass of Christmas
 - 6pm, Children’s Mass
 - 11:30pm, Carols
 - Midnight Mass
- *Christmas Day – 8am, Mass
 - 9.30am, Family Mass
 - 11am, Solemn Latin Mass
 - 12.30pm, Mass
 - 5.30pm, Mass
- * Boxing Day to Friday 30th – 1.05pm Mass only
- * Saturday 31st
- & Sunday 1st January – Normal Mass schedule
- * Monday 2nd January – 1.05pm Mass only
- Tuesday 3rd January – Normal schedule resumes

Christmas Activities for Children

1) Children’s Christmas Play (6pm Mass on Christmas Eve): If you wish your child/ children to take part in the Christmas play, which is an integral part of the 6pm Christmas Vigil Mass, please fill the form (available at the back of the church and at the reception) and submit it to Leninha Assis (Catechist), by the 15th December. The rehearsal dates for the play are: 23rd December from 10.30am-11.30am and 24th December at 5pm leading into the 6pm Mass.

2) Christmas Gifts: The offering of the gifts for children at Christmas last year was a great success, with all gifts given to the Catholic Children’s Society. If you would like to join us in a gesture of generosity to make the Christmas of poor children a bit better, please donate a wrapped gift in a new or good condition, which will be collected during the offertory at the 9:30 Mass, on 18th December.

3) Christmas Choir: “Come and sing a song of Christmas, come and praise Him all the earth”. All the children are invited to join the First Holy Communion group to sing Christmas carols in the Hall on the 18th December, after 9:30am Mass. For further information regarding any of the above, contact Leninha Assis.

The Fragile Line By Andrew White

We are pleased to say that we will be hosting an exhibition by Andrew White titled, ‘Homelessness in Drawings and Sculpture’ from **October 17th – 6th January 2023**. The exhibition will be displayed in the ground-floor corridor.

Confirmations 2023

The next programme for the Sacrament of Confirmation for teenagers (aged 14+) begins on the 29th January 2023. The Sacrament of Confirmation will be celebrated at Farm Street Church on the 25th June 2023. For more information and to register, please contact Leninha.

Catholic Listeners

Catholic Listeners, the new confidential helpline launched this year during Holy Week. The service which is part of the Diocese of Westminster, has been set up for those who are returning to the faith as well as to support those who need someone to talk to. 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, there is a professional team trained in signposting callers to other services and agencies. For further information please email Catholiclisteners@gmail.com or call us on 0800 448 0704

Catholic Listeners are here to listen.

Charity Ball Raffle Prizes

A full list of raffle prizes and winning numbers is available at the entrances of the church and on the parish website.



First Sunday of Advent 27th November 2022

PARISH CLERGY

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

REGULARLY ASSISTING CLERGY

Fr David Birchall SJ; Fr Michael Bossy SJ
Fr Damian Howard SJ; Fr Paul Nicholson SJ;
Fr Laco Sulik SJ

PARISH STAFF

George McCombe, Parish Secretary
Email: farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk

Patricia Morgan, Finance Officer
Email: farmstreetfin@rcdow.org.uk

David Graham, Director of Music
Email: farmstreetmusic@gmail.com

Leninha Assis, Catechist
Email: farmstcatechist@rcdow.org.uk

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN

Steven Fachada,
Email: farmstreetppcchair@rcdow.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING OFFICE

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

Parish Office

ADDRESS: 114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH
TELEPHONE: 020 7529 4829
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)

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 – 12.55pm
Saturday: 10am to 12 noon; 5.45pm – 5.55pm
Sunday: Fifteen minutes before every Mass
Also by appointment

CHURCH OPENING HOURS

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

YEAR A

ENTRY

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame. Nor let my enemies exult over me; and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

RESPONSE

I rejoiced when I heard them say
‘Let us go to God’s House’.

ACCLAMATION

Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

COMMUNION

The Lord will bestow his bounty,
and our earth shall yield its increase.



ADVENT TIME

We begin this week a new Advent season which also marks, as every year, the new liturgical year. Let's take this benchmark as an opportunity to adhere to the Word of God more and learn how grow spiritually, both individually and as a parish community.

If we look at the readings, we cannot escape the urging of the prophet Isaiah to set out on this long spiritual journey of hope, resilience and perseverance with a good charge of joy. We can never miss "Let us go up to the mountain of the Lord...", so he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths". (cf. Isaiah 2:3)

The liturgy invites us to sing the psalm with a great resolution, to walk this journey towards where we can find home with God, because this is our purpose, as Ignatius Loyola teaches us. We are to praise, revere and serve God, and by doing this, to save our souls. (cf. SpEx 23)

It is no surprise for us that the Church's liturgy chooses to dwell on the only thing we have in our life, namely the time. Advent season is a great time to avoid grand resolutions and yet gently apply ourselves so that we see God's promises to take place in our lives. That is our light to "walk in the light of the Lord" (cf. . Isaiah 2:5). We are People of God, always on a journey which has its exact end and purpose in God, and that journey counts with each moment we breathe our lives. We are People of God who bear a serious awareness of being saved by God and hence are well equipped to engage with the rest of creation to become instruments of God's saving activity in the world. We may at times fall back or delude ourselves, or as St Paul puts it, behaving as if being in dreams (cf. Romans 11:11). Yet we are gifted with the time that is left to us to receive as a gift of change which will bring us closer to feeling the effects of salvation more.

When we look at all of the readings at the dawn of Advent season, the message is twofold and the same. It is a loud invitation to be joyful, to see the promise of salvation and hear the good news of salvation. We are to take care of ourselves by being more aware of a bigger picture at play. This applies especially in times of hardships and hard times such as those that we are going through right now. Careless eating and drinking, as if nothing really matters in life, is never a path to God. That is not joy in the end at all. We are talking here of a sheer joy distilled through self-awareness in prayer that brings us closer to an awareness of the Lord's presence who announces again that His salvation is coming. That spiritual joy and awareness form a good basis for Christian hope whatever times we are living and it urges us to engage and to act from a firm position of trust to God and faith in His salvific promise.

So, let's take the urgings of the evangelist Matthew to "stay awake" seriously in our parish community and ready ourselves because time is what we can work with and through time we can change. We can accept the invitation to change. Let's drop any temptation to stay asleep in indifference or scepticism. Let's open the path in our lives to God who seeks us at every moment up to the last one till we breathe last.

What is my path that I need to observe closely at the start of Advent?

What delusions and lack of self-awareness prevent me from growing further?

Where in my life lie new opportunities for my personal and our parish community growth?

Fr Ladislav Sulik sj

Sunday Refreshments

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

9.30am Mass Hymns

Entrance	92	Hark! A herald voice is calling
Offertory	908	Blest are the pure in heart
Communion	898	Make me a channel of your peace
Recessional	982	O Jesus Christ, remember

11am Music List

Mass Missa sancta est immaculata *Guerrero*
Motets Rorate caeli *Byrd*
Post-communion hymn 109 *Lo, He comes with clouds descending*

November: Month of the Holy Souls

If you would like somebody to be prayed for at Mass, please write their name(s) on the forms for this purpose at the back of the church and put in the designated wooden box.

Liturgical Calendar

Sun:	First Sunday of Advent
Mon:	Advent feria
Tue:	B1 Bernardo de Hoyos SJ
Wed:	St Andrew, Apostle, Patron of Scotland
Thu:	St Edmund Campion SJ, Robert Southwell SJ & Companions, Martyrs
Fri:	Advent feria (<i>Friday abstinence</i>)
Sat:	St Francis Xavier, Priest
Sun:	Second Sunday of Advent

Daily Bible Readings

Sun:	Isaiah 2:1-5; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44
Mon:	Isaiah 4:2-6; Matthew 8:5-11
Tue:	Isaiah 11:1-10; Luke 10:21-24
Wed:	Romans 10:9-18; Matthew 4:18-22
Thu:	Isaiah 26:1-6; Matthew 7:21-27
Fri:	Isaiah 29:17-24; Matthew 9:27-31
Sat:	Isaiah 30:19-26; Matthew 9:35-10:8
Sun:	Isaiah 11:1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3:1-12

Book Event TODAY

The Creed is the bones of our faith; but the more we recite it the less we often find ourselves listening to it. 'The Creed in Slow Motion' by Martin Kochanski is an answer to this problem. It is not a textbook or a holy manual. Phrase by phrase, it goes through everything we are saying we believe, to see what sense it makes. The Gospel commandment says "Love the Lord your God with all your mind". This book is a way to do just that. The author will be in the Arrupe Hall after the 9.30am and 11am Mass today to sign copies and answer questions.

THANK YOU!

We are extremely grateful to everyone who helped to make our recent Charity Ball such a success. With your generosity and support we raised more money this year than did any other ball in previous years. This money will be divided equally and distributed to our five designated charities: Aid to the Church in Need (Iraq Appeal), CAFOD (World Food Crisis Appeal), Catholic Children's Society of Westminster, Jesuit Missions (Sowing Seeds of Transformation in South Sudan), and the Langlands School & College Chitral.

Raffle	£ 3,388
Live Auction	£ 9,510
Sponsorship and Donations	£ 18,720
Grand Total	£ 31,618

We would also like to say a very special word of appreciation to:

- the two Parishioners who sponsored the Champagne Reception
- the two Parishioners who sponsored tickets for all members of the clergy team
- the Parishioner who sponsored the musical entertainment
- Katy Tansey, soprano, and Giles Kennedy, piano
- the Parishioner who sponsored Emilia Agajew, harp (Guildhall School of Music & Drama)
- the Parishioner who sponsored Simon Williams, photographer
- the nine Parishioners who sponsored flower arrangements by Helen Aristidou
- everyone who bought a raffle ticket
- the eight Parishioners who solicited prizes from more than one hundred business neighbours

A Lamp For Our Lady

To give honour to Our Lady, a lamp will now burn before her statue in the sanctuary. A 7-day lamp will be lit every Saturday, the day traditionally devoted to the Blessed Virgin, and burn throughout the week. An offering of £10 is requested to light this lamp, the intention of which will be printed every week in the Newsletter or may be kept anonymous (e.g. 'An anonymous donor for a private intention'). Please email the Parish Secretary (FarmStreetOffice@rcdow.org.uk) with your requested week and intention as well as how you wish it to be published.

The lamp this week is lit for Pio Eucharistico & Emmanuela Zammit.

The Beautiful Bridge between the Infinitely Big and the Infinitesimally Small

Sunday 27 Nov., 4-5pm, St Mary's Church, NW3 6QU
Prof. Maria Ubiali is a particle physicist with a passion for mathematics, based at Cambridge and working closely with CERN. Come and join us for what promises to be a fascinating insight into beauty and physics from a leading physicist. Email the Parish Administrator at hampstead@rcdow.org.uk to book your place.

Parish Prayer List

We pray for those in the parish who are sick: Debra Minty Baker, Susan Carpenter, Marie Carroll Copestake, Maggie Danby, Paul Johnson, Erin Lillis, Robert McCormack, Millon Nigussie, Mrs Katerina Porter, Sarah Esparza Regalado, Leopold, & Nick Walker.
The LORD sustains him on his sickbed; in his illness you restore him to full health.
Psalms 41:3
We pray for those in the parish who have recently died.
Peter Wooloughan
Requiescat in pace



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. Below is a sampling of some upcoming events. For more information and to sign up to their mailing list for regular updates on events, please visit <https://londonjesuitcentre.org/>. For more information, contact Federica Fiore at ffiore@jesuit.org.uk.

Manresa Day for Spiritual Directors: Using Mark's Gospel in spiritual direction

Saturday, 10 December 2022; 10:30am - 4:30pm
Online - Zoom
This ONLINE Manresa Day for Spiritual Directors (and other people with a listening component to their ministry) is led by Nick King SJ. Please note that bookings for this event close at 12 noon on Friday 9th December. If you have applied after that time then we may not be able to respond to you before the event starts on Saturday morning.