

## BECOMING A SYNODAL CHURCH.

All are invited to the London Jesuit Centre, 114 Mount Street, Mayfair, London W1K 3AH, on **Saturday, 15 July 2023**, 10.00 (refreshments) for 10.30-16.00, with a Bring-&-Share Lunch - liquid refreshments, provided!

The Working Document for the Synodal Assembly to be held in Rome, October 2023, was published on 21 June: <https://www.synod.va/en/synodal-process/the-universal-phase/documents.html>

This is a Working Document like no other offering some reflections in its Foreword and 5 Work-sheets, based on the 3 themes of Communion, Mission, & Participation, which will be used in the Synodal Gathering itself. It is suggested to use these in our own reflections and to guide any further submissions which we might wish to make before October 2023.

If you plan to join us on 15 July, please try to read the Working Document and register with the parish secretary at [farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk) before Wednesday, 12 July 2023.

### A Day with Mary

**When:** Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2023

**Where:** Westminster Cathedral

**9:45am** Entry procession of Our Lady of Fatima. Angelus. Crowning. Sung Litany.

**10.30am** Mass (with cathedral choir). Celebrant & Preacher: Fr Slawomir Witon. Consecration of the Parish to the Immaculate. The Five Joyful Mysteries

**12.15pm** Lunch break *Please bring a packed lunch*

**1.20pm** Exposition and Procession of the Blessed Sacrament. The Five Luminous Mysteries. Silent adoration. Sermon on Our Lady by Fr Lawrence Lew OP. Meditations on the Passion. Divine Mercy Chaplet (sung). Act of Consecration. Benediction. Procession of Our Lady of Fatima from Cathedral to Cathedral Hall. The Five Glorious Mysteries.

**5.00pm** Enrolments in the Brown Scapular and Miraculous Medal in the Cathedral Hall, followed by tea break.

*Throughout the day: Confession and adoration of the Blessed Sacrament.*

### 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 in thanksgiving.**

### 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](mailto:Catholiclisteners@gmail.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*



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](http://www.farmstreet.org.uk)

### PARISH OFFICE

**ADDRESS:** 114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH

**TELEPHONE:** 020 7529 4829

**E-MAIL:** [farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk)

### 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*

### SAFEGUARDING OFFICE

*Debbie Martin, Email:*

[farmstreetsg2@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto: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 (Latin), 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*



### Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary

#### Time

**9<sup>th</sup> July 2023**

### TODAY'S RESPONSES

#### ENTRY

*Your merciful love, O God, we have received in the midst of your temple. Your praise, o God, like your name, reaches the ends of the earth; your right hand is filled with saving justice.*

#### RESPONSE

*I will bless your name for ever,  
O God my King.*

#### ACCLAMATION

*Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom to mere children.*

#### COMMUNION

*Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed the man who seeks refuge in him.*



## DISCIPLESHIP

Today's gospel is a very interesting one (Matthew 11:25-30); it is sandwiched in Matthew's text between, on the one hand, Jesus' stern rebuke of the cities in which he had wrought miracles that have gone quite unremarked ("it will be better for Sodom on the day of judgement than for you"), and, on the other hand (11:20-24), his dealing with the Pharisees, who, like too many religious people down the ages, criticise Jesus' disciples, and therefore, of course, Jesus himself, for not being sufficiently observant of the Sabbath regulations (12:1-8). Jesus never invites us to be "rule-bound".

In our gospel, Matthew has Jesus "replying", or responding, to the situation in which he finds himself; and what are you supposed to do in this situation? You always turn back to God, whom characteristically Jesus always addresses as "Father". (It is of course Matthew's Gospel that gives us the "Our Father" precisely in the middle of the Sermon on the Mount). In our passage, God is twice addressed in this endearing way. In the first sentence, Jesus is "confessing" to God, and very importantly, addressing his Father as "Lord of heaven and earth"; but this high status does not lead where we might have expected it to. Instead it issues in a very unexpected claim: "you hid these things from the wise and the intelligent and revealed them to infants!" Then he repeats the same form of address: "Yes, Father, for this was your good pleasure". This is followed by a meditation on the relationship of the Father and the Son: "everything has been handed over to me by my Father, and no one knows the Son except the Father". Then it continues, rather as we might have expected: "and no one knows the Son, except the Father". After that, however, it takes an entirely unexpected turn "... and anyone to whom the Son reveals him". That, presumably, is we who are listening to the gospel today. Finally the gospel reading ends with an invitation: "come to me". That sounds delightful enough, until we hear the identity of those to whom the invitation is offered: "you who are weary and heavy burdened". We were certainly not expecting that, but we can only rejoice when we hear the next line, "and I shall give you rest". That presumably means the end of all our slavery.

That sounds all very attractive, but then, it seems, things get rather heavy; for we are invited to take a "yoke". Now a "yoke" is an

ancient symbol of slavery; a defeated army was made to walk symbolically "under the yoke", to indicate that authority had irrevocably passed to the victorious side. It was also, incidentally, the symbol for taking on a rabbi's teaching authority; and we see that Jesus is inviting us to "learn from me" (that word "learn", and its various cognate forms, are frequently used by Matthew to indicate the relationship between Jesus and his disciples). But this teacher is not a slave-master; instead, he says, "I am gentle and lowly in heart"; and we may remember that that word "gentle" appears in the Beatitudes with which Matthew's great composition, the Sermon on the Mount, begins. And we also notice how it all continues: "you will find rest for your souls", which is a quotation from Isaiah. So we find ourselves enchanted by the invitation, and we listen very carefully indeed as Jesus continues his self-description: then, once again, we notice that he is talking about the "yoke": "for my yoke is easy". We feel a bit better as we hear this, and this may be even more so when we reflect that in the original Greek it would have sounded like "my yoke is Christ", which gives a completely different picture. Now the "burden" word appears once more: "and my burden is insignificant" Suddenly we have a very different understanding of what Jesus is about.

What is this gospel saying to you about your discipleship in the coming week?

**Fr Nicholas King SJ**

### Second Collection

There will be a second collection this weekend for Sea Sunday. This is to support the work of Stella Maris, founded in 1920 to support seafarers in need, and now the largest ship-visiting network in the world. Their work is important in providing the Sacraments and spiritual nourishment to those working in the hard and dangerous conditions of the sea.

### 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

<b>Entrance</b>	466	All people that on earth do dwell
<b>Offertory</b>	600	All that I am
<b>Communion</b>	804	The King of love my Shepherd is
<b>Recessional</b>	708	Holy God we praise thy name

### 11am Solemn Latin Mass Music

<b>Prelude</b>	Andante tranquillo (Sonata III)	<i>Mendelssohn</i>
<b>Mass</b>	Kurz Messe	<i>Jochum</i>
<b>Motets</b>	Laudis thema specialis (Lauda Sion)	<i>Mendelssohn</i>
	Pater noster	<i>Meyerbeer</i>
<b>Postlude</b>	Prelude in D-minor Op37	<i>Mendelssohn</i>

### Liturgical Calendar

<b>Sun:</b>	<b>Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Zechariah 9:9-10; Romans 8:9-13; Matthew 11:25-30
<b>Mon:</b>	<b>Feria</b> Genesis 28:10-22; Matthew 9:18-26
<b>Tue:</b>	<b>St Benedict, Abbot, Patron of Europe</b> Proverbs 2:1-9; Matthew 19:27-29
<b>Wed:</b>	<b>Feria</b> Genesis 41:55-42:24; Matthew 10:1-7
<b>Thu:</b>	<b>Feria; St Henry</b> Genesis 44:18-45:5; Matthew 10:7-15
<b>Fri:</b>	<b>Feria; St Camillus de Lellis, Priest (Friday abstinence)</b> Genesis 46:1-30; Matthew 10:26-23
<b>Sat:</b>	<b>St Bonaventure, Bishop &amp; Doctor</b> Genesis 49:29-50:26; Matthew 10:24-33
<b>Sun:</b>	<b>Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time</b> Isaiah 55:10-11; Romans 8:18-23; Matthew 13:1-23

### Pilgrimage to Walsingham in Reparation & Prayer for the Sanctity of Life

*Saturday 5th August 2023*

Led by Most Rev. Kevin McDonald Archbishop Emeritus of Southwark.  
Commencing at the 12 Noon Pilgrim Mass in the Chapel of Reconciliation.  
DEPARTURE 7.30 a.m. (prompt) Westminster Cathedral, Ambrosden Avenue  
Tickets : £25.00 from Domenica 07913 434357  
For more details [www.prolifepilgrimage.org](http://www.prolifepilgrimage.org) and follow online at [walsingham.org.uk/live-stream](http://walsingham.org.uk/live-stream)

### The Power of Life and Nature

There will be an Exhibition of paintings by Alex Roch entitled, "The Power of Life and Nature" from Wednesday 28th June - Tuesday 22nd August 2023, at 114 Mount Street, London W1K 3AH.  
A Private View will be held on Monday 17th July from 6.30 - 8.30pm in the Arrupe Hall, and all are welcome.  
A percentage of sales will go to the Parish.

**SONGS FOR A SUMMER EVENING – PERFORMED BY** the Take Note Singers at Farm Street Church on Tuesday 18th July at 7.30pm

Take Note Singers was formed in February 2009 by a group of enthusiastic amateurs, mostly from the Lambeth North area, who just enjoyed singing. They started with a nucleus of dog walking friends and neighbours and, over the years, have sung at numerous events for charity.

After the last few turbulent years when there were no events to practise for, the group is looking forward to singing again, under the direction of our new Music Director David Terry, in aid of the Central London Catholic Churches Homeless Services and for Farm Street Church



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 and to sign up to their mailing list for regular updates on events, please visit [www.londonjesuitcentre.org](http://www.londonjesuitcentre.org).  
For further information, contact Federica Fiore at [ffiore@jesuit.org.uk](mailto:ffiore@jesuit.org.uk) or on 020 7529 4844.