

21 April: The Big One – Climate Service and Rally.

Westminster Justice & Peace will be joining CAFOD, Faith for the Climate, Christian Aid, Christian Climate Action and many other religious and civic groups for the largest climate rally yet. Faith groups' action will centre around an ecumenical 'No Faith in Fossil Fuels' service at St Johns, Waterloo Rd, London, SE1 8TY, 12noon, after which we will walk together via the Shell HQ to join the main rally outside the Houses of Parliament. Bring prayers for climate justice on a placard, which you can hold up as we walk. Look for the Justice & Peace banner if you want to walk with us. Register your interest with CAFOD

Pro Life Vigil

On Thursday 27th April 7.30 - 8.30pm March for Life UK are holding a candlelight prayer vigil at Westminster Cathedral Piazza (the area outside the front doors of Westminster Cathedral). They will be remembering the lives lost since the implementation of the Abortion Act in the UK on 27th April 1968 as well as all those hurt by abortion. They will be joined by religious leaders including representatives from the Catholic Church, Anglican Church, and Free Church of England. Candles and posters will be provided so please *don't* bring your own. Bring an umbrella in case of rain.

Walsingham Pilgrimage

DAY trip to WALSINGHAM Saturday MAY 13th: coach departs 114 Mount St 8:30am & returns there via drop-off at Victoria Station c 8pm. Please join us on our annual pilgrimage to England's National Shrine of Our Lady in Norfolk. The day includes prayers and talks en route, visits to the Roman Catholic, Orthodox and Anglican shrines, optional walking the Holy Mile and free time. Cost: £40 inclusive of buffet lunch. To book email Walsingham@farmstreetchurch.com or 'phone Leslie Giltz on 07740 440 949

"Lewis and Tolkien on the Beauty of the Gospel."

Sunday 14 May 2023, 4-5pm, St Mary's Church, 4 Holly Walk, Hampstead, London NW3 6QU Rev Fr Dr Michael Ward is an English literary critic and theologian. His academic focus is theological imagination, especially in the writings of CS Lewis, JRR Tolkien and GK Chesterton. He is best known for his book Planet Narnia in which he argues that CS Lewis structured The Chronicles of Narnia so as to embody and express the imagery of the seven heavens. It promises to be a fascinating insight into the Gospel through the lens of CS Lewis and JRR Tolkien from a renowned scholar.

If you are planning on attending in person please email the Parish Administrator at hampstead@rcdow.org.uk to book your place. You are welcome to livestream the lecture by visiting <https://www.churchservices.tv/hampstead/>

Volunteering

Volunteers are required to staff the Blessed Sacrament Food Bank in King's Cross on Thursdays. Non-perishable food and toiletries also always needed as demand increases. Please contact Sr Miriam Bruder SND at ssnd27@yahoo.co.uk; tel: (020)-7837-8378

Volunteers also required on Volunteer Monday of the Coronation Weekend, May 8th, to help with the Sant'Egidio high tea at St Cuthbert's, Earl's Court. Contact Emanuela at emanuela@santegidio.org.uk

Miami University Men's Glee Club

On Friday 26th May at 7pm, there will be a free concert of sacred music at Farm Street Church performed by the Miami University Men's Glee Club from Oxford, Ohio, USA. This will be part of their international tour. No need to book in advance.

A Lamp For Our Lady

To give honour to Our Lady, a lamp burns before her statue in the sanctuary. A 7-day lamp is lit every Saturday, the day traditionally devoted to the Blessed Virgin, and burns 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 the intention of a person looking to find a wife.

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.

Catholic Listeners are here to listen.

NEWSLETTER

JESUIT CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FARM STREET



Second Sunday of Easter (Divine Mercy Sunday) 16th April 2023

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

Michael Goode, Sacristan
Email: farmstreetsacristan@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

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk, that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

RESPONSE

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

ACCLAMATION

Jesus said: 'You believe because you can see me.
Happy are those who have not seen and yet believe.'

COMMUNION

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.



DIVINE MERCY

Last Sunday we celebrated the Lord's resurrection; today we witness the resurrection of his disciple. It has already been a week, a week since the disciples had seen the Risen Lord, but in spite of this, they remained fearful, cringing behind "closed doors" (Jn 20:26), unable even to convince Thomas, the only one absent, of the resurrection. What does Jesus do in the face of this timorous lack of belief? He returns and, standing in the same place, "in the midst" of the disciples, he repeats his greeting: "Peace be with you!" (Jn 20:19, 26). He starts all over. The resurrection of his disciple begins here, from this faithful and patient mercy, from the discovery that God never tires of reaching out to lift us up when we fall. He wants us to see him, not as a taskmaster with whom we have to settle accounts, but as our Father who always raises us up. In life we go forward tentatively, uncertainly, like a toddler who takes a few steps and falls; a few steps more and falls again, yet each time his father puts him back on his feet. The hand that always puts us back on our feet is mercy: God knows that without mercy we will remain on the ground, that in order to keep walking, we need to be put back on our feet.

You may object: "But I keep falling!". The Lord knows this and he is always ready to raise you up. He does not want us to keep thinking about our failings; rather, he wants us to look to him. For when we fall, he sees children needing to be put back on their feet; in our failings he sees children in need of his merciful love. Today, in this church that has become a shrine of mercy in Rome, and on this Sunday that Saint John Paul II dedicated to Divine Mercy twenty years ago, we confidently welcome this message. Jesus said to Saint Faustina: "I am love and mercy itself; there is no human misery that could measure up to my mercy" (Diary, 14 September 1937). At one time, the Saint, with satisfaction, told Jesus that she had offered him all of her life and all that she had. But Jesus' answer stunned her: "You have not offered me the thing is truly yours". What had that holy nun kept for herself? Jesus said to her with kindness: "My daughter, give me your failings" (10 October 1937). We too can ask ourselves: "Have I given my failings to the Lord? Have I let him see me fall so that he can raise me up?" Or is there something I still keep inside me? A sin, a regret from the past, a wound that I have inside, a grudge against someone, an idea about a particular person... The Lord waits for us to offer him our failings so that he can help us experience his mercy.

Let us go back to the disciples. They had abandoned the Lord at his Passion and felt guilty. But meeting them, Jesus did not give a long sermon. To them, who were wounded within, he shows his own wounds. Thomas can now touch them and know of Jesus' love and how much Jesus had suffered for him, even though he had abandoned him. In those wounds, he touches with his hands God's tender closeness. Thomas arrived late, but once he received mercy, he overtook the other disciples: he believed not only in the resurrection, but in the boundless love of God. And he makes the most simple and beautiful profession of faith: "My Lord and my God!" (v. 28). Here is the resurrection of the disciple: it is accomplished when his frail and wounded humanity enters into that of Jesus. There, every doubt is resolved; there, God becomes my God; there, we begin to accept ourselves and to love life as it is.

Dear brothers and sisters, in the time of trial that we are presently undergoing, we too, like Thomas, with our fears and our doubts, have experienced our frailty. We need the

Lord, who sees beyond that frailty an irrepressible beauty. With him we rediscover how precious we are even in our vulnerability. We discover that we are like beautiful crystals, fragile and at the same time precious. And if, like crystal, we are transparent before him, his light – the light of mercy – will shine in us and through us in the world. As the Letter of Peter said, this is a reason for being "filled with joy, though now for a little while you may have to suffer various trials" (1 Pt 1:6).

On this feast of Divine Mercy, the most beautiful message comes from Thomas, the disciple who arrived late; he was the only one missing. But the Lord waited for Thomas. Mercy does not abandon those who stay behind. Now, while we are looking forward to a slow and arduous recovery from the pandemic, there is a danger that we will forget those who are left behind. The risk is that we may then be struck by an even worse virus, that of selfish indifference. A virus spread by the thought that life is better if it is better for me, and that everything will be fine if it is fine for me. It begins there and ends up selecting one person over another, discarding the poor, and sacrificing those left behind on the altar of progress. The present pandemic, however, reminds us that there are no differences or borders between those who suffer. We are all frail, all equal, all precious. May we be profoundly shaken by what is happening all around us: the time has come to eliminate inequalities, to heal the injustice that is undermining the health of the entire human family! Let us learn from the early Christian community described in the Acts of the Apostles. It received mercy and lived with mercy: "All who believed were together and had all things in common; and they sold their possessions and goods and distributed them to all, as any had need" (Acts 2:44-45). This is not some ideology: it is Christianity.

In that community, after the resurrection of Jesus, only one was left behind and the others waited for him. Today the opposite seems to be the case: a small part of the human family has moved ahead, while the majority has remained behind. Each of us could say: "These are complex problems, it is not my job to take care of the needy, others have to be concerned with it!". Saint Faustina, after meeting Jesus, wrote: "In a soul that is suffering we should see Jesus on the cross, not a parasite and a burden... [Lord] you give us the chance to practise deeds of mercy, and we practise making judgements" (Diary, 6 September 1937). Yet she herself complained one day to Jesus that, in being merciful, one is thought to be naive. She said, "Lord, they often abuse my goodness". And Jesus replied: "Never mind, don't let it bother you, just be merciful to everyone always" (24 December 1937). To everyone: let us not think only of our interests, our vested interests. Let us welcome this time of trial as an opportunity to prepare for our collective future. Because without an all-embracing vision, there will be no future for anyone.

Today the simple and disarming love of Jesus revives the heart of his disciple. Like the apostle Thomas, let us accept mercy, the salvation of the world. And let us show mercy to those who are most vulnerable; for only in this way will we build a new world.

Pope Francis

Delivered on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 19th 2020 at Santo Spirito in Sassia, Rome.

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).

Please note that, due to the Arrupe Hall being used for the London marathon, refreshments will take place in the ground-floor corridor next week.

Liturgical Calendar

Sun: Second Sunday of Easter
Mon: Easter feria
Tue: Easter feria
Wed: St Alphege, Bishop & Martyr
Thu: Easter feria
Fri: Easter feria; St Anselm, Bishop & Doctor (Friday abstinence)
Sat: Mary, Mother of the Society of Jesus
Sun: Third Sunday of Easter

Daily Readings

Sun: Acts 2:42-47; I Peter 1:3-9; John 20:19-31
Mon: Acts 4:23-31; John 3:1-8
Tue: Acts 4:32-37; John 3:7-15
Wed: Acts 5:17-26; John 3:16-21
Thu: Acts 5:27-33; John 3:31-36
Fri: Acts 5:34-42; John 6:1-15
Sat: Acts 6:1-7; John 6:16-21
Sun: Acts 2:14-33; I Peter 1:17-21; Luke 24:13-35

9.30am Mass Hymns

Entrance	278	Now the green blade riseth
Offertory	271	Battle is o'er
Communion	650	The Son of God proclaims
Recessional	644	Alleluia sing to Jesus

11am Mass Music List

Prelude Adagio (BWV 564) *JS Bach*
Mass Missa brevis in C "Spatzen" K220 *Mozart*
Motets Regina caeli *Aichinger*
Ecce vicit leo Philips
Postlude Toccata in C (BWV 564) *JS Bach*

Parish Prayer List

We pray for those in the parish who are sick: Debra Minty Baker, Marie Carroll Copestake, Mrs J Deverell, Lady Antonia Fraser, Erin Lillis, Nikhin, Laura Marani, Robert McCormack, Helen Murphy, Millon Nigussie, Mrs Katerina Porter, Sarah Esparza Regalado, George Tabor, Nick Walker, Francis Walsh, & Natalie Williams
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. *Requiescant in pace*

Easter Sunday Collection

The amount raised in the collection on Easter Sunday was £4,547.94.



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.

Catholics And The Monarchy In Britain

Thursday, 4 May 2023

7:00pm - 9:00pm

London Jesuit Centre, 114 Mount Street

From the era of the Reformation down to the present day, the relationship between Catholics and the British monarchy has been long and fraught. On the threshold of a new era for the monarchy, with the accession of King Charles III, Catholics and non-Catholics alike are reappraising the role which the monarchy plays in the life of the nation. Do Catholics in Britain feel a sense of allegiance to King Charles? How does the history of this community affect its sense of participation in the national mythology? How will King Charles' attitude to religious plurality affect this?

Join us for an evening of lively discussion about the past present and future of the relationship between the monarchy and Catholics in Britain, drawing on voices from the spheres of politics, journalism and history. The panellists will be Mary Kenny, Peter Stamford and Jon Crudas MP.

Guided Prayer Online (Summer Term)

Thursday, 11 May 2023

7:00pm - 8:00pm

Online - Zoom

This is a fortnightly online session of guided prayer led by the spirituality team at the London Jesuit Centre and some special guests. Each hour-long session introduces a method of prayer, such as the Examen or imaginative prayer. Participants will be guided through the prayer, with space for silence to enter more deeply into it, and a chance to share and reflect upon each other's experience. You only need to sign up once for all 5 sessions. We usually send out further reminders with more details about each session closer to the time.