

NEWSLETTER

JESUIT CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FARM STREET

Tim Hetherington Film Club

Farm Street, 114 Mount St W1K 3AH
Next showing: **Arrupe Hall 6.30pm for 7.00pm on Thursday 26 January 2023**

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

Presenting: **'Righting the Wrong'** (80 minutes); Spanish with English subtitles; introduction and Q&A by Julian Filochowski

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

Oscar Romero, then the Archbishop of San Salvador, was murdered on Monday 24 March 1980 while celebrating Mass in the chapel of the Divine Providence cancer hospital where he lived. Thirty-five years later he was declared a martyr of the Church and was beatified. On Sunday 14 October 2018 he was officially recognized as St Oscar Romero.

This powerful documentary provides an excellent overview of Romero's life and martyrdom. It goes on to describe the long drawn out process after his death leading finally to his canonisation by Pope Francis. The Romero Trust shares the view that this is **the best Romero film** currently available.

The film, by Patrik Soergel and Gianni Beretta, produced in Spanish with English subtitles by Swiss-Italian television, lasts for 80 minutes.

The Film Club is pleased to welcome Julian Filochowski, former director of CAFOD, to introduce the film and host a Q&A session at the end.

The Holy Family:

Exploring Church Teaching and Life Experience

The Catholic Church's teaching on the family holds up a high ideal of family life and describes it as a path of holiness. But many people experience brokenness and difficulties in family life and may feel far from the ideal. In this abridged course we will be exploring Church teaching on family life, using Pope Francis' letter to all Christians *Amoris Laetitia* (*The Joy of Love* 2016). We will have the opportunity to reflect on and share our own experience, and explore how it can relate to Church teaching in hopeful and helpful ways. This course will be run by Fr Laco Sulik SJ at 114 Mount Street between 7pm – 8pm on the following dates:

25th January

1st February

8th February

22 February

1st March

To register your interest, please contact the parish secretary at farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk.

Save The Date!

The Bard School are holding a Candlemas Celebration at Farm Street Church on 2nd February at 6pm - 10pm with candles, choirs, cantos and crepes from the Connaught! More details to follow. Please block off your diary!

Synod on Synodality

There will be a Day of Reflection, Discernment and Discussion on the Synodal Process on Saturday 21st of January. This will be held in the Aula Magna on the 2nd floor at 114 Mount Street between 10am and 4 pm. We are aiming to embody 'journeying together' and will gather the views of all who attend on January 21st to be represented at the European continental stage assembly in Prague in February 2023. To register, please e-mail Farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk

Monthly Vigil Outside Home Office

Next vigil 16th January, 2023

Marsham Street, SW1P 4DF

You are invited to the Prayer Vigil from 12.30-

1.30pm. Normally every third Monday of the month

We remember ♦ those who have died trying to reach

the UK, ♦ the many victims of the war in Ukraine ♦

those who work with asylum seekers in detention

centres, and those who are homeless ♦ For further

information contact johanmaertens@hotmail.com or

barbarakentish@talktalk.ne

Assisted Suicide Inquiry

The House of Commons Health and Social Care Committee has launched an inquiry into assisted suicide and is inviting individual members of the public and interested organisations to comment, and also to suggest what actions might be helpful for the debate. We have been asked by the bishops to invite you all to participate in this enquiry.

Assisted suicide presents profound dangers to public safety and the common good, and so it is crucial that as many people as possible engage with the Parliamentary Inquiry and oppose the introduction of assisted suicide into UK law. It is especially important that those who respond should oppose the idea of a 'Citizens' Assembly' or referendum on this issue, as these are easily abused to try to legalise assisted suicide.

The Catholic Church is clear that we can never assist in taking the life of another, even if they request it. Our call is one for assistance in living and not assistance in committing suicide.

Statements of the Bishops' Conference can be found at <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/category/cbcew/life-issues/assisted-dying/>

The Anscombe Centre can also help the response. They have produced a statement and resources about this Inquiry: <https://bioethics.org.uk/news-events/news-from-the-centre/anscombe-centre-statement-on-commons-hsc-committee-inquiry-into-assisted-suicide/>.

The timeframe for answering the consultation is a short one. Submissions must be in by Friday 20 January but happily the format of the Inquiry is simple, and not time-consuming – just six questions. To participate in the inquiry, please visit <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/M66AML/>



Second Sunday in Ordinary Time 15th January 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

All the earth shall bow down before you, O God, and shall sing to you, shall sing to your name, O Most High.

RESPONSE

Here I am the Lord!
I come to do your will.

ACCLAMATION

Blessings on the King who comes, in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heavens!

COMMUNION

You have prepared a table before me, and how precious is the chalice that quenches my thirst.



ORDINARY TIME

So here we are in “ordinary time”, after the excitement of Advent, when the Church wore the sombre purple that signalled fasting and repentance, and Christmas, when we were clad in gold, not because we were rejoicing in consumerist excesses, but because we were celebrating the astonishing claim that God had taken on our human existence. Now, for the first time since somewhere in November, the Church wears green. That can seem a little dull, but we need to recognise that this colour, the colour of fertility, will be with us for the rest of the year, with the major exception of our long and, once again, purple-clad Lenten journey to Easter; this will be followed, of course, by the gold-dressed celebration of that greatest of all the Church’s feasts, which goes on for even longer than Lent, right up to Corpus Christi, in the second week of June.

After that, of course, we revert to green once more, for the rest of the liturgical year. Why does the Church do this to us, do you think? Let me offer one possibility; I want to suggest that our journey of discipleship is not always to be lived out in the mood of high drama that surrounds the two great feasts of the Incarnation and the Resurrection. For you and I have sometimes simply to plod on, trusting that God is somehow there, using the readings that we are given at Sunday mass, and always remembering that the Old Testament reading is chosen to shed light on the gospel reading, which will generally be taken from the gospel of Matthew. Our “Ordinary Time” is therefore quite an important moment.

And Matthew is a good gospel for meditating upon during this “ordinary time”. For one thing, Matthew is a teacher. And he makes sure that we notice that he has collected together some of the teaching materials that he found in the tradition, in five blocks. Have a look at the following places in his gospel: (you may need to blow the dust off your New Testament, of course) 7:28; 11:1; 13:53; 19:1; 26:1. There you will see that Matthew sends the reader a signal, something like “and when Jesus had finished all these words...”; and the signal is an indication that he has finished one block of teaching. The five blocks are the “Sermon on the Mount”, “The Instruction to his Twelve Disciples”, “The Parables”, “The Mission of the Disciples”, and “The Last Discourse”. Any of these might be a help to you in living through this Ordinary Time into which we have now entered.

Of these, the most famous is undoubtedly the “Sermon on the Mount”, with its extraordinary beginning, the list of those who are to be “congratulated” or “pronounced as happy”, (“the Beatitudes”). Those who are singled out for praise include, you will recall, “the poor in spirit”, “those who are mourning” “those who are gentle”, “those who are hungering and thirsting for justice”, “the merciful”, “the pure in heart”, “the peace-makers”, and “those who are persecuted and reviled” and you would do well to read prayerfully through this lovely list at several points in this Ordinary Time into which we have now entered.

And there are two other bits of this “Sermon on the Mount” that you might like to look at. The first is what comes exactly in the middle; it is the prayer that we call “the Lord’s Prayer”, in a slightly fuller version than what Luke (the only other evangelist to give us this prayer) offers ; and I should like to suggest that this very Ordinary prayer is just what you need in order to bring your Ordinary Time together. Try reading slowly through it and see if it makes sense of your life and of the structure of the Sermon as a whole.

Then the other part to look at is the very end of the Sermon (7:24-27), where Jesus draws a very striking contrast between those who do and those who do not “listen to these words of mine and perform them”. Those who do pay attention are like “the wise person, who built the house on the rock”, so that they were solid when the storms came. By contrast there are those who “do not listen to these words and perform them” have no foundation to them. And so the house falls down.

Might this be something for you to reflect upon during this Ordinary Time? It is possible that you will find that God does quite extraordinary things...

Fr Nicholas King 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	644	Alleluia, sing to Jesus
Offertory	609	In bread we bring you, Lord
Communion	643	Gifts of bread and wine
Recessional	772	Give me joy

Parish Prayer List

We pray for those in the parish who are sick: Debra Minty Baker, Susan Carpenter, Marie Carroll Copestake, Maggie Danby, Lady Antonia Fraser, Paul Johnson, Erin Lillis, Laura Marani, 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.* Psalm 41:3
We pray for those in the parish who have recently died. Gudrun Parini, Fr Michael Beattie SJ, *Requiescant in pace*

Liturgical Calendar

Sun: Second Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mon: Feria
Tue: St Anthony, Abbot
Wed: Feria
Thu: Jesuit Martyrs; St Wulstan, Bishop
Fri: St Fabian, Pope & Martyr; St Sebastian, Martyr (*Friday abstinence*)
Sat: St Agnes, Virgin & Martyr
Sun: Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Daily Readings

Sun: Isaiah 49:3-6; I Corinthians 1:1-3; John 1:29-34
Mon: Hebrews 5:1-10; Mark 2:19-22
Tue: Hebrews 6:10-20; Mark 2:23-28
Wed: Hebrews 7:1-17; Mark 3:1-6
Thu: Hebrews 7:25-8:6; Mark 3:7-12
Fri: Hebrews 8:6-13; Mark 3:13-19
Sat: Hebrews 9:2-14; Mark 3:20-21
Sun: Isaiah 8:23-9:3; I Corinthians 1:10-17; Matthew 4:12-23

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 the intention of the Bambang Sunshine Project Team.

SVP Volunteering

The St Vincent de Paul Society have a small programme for befriending of lonely and vulnerable people. This involves a weekly or fortnightly visit to a person in their home. If you would be interested to find out more about this, please contact Sandra McNally on s.mcnally1@lse.ac.uk or phone 07779 078933. Please note that volunteers will need to get a DBS check organised with the help of the parish safeguarding officer.

Churches Together in Westminster AGM

This will be held on Monday 23rd January 2023 at Methodist Central Hall, SW1H 9NH. It will be followed by a panel discussion, titled ‘Coping with a Torn Safety Net: The Church’s Response to Increasing Need’. The panel will include Hannah Rich from the Theos Think Tank, along with speakers from Central London Catholic Churches, The Salvation Army, St Martin-in-the-Fields, The American International Church, and Hinde Street Methodist Church.

Doors will open at 6pm; Business and reports at 6.30pm. Panel discussion at 7pm. Refreshments at 8pm. All welcome.

Papal Requiem

The 6pm Mass on Monday 16th January will be a requiem Mass for the repose of the soul of Pope Benedict XVI. This Mass is being organised by Aid to the Church in Need and will be followed by refreshments in the Arrupe Hall. All are welcome to attend. For more information, please visit <https://acnuk.org/event/requiem-mass/>

Jesuits in Britain Anniversary

The Jesuits in Britain will mark the **400th anniversary** of the establishment of the British Province with a Mass on **21st January 2023** at the Church of the Immaculate Conception, Farm Street. The Mass will be celebrated by **His Eminence Cardinal Vincent Nichols, the Archbishop of Westminster**, and the homily will be given by the Provincial Superior of the British Jesuits, Father Damian Howard SJ. It will also be the premier of the new motet, ‘Precious in the eyes of the Lord’ by Sir James MacMillan.

The Mass will take place at 12 noon and will be followed by a reception in the Arrupe Hall at 114 Mount Street, next door to the Church of the Immaculate Conception. The Jesuits would be delighted to see you, and those wishing to attend the reception are asked to email frobb@jesuit.org.uk by 18th January 2023, including any special dietary requirements you may have. You do not need to book to attend the Mass.

The Mass will mark 400 years since the establishment of a Province structure in England and Wales. The Jesuit mission is still flourishing today in Britain, with the Jesuits’ pastoral, intellectual, educational, spiritual and social activities all thriving. From parishes, including Farm Street, to schools, universities university chaplaincies, through to social centres such as JRS-UK and Jesuit Missions, the Jesuits continue to inspire people to work for the good of others.

The Jesuits look forward to welcoming you on 21st January!

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.