

Synod Day

Today is going to be dedicated to the Synod at Farm Street Church. This will take the form of brief (no more than 30 minutes) meetings after all of the masses other than the 8 am, where people will have a chance to ask the clergy about the Synod so far, hear about any updates and find out how to participate further, or indeed for the first time if you haven't so far. The clergy will co facilitate these meetings, along with a member of the parish who regularly attends that particular mass. Please come along and participate.

Job Vacancy

The London Jesuit Centre and the Jesuit Young Adults Ministries are looking for a Marketing and Communications person to maintain their websites, publicise their work, and produce short videos for social media. This is a full-time post with two days a week work for the Jesuit Young Adults Ministries and three days with the London Jesuit Centre. Closing Date: 2nd April 2024 To apply, visit londonjesuitcentre.org/get-involved/jobs

FARM STREET PARISH FILM CLUB PREVIEW

Tim Hetherington Film Club at Farm Street, 114 Mount St W1K 3AH
Next showing: Arrupe Hall 6.30pm for 7.00pm on Tuesday 5 March 2024

Cost: free – with drinks and refreshments (donations welcome)
Presenting: 'Ida' (82 minutes) Booking invited (but not necessary) at dthurst52@gmail.com

Introduction
The selection criterion for films shown at the Farm Street Film Club is important films about people that have made a difference.

Responding to a recommendation by a regular film club supporter, the film this month is 'Ida', a 2013 foreign language drama, written and directed by Pawel Pawlikowski. The film was voted Best Film by the European Film Academy in 2014, Best Non-English Film by BAFTA in 2014 and Best Foreign Language Film at the 2015 Academy Awards. Quite a pedigree. Set in Poland in 1962, it follows a young woman on the verge of taking vows as a Catholic nun. Orphaned as an infant during the German occupation of World War II, she must meet her aunt, a former Communist state prosecutor and only surviving relative, who tells her that her parents were Jewish. The two women embark on a road trip into the Polish countryside to learn the fate of their relatives.

Hailed as a 'compact masterpiece; and an 'eerily beautiful road movie, the film has also been said to 'contain a cosmos of guilt, violence and pain'. Buckle up for a bumpy ride!

Cana Lounge Café

We are offering the opportunity for individuals to operate independently the sandwich and beverage service for the Cana Lounge Café in the LJC. This is for 3 days per week (Tues – Thurs) for approximately 3 hours per day (11 – 2pm). A food handling certificate and experience with food preparation is required. Individuals. keep all donations. For more information please speak with Fr. Dominic. This is an opportunity to use and develop skills in hospitality.

'Politics and religion: on the same path?' - a talk by the Lord Speaker

Wed, 20 Mar 2024 at 6.30pm at 114 Mount Street. Why does politics matter? And what does the future of politics look like? The Speaker of the House of Lords, Lord McFall, will seek to answer these big questions as part of a talk hosted by international development organisation Jesuit Missions. Join us in the stunning Aula Magna at the London Jesuit Centre for what promises to be an engaging evening, which will include a Q&A session and light refreshments. Tickets must be booked via Eventbrite.

Monthly Memorial Prayer Vigil for refugees and asylum-seekers

On the 3rd Monday of every month outside the Home Office SW1P 4DF from 12.30pm – 1.30pm. Praying for:
*Those who died trying to reach the UK
*Victims of current wars
*Those in detention & who are homeless
*The UK to be a more welcoming nation
Sign up to receive email news & alerts of changes or cancellations at: homeofficevigil@gmail.com

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 or visit our website at www.CatholicListeners.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



PARISH OFFICE

ADDRESS: 114 Mount Street, London, W1K 3AH
TELEPHONE: 020 7529 4829
E-MAIL: farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk

PARISH CLERGY

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

REGULARLY ASSISTING CLERGY

Fr Michael Barnes SJ; Fr David Birchall SJ;
Fr Peter Gallagher SJ

SAFEGUARDING OFFICE

Debbie Martin, Email: 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 (Solemn), 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 Thursday: 12:00-13:00

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Fridays in Lent: 12:30-13:00

CONFESSIONS

Monday to Friday: 12:00 – 12:55
Saturday: 11:00 to 12:00; 17:45 – 17:55
Sunday: Fifteen minutes before every Mass
Also by appointment

Second Sunday of Lent

25th February 2024

YEAR B TODAY'S RESPONSES

ENTRY

Of you my heart has spoken: Seek his face. It is your face, O Lord, that I seek; hide not your face from me.

RESPONSE

I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

ACCLAMATION

*Glory and praise to you, O Christ!
From the bright cloud the Father's voice was heard: 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him!' Glory and praise to you, O Christ.*

COMMUNION

This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him.



CONVERSATIONS IN THE SPIRIT

Most of us enjoy conversations. I find them fascinating: I get to know more about people, about how they are thinking and feeling; about their life experiences and how those experiences have shaped and are shaping them.

Conversations are also privileged opportunities to give support to others and, of course, for them to give support to us as well. We human beings are not made to live isolated lives but in communities of many kinds, I'm sure of that, and conversations both express and build up our lives together.

Maybe like me you have long-since discovered that the secret to being a good conversationalist is to talk less and to listen more. Listening well is an art always worth cultivating. We need to listen not only with our ears but also with our hearts, not only to what is being said but to the underneath of what is being said and to what is not said. As others share something of themselves with us, we need to be prepared to share something of ourselves with them. In this way, good conversation builds up mutual trust, the hallmark of friendship.

In the Gospels, we see Jesus having many conversations in which men and women come to greater clarity and understanding about who he is and what he is asking of them. His encounter with the Samaritan woman at the well in the fourth chapter of John's gospel is one example and another is his dialogue after the resurrection in chapter 24 of Luke's gospel with the two disciples on the road to Emmaus.

The founder of the Jesuits, St Ignatius Loyola, valued conversations greatly. During a retreat following his *Spiritual Exercises*, it is in conversation with the retreat guide that the one making the retreat comes to understand more clearly how and where the Lord is leading.

Ignatius also set great store by those conversations in which we seek together the ways in which to follow Jesus more closely in their lives. In what have been known as "conversations in the spirit", dialogues characterised by prayerful sharing and listening, we can all the more readily have an ear for where the Lord is leading us, for lead us he certainly does.

The Sunday, the celebrant at each mass, either in his homily or during the notices at the end of mass, will speak about the first session of the Synod which took place in Rome last October and the second session which will take place next October. Both sessions involve the Pope and a number of bishops, together with lay participants and religious men and women, all drawn from around the world. The theme common to both the first and second session of this Synod is how our Church can become more "synodal".

"Conversations in the spirit", in which we prayerfully share and listen with one another, often aided by a suitably informed facilitator, are at the heart of

synodality. The Pope is encouraging us to become a Church which engages in such conversations, in parishes and dioceses and as well as in the Church as a whole. These are conversations in which we focus on our hopes for the mission of the Church: how can we reach out more effectively to the people we love and those we don't; to those who long to encounter Jesus as well as those who, perhaps because of a hurt they are suffered, do not?

Following the example of St Ignatius, the Pope believes that by engaging in conversations of this kind, we can come to understand with greater clarity how the Lord is inviting us to renew our mission in the world today. In this way, those charged with making decisions, the Pope and his fellow bishops, will be all the more able to inform those decisions with what they have heard the Holy Spirit say to the Church, through the likes of us.

My own experience of these "conversations in the spirit" has been very positive. I have learnt so much listening to men and women share their hopes for the Church they love. By sharing my own hopes, I trust that, in some small way, I have contributed to the development of the Church I also love, something which matters to me very much, as I'm sure it does to you too.

Fr. Michael Holman S.J.

Sunday Refreshments

Refreshments are served in the Arrupe Hall after the 9.30am, 11am and 5.30pm Sunday Masses (second & fourth Sunday only for 5.30pm). Do join us for tea, coffee, and fellowship!

Receiving Holy Communion

We are very blessed at Farm Street to have many new Catholics, many more returning to the Church, and many passing through and attending Mass. As a busy city centre church opening our doors in welcome to all it is sometimes the case that people come to receive Communion unsure of how to do this. If you are coming to Communion can you please ensure that, if you are receiving the host on your hand, you consume it immediately rather than walking away with the host in your hand. Many thanks for your attention to this.

Palm Sunday United Service

On Palm Sunday, 24th March, there will be the usual United Service with Exchange of Palms with our

friends at the Grosvenor Chapel. This will take place at 10:45am at the palm tree in Mount Street Gardens. Music will be provided by the Farm Street Choir.

Liturgical Calendar

Sun: Second Sunday of Lent
Genesis 22:1-18; Romans 8:31-34; Mark 9:2-10
Mon: Lent feria
Daniel 9:4-10; Luke 6:36-38
Tue: Lent Feria; St Gregory of Narek, Abbot & Doctor
Isaiah 1:10-20; Matthew 23:1-12
Wed: Lent feria
Jeremiah 18:18-20; Matthew 20:17-28
Thu: Lent feria
Jeremiah 17:5-10; Luke 16:19-31
Fri: St David, Bishop, Patron of Wales Friday abstinence)
Philippians 3:8-14; Matthew 5:13-16
Sat: Lent feria
Micah 7:14-20; Luke 15:1-32
Sun: Third Sunday of Lent
Exodus 20:1-17; I Corinthians 1:22-25; John 2:13-25

9.30am Mass hymns

<i>Entrance</i>	934	Dear Lord and Father
<i>Offertory</i>	600	All that I am
<i>Communion</i>	199	Again we keep this solemn fast
<i>Recessional</i>	872	My God accept my heart this day

CAFOD Collection

There will be a second collection today to support the work of CAFOD. All donations are gratefully received

Disability and the Divine

Farm Street Church is currently hosting an exhibition titled 'Disability and the Divine' by artist Marc Bratcher. The pictures, depicting the Holy Family in the context of physical disability, are displayed on the side altars of the church. It is hoped that this exhibition will contribute to a positive conversation around disability and the church. The exhibition will run until the 2nd April.

Lazos de Amor Mariano

(Bonds of Marian Love) Praying Group takes place every Friday in the Arrupe Hall at 114 Mount Street from 7:30 pm to 9:00 pm. We meditate on the mysteries of the Holy Rosary, the virtues of a Saint and the Sunday Gospel. It is held in Spanish. All are welcome.

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 for Hailey Nicholson's intention.

Parish Prayer List

We pray for those in the parish who are sick: King Charles, Debra Minty Baker, Camilla Blower, Ian Bookey, Marie Carroll Copestake, Margaret Cartledge, Felicity Ann Croft, Natalie Dennehy-Caddick, Kyllikki Edelhain, Christian Engelhart, Asoka Fernando, Lady Antonia Fraser, Christopher Halliday, Caroline Harkink, Andrea Kelly, Erin Lillis, Nikhin, Laura Marani, Donald Mathieson, Robert McCormack, Millon Nigusie, Otilie, Graziella Pirovano, Mrs Katerina Porter, Sarah Esparza Regalado, Ian Rice, George Tabor, Francis Walsh, Natalie Williams, Anna Wright, & Michael Wymes
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.*

Sign up for the Jesuit Missions' Lenten Campaign, Mission to Hope.

Each week we will be sharing stories of hope from beneficiaries, partners and our team. You are invited to add your prayers for, and with, partners on our virtual prayer board and to join our Mission to Hope Prayer Vigil which will be available on the Jesuit Missions' website and YouTube from Tuesday 19th March.
To learn more visit:
<https://jesuitmissions.org.uk/campaign/lenten-campaign-mission-to-hope/>

Peter's Way of the Cross

We are excited to announce that we will be hosting a performance of *Peter's Way of the Cross* at the Farm Street on the evening of **Friday March 22nd at 6.30pm** preceded by Mass at 6pm. Peter's Way of the Cross is a 60-minute reflection which imagines St. Peter following the path of Jesus on his way to Calvary whilst reflecting on his journey as a disciple and as a witness to Christ's teachings. Peter begins his journey confused by the events of Gethsemane, the trial and is distressed and ashamed by his denial. At each station, the scene is described, and Peter reflects on Christ's teaching or actions from the three years of ministry. In each case the gospel passage used has been set to music. The words were written by Bernard Lavery KSG and the music composed by Giovanni Marseglia BM. The work has been performed in Westminster Cathedral, Killarney Cathedral, The Old Bailey and many parishes in the diocese. It was also used as the centrepiece of an evening celebration during the 2017 Westminster Diocese Pilgrimage to Lourdes and was enthusiastically received.

Put the date in your diary. More information to follow in next week's newsletter!