

# Church of the Immaculate Conception - Farm Street



**Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
**9<sup>th</sup> May 2021**

## **PARISH CLERGY**

*Fr Dominic Robinson SJ, Parish Priest*  
*Fr Chris Pedley SJ; Fr Michael Holman SJ*

## **REGULARLY ASSISTING CLERGY**

*Fr Damian Howard SJ; Fr Paul Nicholson SJ*  
*Fr Adrian Porter SJ; Fr Laco Sulik SJ*

## **PARISH STAFF**

*George McCombe, Parish Secretary*  
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## **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL CHAIRMAN**

*Steven Fachada, [farmstreetppcchair@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:farmstreetppcchair@rcdow.org.uk)*

## **SAFEGUARDING OFFICER**

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

## **Parish Office**

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**WEBSITE:** [www.farmstreet.org.uk](http://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)

*The dispensation from Sunday obligation remains in effect until further notice. 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 - 1pm

**Saturday:** 10am to 12 noon

*By appointment*

## **BAPTISM AND WEDDINGS**

*By appointment. Dates are subject to lockdown developments.*

## **CHURCH OPENING HOURS**

**Monday to Saturday:** 7.30am - 6.30pm

**Sunday:** 7.30am – 7.00pm

## **LONDON JESUIT CENTRE**

*All events are suspended until further notice. For more information, contact Anne Paolino at [apaolino@jesuit.org.uk](mailto:apaolino@jesuit.org.uk)*

**Sunday Homilies & Articles** Weekly newsletter articles are uploaded to our website on a weekly basis. They can be viewed at <https://www.farmstreet.org.uk/weekly-articles>. Our website also contains an archive of previous Sunday homilies.

## **Social Media**

Farm Street Church has an active presence on social media and we regularly update our Twitter account and Facebook page with information relating to the parish and the wider Catholic community.

## Love One Another As I Have Loved You

About 18 months ago, the London Jesuit Centre sponsored a series of events called “Good Books”. In the first of these, Tom Holland spoke and then responded to questions about his recently published “Dominion” in which he put forward the thesis that to understand modern Britain, indeed the “making of the western mind”, you need to understand its Christian heritage. It may be that fewer profess a belief in Jesus Christ, let alone regularly practise their faith on Sundays, but the deep values of our society are nonetheless shaped by the Gospel.

Many would question Tom Holland’s optimistic view, and some, including myself, did that evening. But I am put in mind of it each Thursday, roundabout lunchtime, when I and another member of my Jesuit community near Swiss Cottage spend a couple of hours delivering food parcels on behalf of the Jesuit Refugee Service. Our weekly round takes us anywhere from Shepherd’s Bush to Harrow. It begins at the North Paddington Food bank, which is based, if you know the area, in a community hall on Elgin Avenue near its junction with Harrow Road and in St Luke’s Anglican church in Queen’s Park.

What strikes again and again me about these food banks is the care with which the staff and volunteers, who give up hours each week to help some of north London’s poorest, go about their work. Dietary needs are accommodated, a variety of food is selected and then carefully packed into labelled carrier bags. Every so often, we see food being donated from a bakery nearby and I will not quickly forget the love shown to one woman and the difference which that kindness clearly made to her.

As we know, there are many more of these food banks up and down the country. Sadly, at a time when too many of our families are experiencing “food poverty”, they have become a feature of our towns and cities today. I do not know the extent to which their organisers and volunteers are explicitly motivated by the Gospel of Jesus, perhaps they are or perhaps not, but these good people certainly know how to put the words of Jesus from this Sunday’s Gospel into practice, “Love one another as I have loved you”. Jesus also says in the same reading, “Greater love has no man that this, that he lay down his life for his friends”. Generously putting the needs of others before our own in everyday ways is how most of us will put these words into practice. It seems to me that those who work in these food banks are doing that too.

These places might also illustrate a theme in this Sunday’s first reading from the Acts of the Apostles which tells us about St Peter’s encounter with a Roman centurion, Cornelius, which proved decisive in the life of the Church in the years after Jesus’ resurrection. Peter saw for himself how the Holy Spirit was working in Cornelius and this convinced him that the community of the followers of Christ needed to be open to Gentiles as well as Jews, to embrace everyone, as Jesus embraced everyone. Peter then set about overcoming the obstacles to making his vision a reality. The people who benefit from the food bank we visit are of many faiths and ethnic backgrounds and this can remind us of what the Church today is called to be, welcoming of and responding to the needs of everyone. Like Peter we need to overcome any obstacles there may be to making this a reality.

This has been a very difficult year. Life has been so restricted and many people have suffered too much. Despite the greater sense of hope that is around thanks to the success of the vaccination programme, there is still much anxiety about the future.

In the second reading for this Sunday, St John tells us that, “My dear people, let us love one another, since love comes from God”. Maybe it is possible that during this year, despite and even because of its difficulties, we have become more sensitive to the needs of others, more willing to come to help those in need, more willing to accept the stranger as our brother or sister and more prepared to put the needs of others before our own.

Perhaps this is evidence that Tom Holland is right that Christian values are in fact deeply embedded in our society. That in turn can make us hopeful that there is a greater readiness in modern Britain than we often suspect to hear and accept Jesus and his Gospel. That is a thought that can encourage us all, as can this prayer for the mass of the Sixth Sunday of Easter.

Grant, almighty God,  
that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these  
days of joy,  
which we keep in honour of the risen Lord,  
and that what we relive in remembrance  
we may always hold to in what we do.  
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**Fr Michael Holman SJ**

## Liturgical Calendar

**Sun:** Sixth Sunday of Easter  
**Mon:** Easter feria  
**Tue:** Easter feria  
**Wed:** Easter feria; Ss Nereus & Achilleus, Martyrs; St Pancras, Martyr  
**Thu:** The Ascension of the Lord  
**Fri:** St Matthias, Apostle  
**Sat:** Easter feria  
**Sun:** Seventh Sunday of Easter

## Daily Bible Readings

**Sun:** Acts 10:25-48; I John 4:7-10; John 15:9-17  
**Mon:** Acts 16:11-15; John 15:26-16:4  
**Tue:** Acts 16:22-34; John 16:5-11  
**Wed:** Acts 17:15-18:1; John 16:12-15  
**Thu:** Acts 1:1-11; Ephesians 4:1-13; Mark 16:15-20  
**Fri:** Acts 1:15-26; John 15:9-17  
**Sat:** Acts 18:23-28; John 16:23-28  
**Sun:** Acts 1:15-26; I John 4:11-16; John 17:11-19

## Feast of the Ascension

The Feast of the Ascension of Our Lord will be celebrated on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> May. In ordinary times, the Feast of the Ascension would be a holy day of obligation in England and Wales. However, the obligation to attend Mass remains suspended. Nevertheless, we are encouraged to do something to sanctify holy days even if we cannot physically attend Mass, whether it be devoting time to private prayer, Scripture reading, or watching Mass via livestream. Mass will be celebrated at 8am, 1.05pm and 6pm on Thursday, with music provided by the choir at the 1.05pm and 6pm Mass. All Masses are livestreamed.

## Have you been away from the Church and seeking a way back to your faith?

Landings, the programme for returning Catholics, is run by regular Church goers and those who themselves have returned after doing the Landings programme. Through a series of storytelling, discussion topics, and prayers returnees are able to have their voices heard through compassionate listening in a confidential space where trust and hospitality are integral.

We know that many have been away from the Church for a while and there is a great yearning to reconnect with their faith, especially after the past year of lockdown and the ensuing isolation.

If you, or anyone you know is considering reconnecting with their faith then do please email

Fr. Dominic Robinson at [landingsuk@gmail.com](mailto:landingsuk@gmail.com) or

Ruby Almeida at [landingsouth@gmail.com](mailto:landingsouth@gmail.com)

## Round the World Novena to Our Lady

We are organising a Novena and hoping you will join us. This is born out of having to cancel the annual Farm Street Pilgrimage to Walsingham, England's National Shrine to Our Lady and a destination for pilgrims for over 1000 years.

The Novena starts Pentecost Sunday, the 23rd of May 2021 and ends on the Feast of the Visitation the 31st of May 2021. If we get 216 strategically placed around the world participants, it will mean every hour for the nine days a rosary will be said. We hope that you will help and be one of the participants.

On nine days of the Novena your rosary is said at any time. On ONE of those days, you say your rosary during the specific hour you have chosen.

Below is the link to the Novena calendar. Please join us and put your name as you want to appear into **one slot on one day**. The calendar hours are in **BRITISH SUMMER TIME**. Take account of this when selecting your day/ hour. Try not to commit yourself to getting up at 3AM on a Monday!

[https://doodle.com/poll/vtk5b3ba5hcp3gkq?utm\\_source=poll&utm\\_medium=link](https://doodle.com/poll/vtk5b3ba5hcp3gkq?utm_source=poll&utm_medium=link)

Please e-mail [Novenas@farmstreetchurch.com](mailto:Novenas@farmstreetchurch.com) to let us know which day/time you have selected along with your town/country. You are also invited to share a short reflection of your novena.

We will have a diary of the nine days on the parish website showing the participants, where they have said their rosary and any reflections we receive.

<http://www.farmstreetchurch.org.uk>

In these extraordinary and challenging times we hope this 'round the world' rosary will bring a few of us little closer together.

It's quite a task filling time slots when the slots are 24 hours a day for 9 days, so if you know anyone that might join us please pass on this information!

## Scripture Speaks

*"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the wilderness and streams in the wasteland".*

Isaiah 43:18-19

## The Pope's Monthly Prayer Intention

In the month of May, Pope Francis encourages us to pray for the world of finance. Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate financial markets and protect citizens from its dangers.

## Diocesan Vaccine Webinar

A Covid-19 vaccine confidence webinar has been organized for the of Dioceses of Brentwood, Southwark and Westminster, with the cooperation of Hertfordshire County Council and Hammersmith & Fulham Council, and other local authorities. It will take place on Saturday 15th May 2021 from 10am to 11.30am and will feature a panel of eminent medical experts led by Prof Kevin Fenton, Regional Director of Public Health London. The panel will share the latest information on COVID-19 vaccination. There will be an opportunity for participants to ask questions anonymously. To join the webinar: <https://zoom.us/j/99627319556>  
Passcode: 546617

## Job Advert

### Part-Time Project Manager for Catholic Listeners Telephone Helpline Service

A unique opportunity to be part of the planning and management for a new helpline service in the Diocese of Westminster as part of the Landings Programme for Returning Catholics. This part-time role will become a full-time position once funding has been secured in early 2022. You will manage and be responsible for:

- \*Policy Documents
- \*Volunteer recruitment and training
- \*Commissioning a telephone call system
- \*Managing the Telephone Helpline
- \*Funding Applications

The successful candidate will have experience of managing others as part of a team and a strong knowledge of and enthusiasm for promoting the Catholic Faith.

Submit expression of interest and request for a Job Description, Person Specification, and Application Form by **Friday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2021** to Fr Dominic Robinson SJ at [landingsuk@gmail.com](mailto:landingsuk@gmail.com)

## Newman Prayer & Meditation Concert

We are delighted to be hosting a free online concert titled 'Newman: Meditation & Prayer'. This event, with music provided by Harry Christophers and The Sixteen, will be streaming live from Farm Street Church on Classic FM's Facebook page on **Thursday 10 June 2021, 7pm**. The concert will feature new Genesis Foundation commissions by Sir James MacMillan and Will Todd, based on Cardinal Newman's texts, as well as readings by Alexander Armstrong.

Sign up here to receive a digital concert programme and bonus film content in the lead up to the concert: <http://bit.ly/gfmailing>

## Mass intention

If you would like a Mass to be celebrated for a specific intention, please contact the Parish Secretary at [farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:farmstreetoffice@rcdow.org.uk)

## Help the Homeless Donation Hub

The Companions of the Order of Malta's Donation hub is looking for donations for the 600 - 800 homeless supported in the hotels.

Hub address: St Joseph's Hall, Brompton Oratory, 5 Thurloe Place, Knightsbridge, London SW7 2RR.  
Items required: Men's and women's clothes and shoes (not children's clothes please)  
Toiletries – unopened please  
Entertainment items e.g. books/crosswords/puzzles/art and craft items (No Recipe books please)

**Please see the times for dropping off donations:**  
Tuesday 1.30 -4pm & 6.30 -7.30pm (by arrangement);  
Wednesday 2 – 4pm; Saturday 10 – 11am

**Please contact Kate MacKenzie on [companions.london@orderofmalta.org.uk](mailto:companions.london@orderofmalta.org.uk) if you would like to deliver some donations. Please do not leave them at the church.**

## Scripture Speaks

*"Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father."*

Philippians 2:9-11

## London Jesuit Centre

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, please visit

<https://londonjesuitcentre.org/>. To sign up to their regular email to receive news, event listings, and exciting ways how you can get involved, please visit <https://londonjesuitcentre.us4.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=ba5b3aa1bbd112142962fd5fd&id=ce6d0b5750>

## Face Covering Update

'Face coverings will be mandatory in Places of Worship from Saturday 8th August 2020. All those who are attending churches must wear a face covering unless they are exempt from doing so. This is for the good of all who gather in the Church for Mass [or for private prayer] as it is an enclosed public space where there are people from differing households who they do not normally meet.' (*Statement issued by the Bishops' Conference*).

## Supporting the Parish

We continue to be grateful to everyone who has financially support the church during the year of disruption caused by the pandemic. We are mindful that many people are struggling financially and may not be able to donate as they once did. If you can donate to the work of the parish, we would ask that you consider doing so in a way that avoids physical cash. Please consider donating via our website, setting up a standing order, or donating via the cashless terminals in the church. We are also implementing a new donating system called Givt, which will allow contactless donations via mobile phones. If you would like to donate via standing order, please contact the parish Finance Officer at [farmstreetfin@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:farmstreetfin@rcdow.org.uk). Thank you again for your support.

## 11am Music list for Sixth Sunday of Easter

Introit If ye love me – Thomas Tallis

*If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another comforter that he may abide with you forever; even the spirit of truth.*

Alleluia – Purcell.

Ergo vos elegi de mundo, ut eatis,  
et fructum afferatis: Et fructus vester maneat.

*I have chosen you from the world, in order that you might go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should last.*

Offertory \* Regina caeli – Orlando Lassus

*Queen of heaven, rejoice, alleluia! for he whom you were worthy to bear, alleluia! has risen as he said, alleluia! Pray for us to God, alleluia!*

Sanctus, Agnus Dei

Chanted (Missa Orbis Factor)

Communion \* O salutaris hostia – Thomas Tallis

*O saving Victim who opens the gate of heaven: hostile enemies press; give strength; bear aid.*

\* Non vos relinquam orphanos – William Byrd

*I will not leave you orphans, alleluia. I go, and I come to you, alleluia, and your heart shall rejoice, alleluia.*