

NEWSLETTER

JESUIT CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FARM STREET

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

Landings Spring Programme

It's Good To Talk on the 21st May at 12.30pm. This regular one-off ninety minute session is for people considering faith related matters.

* Landings 1 and 2 programmes start 4th June.

Laity-run programmes for those seeking a way back to their faith practice.

* Landings 1 programme This eight-week programme is aimed at those who have decided that they wish to re-engage with their faith. In a confidential and welcoming space, participants share their faith journeys, choose a prayer, and discuss faith topics. This is run by the laity.

* Landings 2 programme This six-week programme is a follow on from the Landings 1 programme and focuses on the Acts of the Apostles, and follows a similar structure to the Landings 1 programme asking participants what they can give back to the Church. For further details please email Ruby at landingsouth@gmail.com

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

Tim Hetherington Film Club at Farm Street, 114 Mount St W1K 3AH

Next showing: **Arrupe Hall 6.30pm for 7.00pm on Thursday 27 April 2023**

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

Presenting: **'Restrepo'** (2010, 1 hour 33 minutes)

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

This month we are delighted to welcome Judith Hetherington, Tim's mother, to introduce his Oscar-nominated documentary, Restrepo, and to take questions afterwards. In January 2020, Judith invited me to curate The Tim Hetherington Film Club in memory of her son who was killed by Gaddafi forces while covering the war in Libya in 2011.

This documentary demonstrates Tim's work as he records a year on assignment in Afghanistan's Korengal Valley while embedded with a US army platoon. The film intimately observes soldiers as they defend the outpost named 'Restrepo' after the platoon medic who was killed earlier in the action. The directors said that their film does not advocate war but aims to capture the reality of everyday life as a soldier. If you make only one visit to our special film club, I exhort you to see this unforgettable film!

Mass for Migrants

Monday 1st May, 12:00

St Antony of Padua Church, Forest Gate, E7 9QB
The Dioceses and Ethnic Chaplaincies of Brentwood, Southwark, and Westminster invite you to a celebration of the annual Mass for Migrants

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 repose of the soul of Mrs Victorine Goonewardene, requested with love by family.



Third Sunday of Easter 23rd 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

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth; O sing to the glory of his name. O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

RESPONSE

Show us, Lord, the path of life.

ACCLAMATION

Lord Jesus, explain the scriptures to us. Make our hearts burn within us as you talk to us.

COMMUNION

The disciples recognised the Lord Jesus in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.



THE PILGRIMAGE OF FAITH

The other day, a friend was telling me how she heard a priest say in a homily, in connection with the Gospel reports about the resurrection of Jesus, that "A fact gives us a piece of information, but a story transforms us ... A fact is only in one dimension, but a story has many dimensions."

I've been reflecting over the past week or so on this Sunday's Gospel, the story of the two disciples on the road to Emmaus, with the help of a CTS pamphlet published more than 30 years ago: so long ago it cost only 75p! It was written by the Jesuit theologian Fr John O'Donnell. He was a most inspiring teacher, both at our own Heythrop College and later at the Gregorian University where he died, a relatively young man, some 20 years ago.

The pamphlet, long since out of print, would be well worth getting hold of and reading for yourselves because it is important. Fr John explores the many dimensions of this story, and his point is that this story is our story. He says it is so much more than an historical reminiscence. "The road to Emmaus is a road which everyone one of us must walk. The two disciples represent you and me on our journey through life. Christ is with us, if we have eyes to see him."

In other words, this is a story that can transform us. As these disciples came to a deeper understanding of Jesus' living presence with them, through conversation, by reading scripture in the light of what happened to Jesus, and in participating in the "breaking of bread", in the Eucharist, so too can we.

In his introduction, Fr John asks a question many of us must ask from time to time. "Sometimes people ask what the decisive thing about being a Christian is. What is the difference between the life of a Christian and the life of an unbeliever?" After all, as he says, we have known many non-believers who lead very good lives and often seem better people than believers.

He says he thinks the answer lies in friendship, in companionship. While many people may be good people without God and Christ, their lives are lived without "a person whose love is faithful without limits, who sustains us in good times and in bad, walks with us to the point of death and welcomes us even after death." This can make all the difference. Don't you think Fr John is right?

He goes on to point out that God walking with us is one of the key ideas of scripture. In the Old Testament, for example, we are told of God's presence with the Israelites during their wanderings in the desert. In the Book of Deuteronomy, Moses gets his people to look back and see how the Lord

carried them all through the wilderness, "as a father carries his child, all along the road to this place".

This kind of presence, however, was utterly surpassed in the New Testament where the message, he says, could be summed up in St Matthew's idea that Jesus is "Emmanuel, God with us". And what was it that Jesus said at the end of the same gospel, just before his Ascension? "I am with you always, to the end of time".

The story of the travellers on the road to Emmaus therefore teaches us that life is a journey, "a journey which we walk not alone but in companionship with Jesus and with one another". St Luke in the Acts of the Apostles likes to speak of Christianity as "The Way". "It is a way full of joy and hope, because in faith we know that Christ is with us and in mutual faith we strengthen one another on our journey and help each other to reach our goal".

Fr Michael Holman SJ

Liturgical Calendar

- Sun:** Third Sunday of Easter
- Mon:** St George, Martyr, Patron of England
- Tue:** St Mark, Evangelist
- Wed:** Easter feria
- Thu:** St Peter Canisius SJ
- Fri:** Easter feria; St Peter Chanel, Priest & Martyr; St Louis M Grignon de Montford, Priest (*Friday abstinence*)
- Sat:** St Catherine of Siena, Virgin & Doctor, Patron of Europe
- Sun:** Fourth Sunday of Easter

Daily Readings

- Sun:** Acts 2:14-33; I Peter 1:17-21; Luke 24:13-35
- Mon:** Apocalypse 12:10-12; Romans 5:1-5; John 15:18-21
- Tue:** I Peter 5:5-14; Mark 16:15-20
- Wed:** Acts 8:1-8; John 6:35-40
- Thu:** Acts 8:26-40; John 6:44-51
- Fri:** Acts 9:1-20; John 6:52-59
- Sat:** I John 1:5-2:2; Matthew 11:25-30
- Sun:** Acts 2:14-41; I Peter 2:20-25; John 10:1-10

9.30am Mass Hymns

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| Entrance | 694 | All creatures of our God and King |
| Offertory | 604 | Lord accept the gifts we offer |
| Communion | 651 | My God and is thy table spread |
| Recessional | 287 | Thine be the glory |

11am Mass Music List

- Prelude** Introitus (Missa Brevis) *Kodály*
- Mass** Missa Brevis *Kodály*
- Motets** Jubilate Deo *Lassus*
Ave verum corpus *Peeters*
- Postlude** Toccata *Jongen*

Hildegard in Concert

On the 10th May, the London Jesuit Centre and Farm Street Church is hosting an evening of St Hildegard von Bingen, featuring a lecture and a concert by Scotland's premier early music ensemble, Canty, accompanied on period instruments by Bill Taylor. You can attend both in person and via live stream. For more information, please see the LJC website, as well as the leaflets and posters at [location] in the church - and feel do free to share this with anyone who might be interested!

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.

Sunday Refreshments

Refreshments are normally served in the Arrupe Hall after the 9.30am, 11am, and 5.30pm Sunday Masses (second and fourth Sunday only for 5.30pm).

However, due to the Arrupe Hall being used today for the London marathon, refreshments will take place in the ground-floor corridor. Refreshments after the 5.30pm Mass will take place in the Cana Room in the basement.

Parish Prayer List

We pray for those in the parish who are sick: Debra Minty Baker, Marie Carroll Copestake, Mrs J Deverell, Christian Engelhart, Lady Antonia Fraser, Erin Lillis, Nikhin, Laura Marani, Robert McCormack, Helen Murphy, Millon Nigusie, 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*

Flores de Mayo

The celebration of Flores de Mayo, organised by the Farm Street Filipino Community, will be celebrated in the church at 2.30pm on Saturday 20th May. This celebration, 'The Flowers of May', is a devotion to Our Blessed Lady. All are most welcome to attend.

THE FARM STREET SUMMER PARTY

With dancing with our own Nick Kelly, world show-dance champion and Master DJ

Thursday, 8th June from 7pm
St Columba's Church, Pont Street, Knightsbridge

Come on your own or with a partner to this fun-filled fundraising evening, with all proceeds going to Farm Street Church

Tickets £45 (includes a light buffet) booked on www.farmstreet.org.uk

Cash bar and raffle

DRESS TO IMPRESS