

The Fragile Line By Andrew White

We are pleased to say that we will be hosting an exhibition by Andrew White titled, 'Homelessness in Drawings and Sculpture' from October 17th – November 27th 2022. Opening 7 – 9pm Monday October 17th. The exhibition will be displayed in the ground-floor corridor.

Creating Sacred Art By Andrew White

Sunday 16 October, 4-5pm, St Mary's Church, 4 Holly Walk, Hampstead, London NW3 6QU
Andrew White is a British artist working from his studio in Lincolnshire. Over the years he specialised in figurative, interior, and seascape subjects. After completing a life-size painting of the Last Supper in 2012, Andrew now explores the genre of spirituality in art and is currently artist in residence at Farm Street Church, London. Woven together within his canvases, both naturalism and symbolism represent the search for a deeper reality beyond our perception of the physical world.

It is with great pleasure that we are delighted to announce that Andrew White will deliver his talk in person. Come and join us for what promises to be a fascinating insight into sacred art from a leading artist.

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>

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 Shobha Govindia's intention.

Parish Prayer List

We pray for those in the parish who are sick: Debra Minty Baker, Marie Carroll Copestake, Maggie Danby, Erin Lillis, 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: Christina Moncada
Requiescat in pace.

Becoming a Catholic

A pathway towards being received into the Catholic Church.

This course has been designed to show how the Catholic faith has the scope and power to bring about personal transformation, beginning with re-thinking the way we live.

We invite you to participate in this programme, where the basic tenets of faith are explored, while paying attention to topics such as human relationships, scientific developments, and the environment that we have all been gifted.

The sessions are interactive exchanges, giving you the opportunity to examine your own thoughts, ask questions, and seek a fairer version of society where higher ideals are the norm, not the exception.

The programme consists of eleven sessions, two per month, starting from Saturday 22nd October 2022 at 11am at Farm Street Church. Facilitated by a mixed group of Catholic clergy and lay volunteers.

Participation is free and does not require any commitment on your part. To find out more, please contact Claudia Whitty, the coordinator of the program, either at claudiagwhitty@gmail.com or 07932 668247.

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

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.

9.30am Mass Hymns

Entrance	694	All creatures of our God and King
Offertory	604	Lord accepts the gifts we offer
Communion	831	In Christ there is no East or West
Recessional	602	Breathe on me breath of God

NEWSLETTER

JESUIT CHURCH OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION FARM STREET



Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time 2nd October 2022

PARISH CLERGY

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

REGULARLY ASSISTING CLERGY

Fr Damian Howard SJ; Fr Paul Nicholson SJ
Fr Laco Sulik SJ; Fr Michael Bossy 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

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 C

ENTRY

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established, and there is none that can resist your will. For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth, and all that is held within the circle of heaven; you are the Lord of all.

RESPONSE

O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.

ACCLAMATION

Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:
you have the message of eternal life.

COMMUNION

The Lord is good to those who hope in him,
to the soul that seeks him.



FAITHFUL TO GOD

"My Rabbi told me not to ask, "Why?" wailed one patient! And so began an unforgettable encounter in a New York hospital. Why had her daughter died? Why was her son now dying? About to outlive her son, she poured out her harrowing life story and her time in Auschwitz. "Why? Why?" As we held hands, giving her time and space, I listened and let her lament freely and long into the night.

Habakkuk (today's first reading) utters the same, "Why?" How long, O Lord? I cry for help, but you do not listen!... you do not intervene. Why do you let me see ruin; Why must I look at misery? Enduring questions! The evil prosper, the good do not. Evil flourishes and seems to overwhelm the just. Why? Yes, aren't we all puzzled? Why did my nephew die? He was thinking of the deaconate...! Habakkuk laments. There is no doubt whatsoever as to the prophet's attitude towards God.

Lament is a heartfelt religious moment. It is prayer in which we acknowledge our limits and God's power. In this extreme moment, we turn to God as did Christ on the Cross in utter dereliction. So, this prayer is a painful expression of hope! The Resurrection comes after annihilation. Habakkuk's despair is rooted in faith in God. He believed God would intervene and his faith is proved right.

Of course, in anguish, God may seem to have shut the door to both the Jewess and Habakkuk. God's silence is oppressive. "Pray that I may love God with a love with which He has never been loved before", Mother Teresa (Come be my light p.175). You all know what she undertook for God. Nonetheless she was not spared. ("Jesus is asking a bit too much" Ibid. p. 329). "If you only knew what goes on within my heart. - Sometimes the pain is so great that I feel as if everything will break. The smile is a big cloak which covers a multitude of pains" (Ibid. p.176). "Why had God abandoned her so totally? Why this darkness whereas in her early life she had been so close to God?" (Ft. Neuner SJ Ibid. Pg.209). "...it is so painful to be lonely for God" (ibid. Pg 222).

How does God respond to Habakkuk? God does not give an answer! God responds to Habakkuk with a vision that interprets events differently! There is no room for the conventional idea of worship which earns protection. Our relationship with God is not a bargain or contract. God's own reckoning is coming. In the eyes of God and to the eyes of faith, no situation is hopeless. If we have faith, we see our relationship to God in a new light. Without faith, life has no meaning. If we have faith, everything becomes clearer: the Cross, the Eucharist, death, our values. Just as a tree is rooted in the dark soil with its essential nutrients, so faith must plunge us into the deep of God. PERHAPS THE BEST WE CAN DO IS PRAY FEEBLY, "Lord, Increase our faith" or "Lord, help my unbelief". God meets us there and takes us to

where we hope to be. The more we live by faith, the more faith will enlighten us. Our faith has to grow. It grows with use in the context of our daily life! Of course, faith and doubt go together. Our challenge is to remain faithful to God. We are called not to success, but to persevere! The person of faith will be victorious because he/she is in communion with God as was Christ. I cannot ever provide a satisfactory answer to the Why question for each of us has to wrestle with it in the context of our lives. May I recommend Mother Teresa's book, *Come be my light*.

Fr Lawrence Nam SJ

From the archives. First published on the 3rd October 2010.

Liturgical Calendar

Sun: Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
Mon: Feria
Tue: St Francis of Assisi
Wed: Feria; Sr Faustina Kowalska, Virgin
Thu: Feria; St Bruno, Priest
Fri: Our Lady of the Rosary
(Friday abstinence)
Sat: Feria; Blessed Virgin Mary on Saturday
Sun: Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Daily Bible Readings

Sun: Habakkuk 1:2-2:4;
II Timothy 1:6-14; Luke 17:5-10
Mon: Galatians 1:6-12; Luke 10:25-37
Tue: Galatians 1:13-24; Luke 10:38-42
Wed: Galatians 2:1-14; Luke 11:1-4
Thu: Galatians 3:1-5; Luke 11:5-13
Fri: Galatians 3:7-14; Luke 11:15-26
Sat: Galatians 3:22-29; Luke 11:27-28
Sun: II Kings 5:14-17; II Timothy 2:8-13;
Luke 17:11-19

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).

Good Shepherd Nottingham

The Good Shepherd Company from the Holy land (Bethlehem), based in Nottingham, will be at Farm Street Church next week to sell olive wood items produced by Christians in the Holy Land. Their goal is to support the Christian families to stay at work as olive wood carves is one of the most important sources of income for these families. 90% of the Christians in the region rely on this sale. Items will be sold in the church after every Sunday Mass (including the Saturday 6pm Mass).

Coming Home

11.00am Thursday 10 November 2022

A Service of Commemoration for people who have been homeless who have died in the past year at St Martin-in-the-Fields.

All are welcome.

This service is organised by :

St Martin-in-the-Fields, The Connection at St Martin's, Housing Justice, and The Museum of Homelessness.

With special thanks to Gavin Bryars and Ensemble, The Choir with No Name, Streetwise Opera and all those participating.

Monthly Vigil Outside Home Office

Next vigil October 17th 2022

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 ♦ Those who struggle to inject welcome and humanity into our legislation. For further information contact johanmaertens@hotmail.com or barbarakentish@talktalk.ne

A DINNER TICKET (£150) INCLUDES THE CHAMPAGNE RECEPTION, WINE WITH DINNER, ENTERTAINMENT, LIVE AUCTION, DANCING.

A DANCING-ONLY TICKET (£45) INCLUDES DANCING FROM 10PM UNTIL 1AM, ONE GLASS OF HOUSE WINE, RAFFLE.

TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED ONLINE AT WWW.FARMSTREET.ORG.UK

IF YOU ARE UNABLE TO ATTEND THE BALL, BUT WOULD LIKE TO SUPPORT OUR CHARITIES, YOU MAY ALSO MAKE A DONATION ONLINE.

SPONSORSHIP OF FLORAL ARRANGEMENTS:

A TABLE ARRANGEMENT OF FLOWERS, DESIGNED BY HELEN ARISTIDOU, FARM STREET CHURCH'S FLORIST, MAY BE SPONSORED FOR £50. A CARD ACKNOWLEDGING YOUR DONATION WILL BE PLACED ON THE TABLE OR, IF YOU PREFER, YOU MAY WISH TO REMAIN ANONYMOUS ('FLOWERS DONATED BY A PARISHIONER').