

The Church opens at 8am on weekdays and 9am on Saturday

Confessions between 12 noon and 1pm on weekdays.

On Saturday a priest is available 4.45pm-5.30pm.

REPOSITORY & INFORMATION

(located in the Memorial Chapel)

Weekdays 11.00am - 12.30pm

Saturday 3.45pm - 4.45pm

Sunday 9.45am - 10.30am

11.30am - 1.00pm

and 3.00pm - 4.00pm

A reminder that the crypt is best accessed via the **staircase on the Blandford Street side** of the church, leading as it does directly to the Disabled toilet -where there are **Baby changing facilities** - and the corridor on which the other cloakrooms are located.

March 4th is the final day to book The Marian Apostles group **pilgrimage to France (9 to 24 May)** led by Fr Thomas Crean OP & 2 Marian Franciscan Sisters. There are fliers at the back of the church and a poster on the noticeboard. **For further details please contact: Annabelle 07733223903**



JUBILEE YEAR PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO ROME

20th to 25th October

Visits to the four major basilicas, each of which will have a Holy Door for Jubilee pilgrims, as well as the two English seminaries, the Vatican, the Catacombs and the English College summer residence on Lake Albano, and much more besides. The cost is likely to be £1595 per person (sharing a bedroom) or £1895 per person (single, with limited availability). Those interested or wanting further information, are asked to contact the parish office.

If you can help the parish by making a donation or by a commitment to regular giving, it would be greatly appreciated. More information from the parish office or use the details set out below:-

HSBC 69 Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5EY
Sort code: 40-05-20 Acc no: 91094394
WRCDT St James Spanish Place

We have **"one-off"** white **Gift Aid envelopes** at various locations in church for those who might wish to use them for their cash offering at Sunday Mass. **Please complete all sections and then tick the option for "This" or "all subsequent"**



Other ways to give

Donations of any amount using contactless or chip and pin (and directed to specific areas - including both the **PARISH and ORGAN appeals**) can be made AT FOUR LOCATIONS WITHIN THE CHURCH, online at [Give a Little](#) or by using the QR code.



St James's Roman Catholic Church

- Spanish Place - 22 George Street, W1U 3QY

**Sixth Sunday
in Ordinary Time**

16th February 2025

Click [here](#) for live stream and [Universalis](#) for readings also available at the back of the church in six foreign languages.

Latin responses for the 10.30am Mass - pages 77/78 in the (purple) Parish Mass Book



TODAY'S LITURGY

[Parish Mass Book page 139]

Jeremiah 17:5-8

'Cursed is the man who trusts in man; blessed is the man who trusts in the Lord.'

Blessed the man who has placed his trust in the Lord.

1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20

'If Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile.'

Luke 6:17, 20-26

'Blessed are you who are poor. Woe to you who are rich.'

The Week Ahead

Sunday Year C Weekday Cycle I
Masses at 12.30pm and 6.00pm

M 17th feria

T 18th feria

W 19th feria

T 20th feria

F 21st feria

S 22nd Chair of St Peter 10.00am

Vigil Mass of Sunday 6.00pm

23rd February 2025

Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

8am, 9am

10.30am [Solemn Latin]

12 Noon, 4.00pm & 7.00pm

The Reverend Monsignor Philip Whitmore (Rector)
The Reverend John Njorteah

The Reverend Mark Elliott-Smith (in residence, Ordinariate)

Telephone: 020 7935 0943 [Parish Office: 020 3475 9097]

Email: spanishplace@sjrcc.org.uk

Web: www.sjrcc.org.uk

The Rector writes

Greetings from Castile! Many of the parishioners have taken the opportunity to travel during half-term, and so has the parish priest. I am currently staying at Saint Alban's College in Valladolid, the so-called Colegio de los Ingleses. It was founded in 1589 as one of a considerable number of English seminaries abroad, since it was not possible to train priests at home. In the late 1990s, it was transformed from a regular seminary into a propaedeutic seminary - no longer did it see its students through to ordination, but it provided them with an introductory year in which they could accustom themselves to the pattern of seminary life and discernment before beginning their studies in earnest in one of the other English seminaries, either at home or in Rome. There are two Westminster students here, in a house of twenty-six resident students, making it arguably the largest of the English seminaries at the present time.

I have also taken the opportunity to visit what is often seen as the ecclesiastical capital of Spain, Toledo. This was the adopted home of the painter El Greco, whose paintings can be found in many of the churches of the city. Like many Christian painters of his era, he painted portraits of the Twelve Apostles. One set is to be found in the city's vast Cathedral (actually in the sacristy) and another in the house of El Greco. The painting of St James, patron of our parish and patron of Spain, was naturally of particular interest.

The city of Toledo is also of interest to liturgical scholars as it is the main place where Mass is still sometimes celebrated in the Mozarabic rather than the Roman rite. Before the consolidation of the Roman rite throughout the West, there were numerous local rites, including the Sarum rite in England. The two non-Roman rites currently celebrated in the Western Church are the Ambrosian rite, associated with Milan, and the Mozarabic rite, principally associated with Toledo. For much of its early history, Toledo was under Islamic rule and there are still features of its art and architecture that reflect this aspect of its heritage. The so-called Mozarabs were Christians living under Islamic rule, whose culture included certain Eastern elements.

I shall be away this weekend, but back in time for next weekend. **Saturday 22 February** is the **feast of the Chair of Peter**, when we pray in a particular way for the Pope and we celebrate his primacy. Formerly, this date was the feast of the Chair of Peter at Antioch. Tradition (probably apocryphal) maintains that Peter was head of the Christian community at Antioch before he travelled to Rome. There used to be a separate feast for the Chair of Peter in Rome, but now the two have been consolidated into a single feast, the one that occurs next weekend. What is particularly interesting about the tradition, even if it is apocryphal, is that it indicates a readiness to accept what has now become commonplace, although it was very unusual in the early church, namely that a bishop might move from one see to another. The bishop was seen as wedded to his diocese, hence the ring that he wears. When bishops were elected by the priests and people of the diocese, it was simply not an option to elect someone else's bishop. Since bishops have been appointed by ecclesiastical authorities, it has been possible to transfer them to

larger sees. Currently most of our Popes have been bishops elsewhere, although in the early Church this was not the case.

St James's Church is currently advertising for a **Site Manager**, a role that was formerly undertaken by the late Chris Daly, along with his work in the sacristy. The two roles have now been separated, and the church is actively seeking a part-time manager for the extensive premises. If you or anyone you know is interested in working on Mondays and Fridays in this capacity, please do let us know. The advertisement can be found at <https://jobs.rcdow.org.uk/site-manager-spanish-place>.

The first Saturday of Lent, 8 March, will see the **Rite of Election** taking place at Westminster Cathedral. This is the moment when all those preparing for Baptism and Reception into the Church at the Easter Vigil are formally welcomed and launched on their final stage of preparation. Do pray for the catechumens and candidates from this parish who will be taking part.

Another event in the Cathedral, four weeks later, is the **Mass for Bereaved Parents**, to be celebrated on **Saturday 5 April at 2pm**. If you or anyone known to you would find comfort from participation in this event, please consider yourself invited.

This Sunday, 16 February, is kept as **Racial Justice Sunday**, and in this Jubilee year it has as its theme: **"Pilgrims of Hope: Our Journey Together Towards Racial Justice."** It seems apt to conclude with a prayer that Pope Francis included in his Encyclical Letter Fratelli Tutti:

Father of our human family,
you created all human beings equal in dignity:
pour forth into our hearts a fraternal spirit
and inspire in us a dream of renewed encounter,
dialogue, justice and peace.
Move us to create healthier societies
and a more dignified world,
a world without hunger, poverty, violence and war.

May our hearts be open
to all the peoples and nations of the earth.
May we recognize the goodness and beauty
that you have sown in each of us,
and thus forge bonds of unity, common projects,
and shared dreams. Amen.

Philip Whitmore

A special welcome to our visitors. Refreshments are served in the Social Centre (in the crypt) after the 9.00am and 10.30am Masses. Do please join us if you have the time.
