

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.

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 **is March 4th** There are flyers 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

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time 9th 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 135]

Isaiah 6:1-2a, 3-8
'Here I am! Send me.'

**In the presence of the
angels I praise you,
O Lord.**

1 Corinthians 15:1-11
'So we preach and so you believed.'

Luke 5:1-11
'They left everything and followed him.'

The Week Ahead

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

M 10th St Scholastica
T 11th Our Lady of Lourdes
W 12th *feria*
T 13th *feria*
F 14th SS Cyril and Methodius
S 15th BVM on Saturday 10.00am
Vigil Mass of Sunday 6.00pm

16th February 2025
Sixth 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

Tuesday of next week is kept as the **World Day of Prayer for the Sick**. It is the memorial of Our Lady of Lourdes, and because of the long tradition of caring for the sick in that holy place, where many healing miracles have taken place, the feast day is set aside as a time when we pray especially for the sick. The Holy Father issues an annual message on the World Day of the Sick*. In this Jubilee year, he encourages us to reflect deeply on how God remains close to those who suffer. He takes as his theme a quotation from Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans: *"Hope does not disappoint" (Rom 5:5), but strengthens us in times of trial. Indeed, as he assures us, God "does not abandon us and often amazes us by granting us a strength that we never expected, and would never have found on our own."*

It is worth reminding our parishioners and our readers that if you find yourself in hospital, you should ask to see a Catholic priest. The designated Catholic chaplain is not normally allowed to visit patients unless they request it specifically. The Sacrament of the Sick is available to any who find themselves seriously ill, or preparing for surgery. It should not be considered merely as a preparation for death, although those who are preparing for death would do well to request it. It is essentially a sacrament of healing, available to all those who are sick.

The eve of the World Day of the Sick is to be kept as a National Day of Prayer and Fasting for Life. The Good Counsel Network has this to say:

'On Monday 10th February please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this country. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed. Pray especially that Assisted Suicide won't be introduced. For information on the days of Prayer and Fasting contact; The Good Counsel Network on 020 7723 1740. Please Invite others to join us on the day, by Inviting them via Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/events/618329970650531/>

"And the people of Nineveh believed in God; they proclaimed a fast and put on sackcloth, from the greatest to the least...God saw their efforts to renounce their evil ways. And God relented about the disaster which He had threatened to bring on them, and He did not bring it." (Jonah 3:5,10)'

Further information about the Good Counsel Network and the excellent work they do can be found at <https://www.goodcounselnet.co.uk>. Their offices are not at all far from here, on Bell Street.

As well as the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, next week also sees the feast of Saints Cyril and Methodius, on Friday 14 February. In December 1980, Pope John Paul II, the first Pope from the Slav nations, declared them co-patrons of Europe, along with Saint Benedict. These two brothers are known as the Apostles of the Slavs - indeed the Cyrillic alphabet is named after the great missionary,

Saint Cyril. The brothers travelled to Rome in the hope of resolving a dispute that had arisen over the liturgical language to be used in the Slav lands, and they brought with them the relics of Saint Clement, a first-century Pope whose name is recorded in the Roman Canon.

Saint Cyril died in Rome and he was buried in the basilica of Saint Clement (San Clemente), very close to the hotel where our pilgrims will be staying during the parish pilgrimage to Rome later this year. Not only is San Clemente a very beautiful church, it is a fascinating place to visit, because underneath the current 12th-century basilica are the remains of the 4th-century basilica in which Saint Cyril was buried, and under that are the remains, not only of a 1st-century house church, but a pre-Christian Mithraic Temple. It is planned to visit the basilica on the day our pilgrims arrive in Rome in October.

The Young Adults Group was launched at the noon Mass on the last Sunday of January, and it was most encouraging to see the numbers who came. **Wednesday** of next week, **12 February**, sees the first **"faith clinic"** - the young adults are invited to a session in the Social Centre, beginning at 7pm, when Father Stephen Ojapah (MSP), an expert in Dialogue and Conflict Mediation, will give a talk entitled **"Courage to be different"**. Do encourage any young adults you know to come along, and if you are a young adult yourself, then please consider yourself invited.

There will be further opportunities to explore our faith in the coming weeks. A Day With Mary is taking place at Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 1 March 2025 (9.45am to 5.00pm). Further information is available at <https://www adaywithmary.org/> or <https://eventcatholic.com/>.

Another event to which I have been asked to draw your attention is the **Civic Service**, to take place at **Westminster Cathedral at 4pm on Sunday 16 March**. The Lord Mayor of Westminster, our own parishioner, Councillor Robert Rigby, says this:

"This special occasion, presided over by Cardinal Vincent Nichols, brings together people of all backgrounds, cultures, and faiths, celebrating the diversity and unity of the many communities across the City. The service will begin promptly at 4pm and is due to finish at 4.50pm. It will be followed by refreshments from 5pm – 6pm in Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Avenue next to the Cathedral."

Those who wish to attend are asked to e-mail the Lord Mayor's Office at lordmayorsoffice@westminster.gov.uk no later than 21 February.

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.

* <https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/sick/documents/20250114-giornata-malato.html>