St James's
PICCADILLY

The Eucharist with Baptism for the Last Sunday after Trinity

Bible Sunday

Sunday 25th October 2026 at 11am

With a congregation in the church
and live on YouTube

Welcome to St James's Church. Whether you are with us in person or joining us online, you are very welcome.

Everyone is warmly invited to receive communion or a blessing so please do come forward at the appropriate time.

Today we especially welcome Isadora Parry, and those who have come to support her, as she is being baptised today.

ORDER OF SERVICE

OPENING HYMN
[Tune: Moscow; Words: John Marriott, 1780-1825 alt]

Thou, whose almighty word
chaos and darkness heard,
and took their flight;
hear us, we humbly pray,
and where the gospel day
sheds not its glorious ray,
let there be light.

Thou, who didst come to bring
on thy redeeming wing,
healing and sight,
health to the sick in mind,
sight to the inly blind,
O now to humankind
let there be light.

Spirit of truth and love,
life-giving, holy Dove,
speed forth thy flight;
move on the water's face,

bearing the lamp of grace,
and in earth's darkest place
let there be light.

Holy and blessèd Three,
glorious Trinity,
Wisdom, Love, Might;
boundless as ocean's tide
rolling in fullest pride,
through the earth far and wide
let there be light.

OPENING RESPONSES

The priest says

Grace, mercy and peace from God and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.
And also with you.

The priest welcomes everyone and introduces the service.

Eternal God, to whom all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden;
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

The deacon says

Let us call to mind the fractured relationships and injustices of our world;
Let us remember our own part in this and make our confession in penitence and faith.

KYRIE *(Ghanaian)*

The cantor sings

Kyrie eleison.
(Lord, have mercy.)

All sing

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison,
Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison,

Christe eleison, Christe eleison,
Christe eleison. Christe eleison.

Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison,
Kyrie eleison. Kyrie eleison.

Silence is kept.

Ever-loving God,
we confess that we have sinned
in thought, word and deed.
We have not loved you with our whole heart.
We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves.
In your mercy
forgive what we have been,

help us to amend what we are,
and direct what we shall be,
that we may do justly, love mercy,
and walk humbly with you our God.
Amen.

THE ABSOLUTION

The priest says

May the God who is both power and love forgive you
and free you from your sin;
give you healing and strength,
and raise you to new life in Christ.
Amen.

THE GLORIA *(Argentinian)*

The cantor sings

Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high.
Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high.

And on earth peace to the people in whom God is well pleased.
And on earth peace to the people in whom God is well pleased.

Glory, glory, glory, glory be to God on high.
And on earth peace to the people in whom God is well pleased.

LITURGY OF THE WORD
The Collect

The priest says

Blessed God,
who caused all holy Scriptures to be written
for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the comfort of
your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever hold fast
the hope of everlasting life,
which you have given us in our Redeemer Jesus Christ.
Amen.

FIRST READING
Colossians 3.12-17

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians.

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you

do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Listen for what the Spirit is saying.
Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

PSALM: 90 vv1-6

Response: ***O God, in you I take refuge.***

During the psalm, the Gospel is carried in procession down the central aisle of the church where it is read among the people. Please turn and face the Gospel as it passes.

THE GOSPEL

The cantor sings

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All sing

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

The reader says

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

The cantor sings

Glory to you O Lord.
Glory to you O Lord.

Matthew 24.30-35

Jesus said; Then the sign of the Son of Man will appear in heaven, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn, and they will see "the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven" with power and great glory. And he will send out his angels with a loud trumpet call, and they will gather his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.

'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see all these things, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

The cantor sings

Praise to you O Christ
Praise to you O Christ.

The cantor sings

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

All sing

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Please sit.

SERMON
The Revd Dr Mariama Ifode-Blease

A period of silence is kept for personal reflection.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The deacon says

Let us pray for the world, for the church,
for all in need and for those who have asked for our prayers.

Please kneel or sit for prayers led by a member of the congregation.

BAPTISM

Parents and godparents move to the font,
and the congregation turns to face them, singing …

Bless the Lord my soul
and bless God's holy name.
Bless the Lord my soul
who leads me into life.

The priest addresses the whole congregation.

Faith is the gift of God to all people.
In baptism, Christ is adding to our number those whom he is calling. People of God, will you welcome Isadora and uphold her in her new life in Christ?
With the help of God we will.

THE DECISION

The priest addresses Isadora through her parents and godparents.

In baptism, God calls us out of darkness
into marvellous light.

To follow Christ means dying to sin
and rising to new life in Christ.

Therefore I ask:

Do you turn to Christ?
I turn to Christ.

Do you repent of your sins?
I repent of my sins.

Do you renounce evil?
I renounce evil.

The priest makes the sign of the cross on Isadora's forehead.

Christ claims you for his own.
Receive the sign of the cross.
Do not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified.

**Fight valiantly against sin, the world and the devil,
and remain faithful to Christ to the end of your life.**

May almighty God deliver you from the powers of darkness,
restore in you the image of glory
and lead you in the light and obedience of Christ.
Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE WATER

Praise God who made heaven and earth.
God's promise is kept forever.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

The priest continues:

We thank you, God of life, for the gift of water
to sustain, refresh and cleanse all life.
Over water the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation.
Through water you led the children of Israel
from slavery in Egypt to freedom in the Promised Land.
In water your Son Jesus received the baptism of John
and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ,
to lead us from the death of sin to newness of life.
We thank you, Father, for the water of baptism.
In it we are buried with Christ in his death.
By it we share in his resurrection.
Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit.
Therefore, in joyful obedience to your Son,
we baptise into his fellowship those who come to him in faith.
Now sanctify this water that, by the power of your Holy Spirit,
they may be cleansed from sin and born again.
Renewed in your image, may they walk by the light of faith
and continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Lord;
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit
be all honour and glory, now and for ever.
Amen.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The priest addresses the whole congregation:

Friends, I ask you to profess
together the faith of the Church.
Do you believe and trust in God the Creator,
source of all being and life,
the one for whom we exist?
I believe and trust in God the Creator.

Do you believe and trust in God the Son,
who took our human nature,
died for us and rose again?
I believe and trust in God the Son.

Do you believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit
who gives life to the people of God
and makes Christ known in the world?
I believe and trust in God the Holy Spirit.

This is the faith of the Church.
This is our faith.
We believe and trust in one God,
Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit.

THE BAPTISM

The priest says

Isadora Céleste Aubin,
I baptise you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

May God who has received you by baptism into the Church, pour upon you the riches of grace, that within the company of Christ's pilgrim people you may daily be renewed by the anointing of the Holy Spirit and come to the inheritance of the saints in glory.
Amen.

THE GIVING OF THE CANDLE

The priest gives a candle to the parents, saying:

God receives Isadora by baptism into the Church.
Receive this light.

This is to show that Isadora has passed from darkness to light.
Shine as a light in the world to the glory of God the Creator.

THE WELCOME

The priest says

Isadora, God receives you by baptism into the church.
We welcome you into the fellowship of faith;
we are members together of the body of Christ.
We are children of the same Creator.
We welcome you!

THE PEACE

The priest says

God of peace: you are home to the exile,
daylight to the prisoner, authority to the silent.
You are anger to the helpless,
laughter to the weary and direction to the joyful.
Come among us in peace.

The deacon says

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The priest says

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Please share the Peace with your neighbours if you are in the building, and in the YouTube chat box if you are online.

During the offertory hymn, a collection will be taken. If you have cash, please fill in the Gift Aid envelopes in the pews with the pens available.

If you don't have cash, please use the tap donate device in the collection plate, which is set to £10, or the QR code on page 22.

OFFERTORY HYMN

[Tune: Southcote; Words: Sydney Carter (1915-2004)]

One more step along the world I go,
one more step along the world I go;
from the old things to the new,
keep me travelling along with you:
and it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

Round the corners of the world I turn,
more and more about the world I learn;
all the new things that I see
you'll be looking at along with me:
and it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

As I travel through the bad and good,
keep me travelling the way I should.
Where I see no way to go,
you'll be telling me the way, I know:
and it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

Give me courage when the world is rough,
keep me loving though the world is tough;
leap and sing in all I do,

keep me travelling along with you:
and it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

You are older than the world can be,
you are younger than the life in me;
ever old and ever new,
keep me travelling along with you:
and it's from the old I travel to the new;
keep me travelling along with you.

PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

The priest says

Holy God,
Holy and strong,
Holy and immortal,
Give us the bread of everlasting life,
And make us branches of the true vine.
Amen.

GATHERING CHANT

All are invited to gather round the altar. Should you need to sit, please use any of the benches or seats around the altar at the front of the church.

While moving to the altar, please join in singing …

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above you heavenly host,
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.

The priest leads the Church's Thanksgiving for Creation and Redemption in Christ …

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give thanks and praise.

The priest continues the Church's prayer of thanksgiving …

SANCTUS and **BENEDICTUS** *(HEW)*

The cantor sings

Holy, holy, holy Lord.

All sing

Holy, holy, holy Lord.
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.

The cantor sings

Blessed is the one.

All sing

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna in the highest!
Hosanna in the highest!

The prayer of consecration continues recalling Christ's command to his disciples at the Last Supper, ending with: "...as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me"

THE ACCLAMATIONS *(Haugen)*

The cantor sings

Great is the mystery of faith.

All sing after the cantor

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

The prayer continues …

At the end of the prayer, sing after the cantor

Blessing and honour and glory and power,
be yours for ever.
Amen.

Silence is kept.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

You are invited to pray in your own language.

The priest says

Let us pray in the words that Jesus gave us.

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.

The Bread is broken and the priest says

We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

Though we are many, we are one body,
because we all share in one bread.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The priest says

This is the table of Christ.
It has been made ready for those who love God,
and those who want to love more.
So come; you who have much faith and you who have little.
You who have been to this sacrament often
and you who have not been for some time.
You who have tried to follow Christ and you who have failed.
Come. It is Christ who asks us to meet him here.

THE COMMUNION

During Communion, the Lay Singers and Singing Scholars will sing ***Resignation,*** *music and lyrics by Florence Price (c.1887-1953), in honour of Dr Martin Luther King, Jr.*

My life is a pathway of sorrow;
I've struggled and toiled in the sun,
With hope that the dawn of tomorrow
Would break on a work that is done.

My Master has pointed the way,
He taught me in prayer to say:
"Lord, give us this day and our daily bread,"
I hunger, yet I shall be fed.

My feet, they are wounded and dragging,
My body is tortured with pain,
My heart, it is shattered and flagging--
What matter, if Heaven I gain?

Of happiness once I have tasted;
'Twas only an instant it paused.
Tho' brief was the hour that I wasted,
Forever the woe that it caused.

I'm tired and want to go home.
My mother and sister are there;
They're waiting for me to come
Where mansions are bright and fair.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

God of life and love,
we thank you for feeding us with the bread of heaven.
Hear our prayer for all your hurting world,
that we may grow together in unity and go out with joy,
as witnesses to your generosity and love.
Amen.

Notices are given by the congregation, wardens and clergy.

HYMN
[Tune: Thornbury; Words: Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821-1891)]

Thy hand, O God, has guided
thy flock, from age to age;
the wondrous tale is written,
full clear, on ev'ry page;
our forebears owned thy goodness,
and we their deeds record;
and both of this bear witness:
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

Thy heralds brought glad tidings
to greatest, as to least;
they bade them rise, and hasten
to share the great King's feast;
and this was all their teaching,
in ev'ry deed and word,
to all alike proclaiming:
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

And we, shall we be faithless?
Shall hearts fail, hands hang down?
Shall we evade the conflict,
and cast away our crown?
Not so: in God's deep counsels
some better thing is stored:
we will maintain, unflinching,
one Church, one Faith, one Lord.

Thy mercy will not fail us,
nor leave thy work undone;
with thy right hand to help us,
the vic'try shall be won;
and then by all creation,
thy name shall be adored.
And this shall be their anthem:
One Church, One Faith, one Lord.

THE BLESSING

The priest says

May God give you grace to follow the light of Christ,
wherever you are led and however long the road.
And the blessing of God almighty;
Creator, Christ, and the Holy Spirit
be among you and remain with you now and always.
Amen.

The deacon says

Go in the peace of Christ.
Thanks be to God.

DONATE ONLINE

If you would like to support the ministry of St James's, please scan this QR code to make a donation.

Alternatively, visit sjp.org.uk/donate, or use one of the tap donation points in the church. Donations will appear on your statement as 'Supported Business'.

Holding the Silence

TODAY – Sunday 25th October at 1pm in the church

Our regular Holding the Silence, on the fourth Sunday of the month, will be held in the church after this morning's service. We'll gather at about 1pm.

After a short introduction, we'll have approximately 20 minutes of silence and then end with a chance to share reflections.



We will finish at about 1.30pm. All are welcome – this is a chance to pause together and enjoy the gift of silence.

Celebrating the Saints Together on Sunday 1st November

11am Eucharist at St Pancras, Euston Road

For the Feast of All Saints, the congregations of St James's and St Pancras will worship as one community together.



The Eucharist will be at St Pancras, Euston Road at 11am, The Revd Jonathan Lee will preside and The Revd Lucy Winkett will preach.

All are welcome as we celebrate the joy and the love of the saints in heaven and earth. Please note that there will be no service at 11am at St James's on that day!

For your prayers this week

Parish life and events

All members of our online community.
Isadora, being baptised today, and for Richard, Josée and Mirabelle.
The Wren Project.
Bible Sunday.
Black History month.

Those who have asked for our prayers

Sheryl and Tom

Those who are ill

Liz, Anne, Suelen, Mildred

Recently departed

Donald, and for all who mourn him.
Nesphoro Wasswa Ssalongo Ssambwa, and for Evelyn and all the family who mourn him.

May they rest in peace and rise in glory.

The Sixteen at St James's
Music for All Saints and All Souls
Tuesday 27th October at 7pm

Experience the extraordinary sound of The Sixteen as the world-renowned choir performs a programme of some of the finest choral music of the Portuguese and English Renaissance.

Featuring works by Francisco Lôbo, Tomás Luis de Victoria, William Byrd, William Harris, Charles Villiers Stanford and Hubert Parry, the programme explores music written for All Saints and All Souls, from the luminous polyphony of the Renaissance to Parry's deeply moving *Lord, let me know mine end*.



The concert continues The Sixteen's new partnership with St James's Church, bringing exceptional choral music into our historic setting.

For full programme details tickets, please go to: www.thesixteen.com/event/music-for-all-saints-and-all-souls-london