



OUR LADY OF DOLOURS SERVITE CHURCH

264 FULHAM ROAD, LONDON SW10 9EL

T: 020 7352 6965 Email: fulhamroad@rcdow.org.uk

GIFT AID: fulhamroadgac@rcdow.org.uk WEB: serviteparish.co.uk

[Servite Parish Community - Fulham Road | Facebook](#)

5TH SUNDAY OF EASTER YR. A 3RD MAY 2026

Reflection

The readings for the Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year A, invite us to reflect on our identity as a community of believers and on the hope, we have in Christ.

The 1st reading from the Acts of the Apostles 6:1-7, we see the early Church facing challenges as the community grows. The appointment of deacons was a response to the needs of the people, ensuring that no one was neglected, especially the widows. This significant moment illustrates that service and ministry are crucial aspects of our faith. We are called not only to pray and worship but also to act with love and compassion, ensuring that every member of our community feels valued and cared for.

Today's Psalm (33) rejoices in the goodness of God, inviting us to sing for joy and trust in His steadfast love. It is a reminder that in our service and in our struggles, God's providence is ever-present. The psalmist assures us that God watches over those who hope in Him. In times of uncertainty and trial, we can take comfort that our prayer and our efforts in serving are not in vain. God's plan is unfolding, and He cares deeply for each of us.

The Gospel is taken from John 14:1-12, Jesus comforts His disciples with the assurance that He is the way, the truth, and the life. His promise to prepare a place for us in the Father's house is a profound reminder that we are not alone. As we navigate our own doubts and fears, Christ invites us to trust Him and to find peace in His presence.



First Holy Communion – A soft reminder that the Practice for the First Holy Communion will be on 6th May 2026 (Wednesday) at 3:45pm for Group A and on 7th May 2026 (Thursday) at 3:45pm for Group B. The Celebration of First Holy Communion will be on 9th May 2026 (Saturday) at 10:30am for Group A and 12 pm for Group B. No mass at 10:00am to give way to this event.

Santacruzán sa Chelsea 2026 – a flower offering to our Mother Mary will be on 31st May 2026 at 2:00pm. There will be a procession and mass celebration afterwards. Young girls and boys including young adult ladies are invited to participate.

Safeguarding – Our Diocese is strengthening safeguarding across all parishes, not just as a requirement, but to uphold the dignity of every person. All parish volunteers are asked to complete a short safeguarding training (under one hour). Details are in a letter available from the colonnade or parish office, and via group leaders. Please complete the training as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued service.

Appeal for the Lighting System – Our parish church had made a major repair to the electrical lighting system that costs £40,000. We sincerely appeal for your generous support. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Mass Collections (25th & 26th April 2026) – £1,248 was received in the main collection, and £642 in the second collection for the Priest Training Fund. Thank you for your faithful kindness and wholehearted support.

Mass Times

Vigil Mass: Sat 6.30 pm
Sunday 9.30 am
11.00 am
Spanish Mass 12.30 pm
6.30 pm
Mon to Sat 10am & 6.30 pm

Sacrament of Confession

Saturday 10.45 – 11.15 am
6.00 – 6.30 pm
Mon – Fri 6:15 – 6:30 pm

Parish Office Opening Hrs

Mon – Fri 9am to 5pm
(Lunch from 1.30pm to 2.30pm)

Rosary

Every Wednesday after
10am Mass followed by Tea
in the Founders Room.

- Rosary also held on Sundays at 3pm in the Colonnade.

Legion of Mary

Every Tuesday at 7pm in the Parlour.

Holy Hour

1st Friday of every month after
10am Mass. The hour will include
Rosary, Litany Divine Mercy &
Benediction.

Saints Days

Mon 4th – St. Peregrine of Flori
Tue 5th – St. Hilary of Arles
Wed 6th – Sts. Marian and James
Thu 7th – St. Rose Venerini
Fri 8th – The Bl. Virgin Mary, Mother
and Mediatrix of Grace **Sat 9th** – St.
John of Avila



St. Peregrine Mass of Healing

Our next St. Peregrine Mass of
Healing is on **27th May** at 6.30pm.

Relic of St. Carlo Acutis

Exposition of this Relic on every
Monday after our 10am Mass.

St. Carlo Acutis, Pray for us.

YOUR GIVING BUILDS THE PARISH

Through Gift Aid, every £1 you donate becomes £1.25 for the parish. Gift Aid increases your donation by 25% — and it costs you nothing. Come and visit the parish office for further information.

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FIRST READING

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

6:1-7
In those days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the Twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, 'It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers and sisters, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.' And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the Apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them.

And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.



The word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL Ps 33(32):1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R 22

- R. May your merciful love be upon us, as we hope in you, O Lord.**
1. Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just; for praise is fitting from the upright. Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp; with a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **R**
 2. The word of the Lord is upright, and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right, and his merciful love fills the earth. **R**

5th Sunday of Easter (Year A) 3rd May 2026

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John 14:1-12

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

Philip said to him, 'Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. 'Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father.'



The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Glory to you, Lord, Jesus Christ.

NICENE CREED—See Laudate 479 (205)

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, (All bow for following three lines) and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, He suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.