

**PARISH OF ST CHARLES BORROMEEO  
8 OGLE STREET, LONDON W1W 6HS**



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**Neocatechumenate: Michael Anderson 07956281186**  
**Confessions: Tues to Fri at noon before 12:30 Mass**  
**Masses: Tues to Fri 12:30**  
**Evening Mass Thursdays 6pm**  
**Saturday 8:15pm & Sunday 9am & 11am**

**PETER & PAUL 2025**



Peter, foremost in confessing the faith, Paul, its outstanding preacher, Peter, who established the early Church from the remnant of Israel, Paul, master and teacher of the Gentiles, both share a martyr's crown. Blessed Apostles, pray for us!

Congratulations to **Chris and Elizabeth** who married in our parish on Saturday 28th June. May the Lord grant them joy, compassion and persevering love in their marriage.

**Thanks be to God** for Deacons James Boyle and Sean Power, ordained priests for our diocese this Saturday in the Cathedral.

Thanks also for the anniversary of ordination of Fathers Juan Sola, Tom Blackburn and myself, which took place this week.

May the Lord continue to send labourers to his harvest!

This Thursday we celebrate the feast of **St Thomas, Apostle of India**. Many congratulations to and prayers for all our Indian brothers and sisters at St Charles Borromeo!

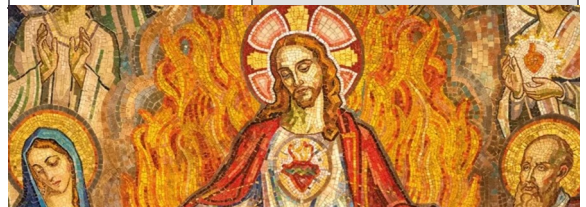
Thank you so much for your precious gift of £257.90 which is helping **Mary's Meals** to transform the lives of hungry children around the world with a nutritious daily meal in school.



The second collection this Sunday is for **Peter's Pence**. Thanks to the donations to Peter's Pence, it was possible to fund 236 projects in 76 countries in 2024. For more info: [www.obolodisapietro.va](http://www.obolodisapietro.va)

**Mass Schedule**

Sat 28th June Vigil of SS Peter & Paul	8:30pm Of the Catechumenate
Sun 29th June St Peter & St Paul	9am Pro Populo 11am Kim Tam RIP
Mon 30th June	NO MASS
Tue 1st July Cathedral Dedication	12:30 Harry Hentorn Int.
Wed 2nd July	12:30 Pavlo Zakusilo RIP
Thu 3rd July St Thomas	12:30 Philomena Delaney RIP 6:00 Pauline Nelsan Int.
Fri 4th July	12:30 Pauline Stak Int.



By acclamation, we continue to explore together Pope Francis' beautiful encyclical on the Sacred Heart, *Dilexit Nos*.  
**Wednesday 2nd July at 10:30am**  
 in the Crypt.  
 Everyone welcome!

Offertory collections for May 2025:  
 TOTAL: £2,649.76  
 We thank you for your generosity.



# The Triumph of Christianity



*Beloved,*

As a child Tom Holland (the historian, not the actor), loved dinosaurs, big empires and Greek gods.

Eventually, he came to believe an "enlightened" thinker who taught that The triumph of Christianity had ushered in an "age of superstition and credulity".

Tom abandoned Christianity. He became a historian fascinated by the glamour of ancient Rome but the more he learnt about it, the more unsettled he felt.

He did not recognise his own values in the Spartans who trained their young to kill by night nor in Caesar who killed a million Gauls, enslaved another million and boasted about it.

What he came to find most shocking in antiquity was *'the lack of a sense that the poor or the weak might have any intrinsic value.'*<sup>\*</sup>

This unspeakably cruel world built on systematic exploitation of the weak became a world concerned with the defence and promotion of the dignity of every human being and the rights of all nations and peoples. What made this transformation happen? The Triumph of Christianity. Serious historical research revealed this fact, much to Holland's surprise.<sup>1</sup>

Some time in the second century, when St Irenaeus visited Rome, he

wrote of *'the venerable and universally renowned church funded by those two most glorious Apostles Peter and Paul'*.

In time, the ideas of St Paul provided the foundations of western morality and St Peter's heirs succeeded the Caesars as the masters of Rome.

What made the Triumph of Christianity possible? The Triumph of Christ.

The fact that God became a poor, weak man crucified as a slave to reveal, through his glorious Resurrection, the power of his love for the weak and the poor.

This Triumph overcame the pride of Saul and the presumption of Simon and made them willing to become poor, weak men dying at the hands of Rome in order to proclaim it with their blood.

While many still deny, resist or ignore this victory, others like Holland continue to discover its power in their lives: *'I have learned to accept that I am not Greek or Roman at all but thoroughly and proudly Christian'*.<sup>\*</sup>

St Peter and St Paul, witnesses to the Triumph of Christ, pray for us.

*Fr Oscar*

1. For further recommended reading, see Tom Holland's *'Dominion, The Making of the Western Mind'*.

<sup>\*</sup><https://ischristianitytrue.wordpress.com/2016/10/12/the-triumph-of-christianity>