

London



England



5-7 Days



credit: J. Alves Gaspar

While the Society of the Sacred Heart's presence in England dates back to 1842, this itinerary focuses almost exclusively on places in London associated with the life of Janet Erskine Stuart (1857-1914). A Religious of the Sacred Heart who would go on to serve as the Society's sixth superior general, Janet was a charismatic leader, deeply spiritual, and the author of several works, including *The Education of Catholic Girls*.

ROEHAMPTON

- ✓ Parkstead House - This neo-classical Palladian villa once housed the Jesuits' London headquarters. Former residents of Manresa House, as it was known at the time, include the Victorian poet Gerard Manley Hopkins and Fr. Alban Goodier, Janet's spiritual director.
- ✓ St. Mary's Convent - Janet is believed to have stayed here the night before she entered the Society of the Sacred Heart.
- ✓ Sacred Heart Chapel - Where Janet entered the Society, in 1882, and her final resting place. Mother Mabel Digby, the fifth superior general of the Society, also is interred here.
- ✓ Sacred Heart Primary School - In 1911, Janet oversaw the school's move, as it expanded, to its current location.



King's Head / The Hive



credit: Andy Scott

Parkstead House was built in the 1760s.



credit: David Iliif

Interior of the Gothic Revival Church of the Immaculate Conception

MAYFAIR

- ✓ Over the years, Janet lived at several different addresses in the area, including 27 Curzon Street and 50 South Audley Street.
- ✓ Church of the Immaculate Conception - In 1879, Janet was received into the Catholic Church at this Jesuit house of worship, also known as the Farm Street Church.



Shepherd Market

REGENT'S PARK

- ✓ On May 6, 1882, Janet had a life-transforming experience in a garden of blue hyacinths, most likely in Regent's Park. In a flash of insight, she knew God was calling her to enter religious life.
- ✓ Near the park lie the British Museum, the former literary enclave of Bloomsbury, and many University of London buildings. The modern University College Hospital sits on the site of a Victorian-era infirmary where Janet would have visited the sick.

WESTMINSTER

- ✓ Westminster Cathedral - Mother church of Roman Catholics in England and Wales. The Sacred Heart shrine features a statue donated by the Society. Enjoy 360-degree views of London from the top of the bell tower.
- ✓ Houses of Parliament - Janet discussed her decision to become a Catholic with William Gladstone, four-time prime minister of the United Kingdom. At the time, he was a member of the House of Commons.

HAMMERSMITH

- ✓ Sacred Heart High School - The Society opened this school in 1893. It was visited by Janet on several occasions, and the archives contain her lesson-observation notes from these visits. Some of the school buildings were originally constructed as the seminary for the Diocese of Westminster.

KENSINGTON

- ✓ In 1905, Janet helped found St. Charles, a teacher-training college. It was moved later to Roehampton and renamed Digby Stuart. The Church of St. Pius X is St. Charles's former chapel and has a stained-glass window depicting St. Madeleine Sophie.



Regent's Park

CONTACT:

AASH is pleased to present a series of tours—in the United States and abroad—highlighting Sacred Heart history, heritage, and spirituality. If your group is interested in visiting one or more of the places on this suggested itinerary, please email nationaloffice@aash.org or call (314) 569-3948. We would be happy to work with you to organize a trip.