

097 FATHER JAMES

I won't bring trouble to your house, lads.

098 YOUNG ROBERT

It's no trouble. You are safe here.

Father James notices something.

099 FATHER JAMES

Ha. Perhaps I am...

100 YOUNG JOHN

What do you mean, sir?

101 FATHER JAMES

Look there, carved into the side of those walls... A palm frond.

102 YOUNG ROBERT

What does it mean?

103 FATHER JAMES

It means that this is, or was, a safe house, for persecuted Catholics. It seems you were right.

Father James laughs.

104 YOUNG ROBERT

A palm frond? But why?

105 FATHER JAMES

It's a symbol for martyrdom. For eternal life.

HE DUSTS HIMSELF OFF.

106 FATHER JAMES

My name is Father James.

MUSIC SWELLS AS WE TRANSITION TO:

11 INT. HORSHAM ST. FAITH PRIORY - A LITTLE LATER

Robert, John and Father James sit in the old priory eating bread and cheese.

107 FATHER JAMES

Thank you for the food, lads.

108 YOUNG JOHN

**START >>>** Robert always has food on hand.

109 FATHER JAMES

Does he now?

110 YOUNG JOHN

He asks the kitchen to give him  
bread and cheese so he can share it  
with weary travelers.

111 YOUNG ROBERT

To give to those in need is to give  
to God himself.

112 FATHER JAMES

You're a good lad, huh?  
(to John)  
And what about you, then?

113 YOUNG JOHN

I'm just trying my best!

THEY LAUGH AND TAKE A FEW MORE BITES OF FOOD.

114 YOUNG JOHN

Where are you from, Father James?

115 FATHER JAMES

I have lived a great many places in  
my life. Before the Queen ruled, I  
lived among the monks of St.  
Benet's Abbey. Before the King's  
men came and took everything.

116 YOUNG ROBERT

Is that what happened here?

117 FATHER JAMES

Do you not know the story? What is  
your name, boy?

118 YOUNG ROBERT

Robert Southwell.

119 FATHER JAMES

(laughing)

Southwell? And yet you do not know  
what happened here.

120 YOUNG ROBERT

What are you talking about, Father?

121 FATHER JAMES

The persecution we face now has  
been growing for some time.

(MORE)

FATHER JAMES (CONT'D)

Many years ago, Queen Elizabeth's father, King Henry defied the Catholic Church and ripped England away from her. He declared himself head of a new church, The Church of England. He did all this, so he could divorce his first wife and marry -

122 YOUNG JOHN

Anne Boleyn! The Queen's mother!

123 FATHER JAMES

That's right. Her mother, Anne Boleyn, was never recognized as his lawful wife by the Catholic Church-

124 YOUNG ROBERT

So if the marriage was invalid...

125 FATHER JAMES

Yes. Though she wears the crown, Elizabeth's claim can be disputed.

126 YOUNG JOHN

That's why she's so mad.

127 FATHER JAMES

The King was mad too. He destroyed monasteries, abbeys and churches. He stole their wealth and gave their lands to his most loyal men.

(sighing)

Your grandfather, Sir Richard Southwell, was one of the King's most trusted men. When the monasteries were dissolved, he claimed these lands for his own. He took what had been sacred and made it into his estate.

128 YOUNG ROBERT

(confused)

I... I didn't know. But I am Catholic. My father is Catholic...

129 FATHER JAMES

A man is not doomed by the blood in his veins, but he is *defined* by the path he chooses.

130 YOUNG ROBERT

And I suppose every day is a chance  
to choose what is right.

131 FATHER JAMES

(a heartfelt laugh)

Indeed, Robert Southwell. Indeed.

132 YOUNG JOHN

But what brought you here, Father  
James? Are you a monk, as well?

133 FATHER JAMES

I am not. God called me to the  
Society of Jesus, the Jesuits.

134 YOUNG ROBERT

You're a Jesuit?

135 YOUNG JOHN

What's that mean?

136 FATHER JAMES

I am a missionary, an educator. I  
move around the world and spread  
the Word wherever I am called.

137 YOUNG JOHN

Robert believes he is called too.

**<<< END**

138 FATHER JAMES

Do you now? Do you boys know what  
it truly means... To be a Jesuit?

THE BOYS ARE SILENT.

139 FATHER JAMES

We love God with such fierceness  
that we do not flinch when the  
world tries to break us. We follow  
Him, walk with Him, and Serve Him.  
We give ourselves wholly to Him, to  
discover the work he has for us,  
and then we work unflinchingly for  
His glory in the world. We walk  
into danger, armed with the truth.  
The Jesuit is not tucked behind  
stone walls. We are soldiers. We  
are surgeons. We are the whisper in  
the ear of a dying man. We study  
the mind, the soul, the state. We  
debate queens and comfort widows.  
We write poetry and hold a dying  
hand with the same tenderness.

(MORE)