

NEWSLETTER

THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIST

When I read the Gospel account of the birth of John the Baptist, I was reminded of the Visitation. It sets the scene, of the Virgin Mary and Elizabeth greeting each other. Most important of all the child in Mary's and Elizabeth's wombs greet each other. Indeed this scene is not an isolated one, don't all mothers greet with joy to see another expecting.

The difference here, both women have conceived out of God's immense generosity and love for us sinners. Through the birth of John the Baptist, he in the womb of Elizabeth was already conversance with heaven, than with earth. It was fortuitous, that he for our sake announced the events to come. John received such caliber form, God, long before he was received into his own body. I would say, that, John was elevated by grace and then proceeded on his ministry.

To whom, could we compare John the Baptist? I would venture to say, there is a great Old Testament prophet, Elijah and he comes in the spirit of him, and walks in his power, in the manner of his food, clothing, honour, chastity, abstinence, and in all the virtues, he represented Elijah and our Lord. Preparing for the Lord a people fit for him.

May our Lord and God the Father, descend to prepare each one of us too, to the glory of his name.

Fr. Christopher

SS Peter & Paul

Permit me in the solemnity of Peter and Paul to comment on St Paul. To my mind, St Paul imitated the Word and all the Saints who followed him. If you and I follow him we could become one with him and share in his great-heartedness which would replace our small-heartedness. This means we have to rise up, open our eyes, and take as our model the goodness and love our heavenly Father has shown to us his poor creatures, but we would never attain such greatness of soul but will be small-hearted that you and I will have no room for ourselves, neither for our neighbours.

This is the reason why we have to set ourselves on fire, by gazing upon his charity, if we should do this we would love what he loves, and hate what he hates. Yes, friends, let's lift our hearts and our small disordered conscience! Let's not give any room to that devil, who seeks to prevent us from doing good and wishes we were not thrown out of his domain. We need to realise with a firm heart and fervour that the law of the Holy Spirit is quite different from yours and mine. Let's imitate St Paul, who was in love, and be a receptacle of affection that conveys and manifests the name of our Lord and saviour Jesus Christ. When reading his letters one gets the impression that St Paul gazed upon this love of our Lord and lost himself entirely in it. In return, St Paul was privileged to have a wonderful soul, that he was willing to be considered an outcast for the sake of his brothers and sisters. St Paul was in love with whatever God was in love with. He exemplified that charity is never nauseated, and is never confounded.

Fr. Christopher

MASS
INTENTIONS23rd June

6pm—Holy Souls

24th June

9am - People of the
Parish

11am—Glen Lay (Anniv)

For a weekday mass intentions, please, see the notice board on the left hand side of the main door of the church.

Confessions on
Saturday at 5.15-5.45pm
or by appointment

Holy Hour
Every Saturday,
At 5pm.

ALTAR SERVERS

Those of our young people who have made their First Holy Communion, and would be interested in becoming an Altar Server. Could you please submit your details to Catherine at the office and we shall provide the necessary training.

Thank you.

Fr Christopher

Readings for this and next Sunday

Job 38: 1, 8-11,
Psalm - 106: 23-26, 28-31 response v 1
2nd Reading - 2 Corinthians 5: 14-17
Gospel - Mark 4: 35-41

Wisdom 1: 13-15, 2:23-24,
Psalm - 29:2, 4-6, 11-13 response v 2
2nd Reading - 2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13-17
Gospel - Mark 5: 21-43

JOIN

St Edmund's Church BBQ this Sunday

12:00 to 2:30 pm

£8.00 Adults

Children under 16 free

Selection of food and drinks included

Please come along to meet everyone.



Tickets on Sale after each Mass,

Volunteers needed to help to set up for BBQ on the day, after 9 am Mass.

Your help is much appreciated.

"Please support the excellent work which **The Passage** does for homeless people in central London, by attending The Passage Annual Garden Party in the beautiful and historic College Garden, Westminster Abbey on Friday 13 July 2018, from 6.00 pm to 8.30 pm. Tickets at £45 each, include wine, soft drinks, buffet supper and live music. There will be a raffle and charity auction. Tickets are available from Eventbrite [passage-garden-party-2018.eventbrite.co.uk](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk) or call The Passage 020 7592 1856. It will not be possible to purchase tickets at the Abbey. All proceeds in aid of The Passage." Many thanks, Andrew Hollingsworth, Business Director, The Passage

HOLY LAND PARISH PILGRIMAGE MARCH 2019

Pilgrimage People have contacted us only five have signed up. The required number for the Pilgrimage is 12 and if don't get that number, they would have to cancel the trip as it won't be viable. Could we ask those who have taken the booking forms to submit their deposits to Pilgrimage People as soon as possible. Thank you for your co-operation.

Fr Christopher

Westminster Youth Ministry Events

Resonate

"The most beautiful and stirring adventure that can happen to you is the personal meeting with Jesus, who is the only one who gives real meaning to our lives." JP2. Resonate is the Diocese of Westminster Youth Ministry's primary event for Young Adults. There is a shared meal, an opportunity build community and a chance to explore our faith. The next Resonate is Friday 29th June | 18-35 years old | 7-9pm | Free | Centre for Youth Ministry, 125 Waxwell Lane, Pinner, HA5 3EP.

World Youth Day

World Youth Day is an international event with the Pope, and Catholics from across the world. The next WYD will be in Panama, Central America, in January 2019. The Diocese of Westminster Youth Ministry are organising a pilgrimage for young adults to attend this life changing event. Scholarships for 50% are also available to support young adults wishing to go. More information: dowym.com/events/wyd-panama-2019 or email:

youth@rcdow.org.uk

Relic of Pope St. Clement I on display in Westminster Cathedral

The relic of first century Pope St. Clement I discovered in a waste disposal warehouse in East London was returned to the Catholic Church yesterday, 19 June. It will go on display in the Treasures of Westminster Cathedral exhibition.

James Rubin, the owner of Enviro Waste, found the relic on one of his lunchtime walkabouts around the warehouse. He put out a call online to find the relic an appropriate home and "after about one hundred and fifty, two hundred responses, it just stood out from the e-mails that we needed to return it back to Westminster Cathedral."

Who was Pope Clement?

"St. Clement is a very important figure in the life of the Early Church. Pope from the year 90 to the year 101, Pope St. Clement was arrested if you like by the Emperor Trajan because he was too successful in preaching the Christian Gospel and Trajan decided 'get this man out of Rome and put him into exile in a very very distant part of the Empire' we would call it Ukraine. So Clement was exiled to the Ukraine and eventually he was martyred there by drowning, and one of the symbols of Pope St. Clement is he is portrayed with an anchor because he had an anchor weighed around his neck." Archbishop George Stack, Chair of the Patrimony Committee

"This is probably the most remarkable story coming out of the waste industry right now" - James Rubin.

"We don't know exactly where it came from because we just ended up with this in our warehouse and it was a strange one because at lunchtime, I tend to walk around the industrial estate and go into the warehouse where we have a range of furniture and electronic waste and I happened to see that on the side on someone's desk and I thought 'that's a bit strange, that doesn't really belong in the hands of a waste company'."

James Rubin, owner of Enviro Waste

"It is a very, very remarkable artefact" - Architectural Historian Sophie Andreae

"We (the patrimony committee) were in touch very quickly with James (Rubin) and his company to say that this was of extreme importance from the Catholic perspective and that we would like to find an appropriate home for it. For Catholics relics do have very great importance and significance and this is of course a relic of St. Clement the third Pope, ordained by St. Peter himself in Rome so it is a very, very remarkable artefact."

Architectural Historian Sophie Andreae, DSG, FSA, IHBC, Vice Chair of the Patrimony Committee of the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales

"People are intrigued by relics" – Archbishop George Stack

"There is a tremendous living connection with our forefathers and mothers, going back to the days of St. Clement, the Mass used to be celebrated on the tombs of those who have given their lives for the faith. So that constant tradition, a living tradition of holding our forebears in veneration as an inspiration to people today as we try to follow, not the path of martyrdom necessarily, but certainly the witness that they gave."

Archbishop George Stack, Chair of the Patrimony Committee

How do we know it is for real?

"The label hand written in capital letters 'EX OSS S.CLEMENTIS P.M.' probably standing for proto martyr. The dome of the reliquary is held in place by a red thread which is crossed at the back and is sealed with a seal that can be identified either as that of a cardinal or an archbishop. As I speak now with the most recent intelligence Catholic historians, it is a question of how many tassels are attached to the hat. The seal is of course in red wax and so the hat appears to be red, if it was an archbishops hat, it would be green. There are fifteen tassels, the coat of arms of a cardinal has fifteen tassels so that indicates that the coat of arms once identified would help us to date the piece, which we believe is probably as early as the seventeenth century and the cardinal represented was responsible for authorising the production of smaller relics from a principle bone of the saint and distrusting the relics. So we don't know where this was first received but one suggestion is the fact that the Basilica San Clemente in Rome is the home of the Irish province of the Dominicans and so there may be an Irish connection."

Dr Tessa Murdoch FSA, Deputy Keeper of Sculpture, Metalwork, Ceramics and Glass, Victoria & Albert Museum

The relic is the personal belonging of someone who wishes to remain anonymous. It appears that it was one of a number of items stolen from a car in Central London. It is being donated to the Treasures of Westminster Cathedral exhibition. St. Clements' feast day takes place on November 23rd.

Rosary Group's July Prayer Meeting

**After 11am Mass, Sunday 01st July
Meet by the statue of Mary**

The theme of our prayers this month is:

Giving Thanks

Beginners Welcome

**Please bring your Rosary. Booklets Available
Pray With Us Pray The Rosary**



WANT TO HELP OTHERS? Become a Foodbank Volunteer

Are you a friendly conversationalist who can work with fellow Christians from other denominations?

Every Tuesday, 10am to 1.30pm

Help open/close the foodbank, work hard, make tea and coffee, serve guests, and stock-take.

*Training Given. Good Work Experience.
Text contact details to 07968-971-874.*

Diocese of Westminster
Roman Catholic Parish of St Edmund of Abingdon, Millwall
297 Westferry Road, Millwall. E14 3RS
Telephone: 020-7987-4114; Email: millwall@rcdow.org.uk



Fr Christopher Silva
Parish Priest,

Mrs Katherine Woznicka
Parish Secretary

The office may be contacted by phone:

Monday to Friday 9am-2pm

Closed on Bank Holidays

NEW PARISHIONERS — Please fill in a “Registration Form” from the Church porch and hand it in to the Office or to the Parish Priest.

BLESSING OF HOMES — Contact the Parish Secretary to book a date and time.

COMMUNION FOR THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND — Contact the Parish Secretary to arrange for a visit from the Caring & Sharing Group.

BAPTISMS — Parents must attend a 2-session Baptism Formation Program (during pregnancy or after birth) – Next baptismal course will be on **Mon 18Jun & Mon 25Jun 2018 - 7.00pm.** Please, call the office to reserve your space. Please, note that all baptism will be during Mass.

WEDDINGS — Contact the Parish Priest by email or letter, **even if you wish to be married elsewhere.** Please give full names, contact details, religion of each party and whether or note either of you has been married before. The Church normally requires six months notice of weddings.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I GO INTO HOSPITAL? — If you are admitted as a patient, please ensure the Chaplains’ Office is informed you would like to be visited by a Catholic Minister. This has to be done by you or a relative.

PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND VULNERABLE ADULTS — The Parish is completely committed to the protection from abuse of all children and vulnerable adults in its care. The Parish Protection Officer is Mrs Diane Winship and she should be contacted directly on 07799-414-806 if you have cause for concern. The Diocesan Protection Officer may be contacted on 020-7798-9350/07803-634-236, by email to peterturner@rcdow.org.uk or at Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, SW1P 1QN.

AN EMAIL NEWSLETTER — The newsletter is available electronically, enabling you to remain in touch even when you are away on holiday or on business—as well as reducing our ecological footprint. Email the Parish Secretary to arrange to added to the distribution list.

LOOP SYSTEM — The Church is fitted with “Loop” sound systems – please switch to ‘T’.

SETS OF DONATION ENVELOPES for present financial year

are now ready for collection in our If you notice any misspelling in you name/surname or the address, please, let me know by email on millwall@rcdow.org.uk. Also, if you want to donate by envelopes, you can let me know via email and I will prepare a box for you.

During the week the boxes are available form the office.

Katherine

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS: loose: 345.73 envelopes: £519.13, **total: 861.86**

Thank you for your Generosity WRCDT Charity No: 233699

**ST EDMUND’S
PRIMARY SCHOOL**
Westferry Road, Millwall E14 3RS
020 7987 2546

**BISHOP CHALLONER
COLLEGIATE SCHOOLS**
Commercial Road, London E1 0AB
020 7791 9500