

NEWSLETTER

14TH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME

LACK OF FAITH

To be a peer of today is like being a fellow countryman. It may be without us realizing it, is formed into a people with a shared mentality, similar thought, and common fears. It seems to me we become citizens of a country that doesn't have roots in any land.

We see an absence of faith and in this episode, the story is not determined by faith; faith is left out by everything that is going around and faith is not relevant. The current environment seems to be harmful to faith and our Christian lives grow attenuated or dissolve completely. This wavering attitude is not the fault of faith but what Christians call faith; it's a depiction of faith that is disadvantaged of essentials or portrayal of faith that is adulterated that doesn't belong to it. In certain cases what is at fault is a faith that strives to maintain and preserve itself, in doing so forgets its effective presence.

Authentic faith is steadfast.

It's wrong I would say, to assume that faith couldn't survive in such settings or to think that Christians are doomed to lose faith in such atmospheres where faith has yet to be proclaimed.

If we are partial, could it be that we have forgotten, when we discover an aspect of faith and we are fascinated by it, we tend to be tempted to lose sight of another truth, which we forget altogether,

It's a truism that faith exists in an age for an age. We tend to trivialize it. But then we are gob-smacked by the glimpse of eternity faith presents us, and then conclude it would be good if we stayed static. God, however, is unchangeable, and staying static is not the way to imagine him. Authentic faith is there to help us toward eternal life all ready in time. Nonetheless, genuine faith never finds a welcome in time. Faith is constantly beset with questions of an age or is questioned by the age, and it's called into question by the age. The rule here is Absolution. If however, we take faith as sufficient for us, if we don't add anything to it, or take anything from it, we will be called into question; But faith will give us life, will inform us how to act and say, no matter what age, we live in even our present age. *Fr. Christopher*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord, my God, thank you for the great gifts with which you have bless me every day throughout my life. Thank you for the gift of life and the freedom to choose, without which I would be nothing.

Thank you for my family, who loved me and taught me and made me what I am today. Thank you for the friends I have known, and those that still continue with me, who have added to my happiness in life. Thank you for each day that I live and breathe, and for the opportunities you give me to discover what I am meant to do in this brief life of mine.

Thank you for the gift of your eternal love for me, without which I could not exist. And thank you for your greatest gift: the light of your son, Jesus Christ, that you sacrificed for us so that he could point the way to salvation and eternal life. Amen.

MASS
INTENTIONS7th July

6pm—John Higgins RIP

8th July

9am - People of the
Parish

11am—Fr Patrick
Miscampbell RIP

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

1st Reading—Ezekiel 2:2-5,
Psalm - 122; response v 2
2nd Reading - 2 Corinthians 12; 7-10
Gospel - Mark 6: 1-6

Amos 7: 12-15,
Psalm - 84: 9-14, response v 8
2nd Reading - Ephesian 1: 3-4
Gospel - Mark 6: 7-13

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.

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

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

BAPTISMS

Baptisms that take place here in the parish of St Edmunds will be during Parish Masses, at Saturday 6pm, Sunday 9am, 11am.

We recognize, that families need to plan ahead, when they have friends and family attending the baptism, we are through Catherine at the office book the time and date of the baptism. We do emphasize it's conditional to the completion of the baptism course, provision of godparent references being completed before the actual baptism.

The date and which Mass can be booked with Catherine (Parish Office) but must be confirmed in writing.

Cannon Law (Church Law) requires that each child must have godparent; should there be a second godparent, one has to be male and the other female.

A godparent is defined as a confirmed, practicing Catholic. Should the godparent not be a member of this parish (St Edmund) we require a reference from his / her parish that they meet the requirement- that he/she is attending Mass regularly.

Although the maximum number of godparents is set at two, families could have additional people whose standing is that of 'witness to the baptism.' During the baptism, we don't distinguish between godparents and witnesses, but only the names of the godparents will be inserted in the baptismal register and in the baptism certificate.

Equally, baptised Christians from other denominations may participate as witnesses to the baptism, but they cannot participate as godparents. Members of other faiths (or none) cannot serve as either godparents or as witnesses to the baptism.

Both parents and godparents, as part of the baptism, must make a declaration of faith. Prior to the baptism could we ask that you go through beforehand and ascertain you both can honestly make it? In all probability, if anyone one has a problem with any part of it, the problem lies in understanding what is meant rather than with the article of faith itself- do please, contact me to discuss it well before the baptism. The unpleasant thing you could do is start your child's relationships with God by affirming in His presence to something you don't believe.

Since all baptisms are during Mass, the choice you are faced with is whether to clothe your child with a white garment: whatever your child is wearing at the time of the actual baptism, this is something additional (and white) that is added a minute or so later. Traditionally, the garment would be a white shawl, but it could be as simple as a length of white ribbon going around the neck. It recalls the practice in the early Church of baptism by total immersion; as the newly baptised person came out of the water he/she would be dried and clothed in new white garments. You need to let Catherine know well in advance of your decision prior to your child's baptism.

We don't charge for baptism but we ask for families to make a contribution to defray the cost by given a donation in the range of £50-100, with others giving more. It doesn't mean you have to subject yourselves to unnecessary financial stress, but give what you think you can afford.

Fr. Christopher

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.

"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

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: will be announced next week

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