

## NEWSLETTER

31<sup>ST</sup> SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME

## THE GREAT COMMANDMENT

One might say the great joy that draws us closer to God, and is pleasing to him is love. We might be surprised, and it may fill us with joy, that the quality of love is its tenderness.

We see this expressed so well, in the Old Testament: *'Encourage me to walk in your truth and teach me since you are the God who saves me' (Ps 24:5)*. And again, *'You will be suckled, carried on her hip and fondled in her lap. As a mother comforts her child, so I shall comfort you; you will be comforted in Jerusalem' (Is 66:13)*. In Hosea, we read, *'Yes, I shall betroth you to myself in loyalty and in the knowledge of Yahweh. When that day comes. When that day comes, I shall respond, declares Yahweh' (Hos2:22)*. In the same passage, we read, *'I shall betroth you to myself forever, I shall betroth you to myself in loyalty and in the knowledge of Yahweh' (Hos2: 21)*.

We are given assurance and confidence that our love is not without value in the sight of God; that we can please him and he patiently awaits our love in response to his; *'I shall no longer call you servants because a servant does not know his master's business; I call you friends, because I have made known to you everything I have learnt from my Father' (Jn 15: 15)*.

We all have a longing to comprehend God's charity, but we have a sadness due to our egotism which makes it impossible for us to share it fully in this world.

Fr. Christopher

## MASS

## INTENTIONS

3rd November

6pm—P.T. Jacob (Anniv)

4th November9am - People of the  
Parish11am— Ints of Karen  
Villacarlos**NO MORNING MASS ON  
TUESDAY, 6TH NOV**

For 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

Holy HourEvery Saturdayat 5pm

## Love in Action

Community & Participation (our final topic in the series)

Writing to the Romans, Paul says, 'Just as each of our bodies has several parts and each part has a separate, function, so all of us, in union with Christ, form one body, and as parts of it, we belong to each other. Our gifts differ according to the grace given us. If your gift is prophecy, then use it as your faith suggests; if administration, then use it for administration; if teaching, then use it for teaching. Let the preachers deliver sermons, the almsgivers give freely, the officials be diligent, and those who do works of mercy do them cheerfully (Romans 12: 4-12).

Once again, to remind you all to refer back to the flyers and prayer cards handed out to you; go through them this coming week in preparation for the **Workshop on the 11th November in the School Hall. Immediately, after the 11 am Mass**, Teas and Coffees will be served by the Confirmation Candidates. The workshop will be lead by representatives of Caritas Westminster. I also encourage our young people to attend and give their input.

Fr. Christopher

## Pauline Mary Waters RIP

We are sad to announced that Pauline Waters passed away. The service is to be held at St Edmunds Church on **Tuesday 20th November 2018** at 11am.

SICK & RETIRED PRIEST'S  
FUND

Next weekend ( 10th & 11th ) we will be having our annual collection for our sick and retired priests of our diocese. We have all been touched by our priests and grateful for having known them. They have been here for us and now let's help them with our generous donation. The Fund can then help cover the medical, housing, convalescence, and personal needs of the sick & retired priests. May I take this opportunity to thank each and everyone for your generosity each year giving to the Fund, it's much appreciated. As you leave after Mass, donation envelopes will be given out; place your donation and bring it next weekend where there will be a second collection. May God bless you all.

Fr. Christopher

## Readings for this and next Sunday

1st Reading; Deuteronomy 6: 2-6,  
Psalm - 17: 2-4, 47, 51 response v 2  
2nd Reading - Hebrews 7: 23-28

1st Reading; Kings 17; 10-16,  
Psalm - 145: 7-10 response v 2  
2nd Reading - Hebrews 9: 24-28

**Prayer for Peace****TO MARY, THE LIGHT OF HOPE**

Immaculate Heart of Mary, help us to conquer the menace of evil,  
which so easily takes root in the hearts of the people today, and whose immeasurable effects  
already weigh down upon our modern world  
and seem to block the paths toward the future.

From famine and war, deliver us.

From nuclear war, from incalculable self-destruction, from every kind of war, deliver us.

From sins against human life from its very beginning, deliver us.

From hatred and from the demeaning of the dignity of the children of God, deliver us.

From every kind of injustice in the life of society, both national and international, deliver us.

From readiness to trample on the commandments of God, deliver us.

From attempts to stifle in human hearts the very truth of God, deliver us.

From the loss of awareness of good and evil, deliver us.

From the sins against the Holy Spirit, deliver us.

Accept, O Mother of Christ,

this cry laden with sufferings of all individual human beings, laden with the sufferings of whole societies.

Help us with the power of the Holy Spirit conquer all sin: individual sin and the 'sin of the world,'

sin in all its manifestations.

Let there be revealed once more in the history of the world

that infinite saving power of the redemption:

the power of merciful love.

May it put a stop to evil. May it transform consciences.

May your Immaculate Heart reveal for all the light of hope. Amen

*St John Paul II*



**Rosary Group's  
Monthly Prayer Meeting  
Sunday 04th November  
Meet by the statue of Mary  
after 11am Mass**

*The theme of our prayers will be:*  
**St. Edmund and Our Parish**

**Beginners Welcome**

Meetings held 1st Sunday of every month

Please bring your Rosary. Booklets Available

**Pray With Us † Pray The Rosary**

**CAFOD  
Memorial Mass**

You are warmly invited to the CAFOD Memorial Mass, in memory of all our Supporters and Volunteers, at the Church of Christ the King, 29 Bramley Road, Oakwood, London N14 4HE at **11am** on **Wednesday 7 November**. Refreshments will be served after the Mass.

If you would like someone to be included in our Book of Remembrance, please send us their name by calling CAFOD Westminster on 020 8449 6970 or emailing [westminster@cafod.org.uk](mailto:westminster@cafod.org.uk)

### **First Holy Communion**

The First Reconciliation and First Communion Course will begin here at St Edmund's on Wednesday 5th December with the Parents Meeting (7 pm). Booking Forms will be available from 9th September 2018 and the final date for the submission of the forms is 11th November 2018 to the parish office. Thank you *Fr Christopher*

### **The Joy of a Full Soup-Drawer**

Hi, I have been helping out at the local Island Gardens Foodbank for the last three and a half years. You will have seen the adverts on the notice board and the collection boxes under the table. We give food and help to about twenty to twenty-five people every week from the E14 area. These are not always the same people, as many only visit for a short while.

We help them with more than just food. The biggest problem for visitors is that their poverty and desperation cuts them off from family and friends. There is no-one to talk to and they become isolated and alone in one of the most crowded cities in the country. Without the foodbank, people would not just go hungry, they would truly despair.

Thanks to the generosity of a great many people, including many schools in the area, we now have more than 500 tins of soup. Each tin is a prayer of unconditional love offered by a family or a person to a total stranger. It tells a very lonely and sad stranger that the world still cares, that they still matter and are not forgotten. There is still reason for them to hope.

I worry when the soup drawer begins to look empty, but the Lord has made sure the soup-drawer has never run-out. Soup is as much a staple as the daily bread we so often pray for. The foodbank would collapse without soup to offer guests every week. This is why I wanted to express my personal gratitude to so many people and families without whom we could not function.

If you would like to like to help others, then donate basic food items like tins of fruit, vegetables, and litre cartons of long-life milk. Families often prefer whole milk for their children. Alternately, we are currently advertising for volunteers on the parish notice-board. You can always be one of those volunteers for about three hours every Tuesday. My thanks, Paul Marlow.

### **LOVE IN ACTION**

These past five weeks we have looked at Catholic Social Teaching.

The topics we covered:

Week One: Dignity ( The main thread and, in a certain sense, the guiding principle...of all of the church's social doctrine, is a correct view of the human person and of their unique value' St John Paul II)

Week Two: Solidarity and Peace ( Solidarity, is not a feeling of vague compassion...it is a firm and persevering determination to commit oneself...to the good of all and of each individual because we are all really responsible for all'. St John Paul II)

Week Three: Preferential Option For the Poor: ( Our Faith in Christ, who became poor, and was always close to the poor and the outcast, is the basis of our concern for the integral development of society's most neglected members' ( Pope Francis, Joy of the Gospel)

Week Four: Care of Creation: ( The book of Genesis tells us that God created man and woman entrusting them with the task of filling the earth and subduing it, which does not mean exploiting it, but nurturing and protecting it, caring for it through their work' Pope Francis)

Week Five: The Dignity and rights of Workers (There is no worse material poverty...than the poverty which prevents people from earning their bread and deprives them of the dignity of work' Pope Francis)

Week Sixth: Community and Participation. *Fr. Christopher*

### **NOVEMBER MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS**

Envelopes are available on the table for you to put the names of your loved ones who will be remembered at ALL Masses during the month of November and later. Please, put your envelope with your donation into the basket in front of the Altar. Thank you

### **17th November 18**

Would all Eucharistic Ministers, Readers, and All Catechists put this date in your diary. Fr. Javier will be here at 10 am to speak to all of you about 'Understanding Scripture'. It's a good way, for us to prepare for Advent/ Christmas. Could I ask you please, to RSVP without delay to Chris Murray, as we need to know the numbers? Many Thanks.

*Fr. Christopher*

**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 7 January & Mon 14 January 2019 - 7.30pm. 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](mailto: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](mailto: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: 372.47, envelopes: 508.08, total: **808.55**

**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