

## NEWSLETTER

32ND SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME

## A LIGHT TO MY PATH

Our first reading from the book of Kings encounters Prophet Elijah with the widow who gathers some sticks; He addresses her, 'Please bring me a little water in a vessel for me to drink'. as she makes her way, he calls out again 'bring me a scrap of bread in your hand', She must have shaken her head when she says, 'As the Lord your God lives, ' she replies, 'I have no baked bread, but only a handful of meal in a jar and a little oil in a jug; I am just gathering a stick or two to go and prepare this for myself and my son to eat, and then we shall die'.

Immediately, the miracle occurs, 'Jar of meal shall not be spent, jug of oil shall not be emptied, before the day when the Lord sends rain on the face of the earth'. St John Paul II called this 'the law of the gift'.

I must confess, that I am guilty of hanging on to things I have, cling to my possessions and perhaps even to defend my life at any cost. However, in the spiritual schema such an attitude is counter-productive, for, in things of God, such attitudes lead only to loss, not gain. For in St Paul's letter to the Philippians, we read, '*Make your own the mind of Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, did not count equality with God something to be grasped. But he emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, becoming as human beings are*' (Ph 2; 5-7).

So then, if I want to the divine life in me never to run out, I mustn't hang on to it. Instead, I must give it away! And if I do, I will find it has increased, a thirty, sixty, and a hundredfold.

Fr. Christopher

## The Widow's Sacrifice

My daughter, I want to instruct you on how you are to rescue souls through sacrifice and prayer. You will save more souls through prayer and suffering than will a missionary through his teachings and sermons alone. I want to see you as a sacrifice of living love, which only then carries weight before me. You must be annihilated, destroyed, living as if you were dead in the most secret depths where the human eye has never penetrated; then will I find in you a pleasing sacrifice, a holocaust full of sweetness and fragrance. And great will be your power for whoever you intercede. Outwardly, your sacrifice must look like this: silent, hidden, permeated with love, imbued with prayer. I demand, my daughter, that your sacrifice be pure and full of humility, that I may find pleasure in it. I will not spare my grace, that you may be able to fulfill what I demand of you.

I will now instruct you on what your holocaust shall consist of, in everyday life, so as to preserve you from illusions. You shall accept all sufferings with love. Do not be afflicted if your heart often experiences repugnance and dislike for sacrifice. All its power rests in the will, and so these contrary feelings, far from lowering the value of the sacrifice in my eyes, will enhance it. Know that your body and soul will often be in the midst of the fire. Although you will not feel my presence on some occasions, I will always be with you. Do not fear; my grace will be with you..., (Diary, 1767). *Jesus to Saint Faustina Kowalska*

## 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.

MASS  
INTENTIONS10th November

6pm—Ints of R Mulemwa

11th November9am - People of the  
Parish

11am— S Lashma (Anniv)

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  
or by appointment

Holy Hour  
Every Saturday  
at 5pm

## Sick &amp; Retired Priests

This weekend (10th & 11th November 18) is the annual second collection for the Sick & Retired Priests Fund. Your generosity towards the Fund ensures that elderly and sick priests are financially supported after a lifetime of service and some are of modest means which can impact their ability to live independently. Should their health decline this can have an effect on their mobility. Once again I ask you to give generously and do pray for all those priests who are sick and retired. Thank you and May God bless you all.

Fr Christopher

## Readings for this and next Sunday

1st Reading; Kings 17; 10-16,  
Psalm - 145: 7-10 response v 2  
2nd Reading - Hebrews 9: 24-28  
Gospel - Mark 12: 38-44

1st Reading; Daniel 12; 1-13,  
Psalm - 15:5, 8-11 response v 1  
2nd Reading - Hebrews 10: 11-14  
Gospel - Mark 13: 24-32

### Love in Action

This Sunday (11th November) after the 11 am Mass. We have our Workshop led by Caritas Westminster in the School Hall. If you would ALL proceed to the hall where Teas and Coffees will be served. We come together to discuss what the Parish Mission should be in the light of the topics covered and put Love into Action. Thanks,

Fr Christopher

### Remembrance Sunday

This Sunday ( 11th November) is Remembrance Sunday. We shall observe a 2-minute silence at the 11 am Mass. 'When our perils are past, shall our gratitude sleep' George Canning

'All we have of freedom, all we use or know-/ our fathers bought for us long and long ago' Rudyard Kipling

Requiescet in pace,

Fr. Christopher

### INDEPENDENT INQUIRY

This coming week Cardinal Vincent Nichols and Archbishop Bernard Longley of Birmingham will be giving evidence to the Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) focussing its attention on the Archdiocese as a test case for the Catholic Church in England and Wales. The hearings will be taking place in London from 12th until Friday 16th November. Please remember Cardinal Vincent and Archbishop Longley in your prayers. Thank you.

### 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**). Books will be available to buy on that day. Your child will need one book for First Reconciliation course and one for First Communion course. The cost of a book is £18. You can buy both at once or to buy a second one before the start of the second course. If for any reason you cannot afford it, please, come to talk to me. Those parents who wish to help with the course, could you submit your details to the Parish office as soon as possible. Thanks,

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,

Fr Christopher

### 17th November 18, Understanding Scripture

Final Call to all those Eucharistic Ministers, Catechists, and Readers who have not yet replied to Chris Murray as to whether they would attend on 17th November to hear Fr. Javier on Understanding Scripture. We need to know the numbers and to those who have already replied, a big thank you and thanks to Chris Murray for coordinating.

Thanks

Fr. Christopher

### John Higgins Interment

Father Tom Pyke of Christ Church has kindly agreed to inter John Higgins ashes in their Garden of Remembrance. This kindness has been extended to John because of his many friendships across many different communities and his special status here on the Isle of Dogs.

The interment is currently agreed as taking place on Sunday, 18th November 2018 at 1pm. It will take place in the Garden of Remembrance at Christ Church, 151 Manchester Rd, Isle of Dogs, London E14 3DR.

Christ Church is opposite the Isle of Dogs Sub Post Office and lies in-between St. Luke's Primary School and George Green's Secondary School. The local bus routes are the D7 and 135, alighting at either the southbound Isle of Dogs Police Station (Stop C) or the northbound George Green's School (Stop K).

John's ashes will be buried in the Garden of Remembrance, and not scattered, in accordance with Catholic practice. Everyone is welcome to attend, especially the parishioners of St. Edmund's Church.

### **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*

### **The Consolations of Baked Beans**

There is a story that all foodbanks tell each other. It is both funny and instructive. Once upon a time, thieves robbed a foodbank at the dead of night. They drove off with everything, but they left behind all the baked beans. All foodbanks understand the story. All of us have more baked beans than we have shelf-space to store them.

But no foodbank can do without baked beans, though. They are cheap, popular, versatile, and easy to cook. Lots of them are needed every week. And every collection generates even more baked beans that need storage, along with red kidney beans, butter beans, etc., squeezing out the expensive and exciting items that fly off the shelves, like hotdogs, milk and soup.

Baked beans are a staple that everyone needs. We need them and I would never turn them away. Nor would any other foodbank. I would be very worried if we ran out and had to start buying them. But they are always there and not very exciting. And that brings us to the moral of the story: Don't discount the everyday because you need it, well, everyday.

Like the baked beans, it's not all about the exciting stuff. Dinner comes before pudding, meaning you have to do the everyday, to get to what is special: Get to church 15 minutes early and leave after Father. Say a prayer every day, even if you are on the bus. Put your fair share in the offertory plate. Go to confession once a month. Make friends. Stuff like that.

If you would like to do a good deed, ask for a handful of green tokens at any Asda checkout. Go to the community boards next to the postbox near the toilets. Put the tokens in the slot marked Island Gardens Foodbank. We need you to do that until the end of December. Asda will then help us feed people for about two months. My thanks, Paul Marlow

### **World Day of the Poor**

18th November is the World Day of the Poor. Pope Francis, says, 'call to hear the cry of the poor' You will find prayer cards on the table for you take and pray for the poor and raise the profile of the poor on this special day designated by Pope Francis for the poor. Thanks,

Fr Christopher

## **Slaves in our City**

An event on how to recognise the signs of human trafficking and modern slavery in your community



Thursday 22nd November  
Church of the Immaculate Conception  
(Farm Street)  
114 Mount Street, London,  
W1K 3AH

6:30pm-8:30pm

Refreshments from 6:00pm

**Click for more information and to RSVP**



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: 376.02, envelopes: 476.23, total: **852.25**

**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