

# NEWSLETTER

SIXTH  
SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME



Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 0BT  
Tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contacts/

Ms Gail O'Flaherty  
Headteacher  
St Edmund's Catholic School  
299 Westferry Road  
Millwall  
London  
E14 3RS

7 February 2019

Dear Ms O'Flaherty,

We would like to congratulate you, your staff and your pupils on the very high standard of achievement demonstrated in the reading Key Stage 2 assessments last year.

Your school's results, as published on 13 December, show that 100 per cent of your pupils reached or exceeded the expected standard in reading at the end of Key Stage 2. This means that for achievement in reading, your school is in the top 1% of primary schools in England.

We want to equip every child with the fluency in reading necessary to prepare them for a successful secondary education and beyond, and your school has provided this to all your pupils.

Thank you for producing such high standards through your hard work and professionalism, and congratulations again to you and your staff for all you have achieved.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Rt Hon Damian Hinds MP  
Secretary of State for Education

Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP  
Minister of State for School Standards

## MASS INTENTIONS

### February 16, 2019

6pm - Dennis Wallis RIP

### February 17, 2019

9am - People of the Parish

11am—Margaret Dunn RIP

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

**No weekday Mass  
on Tuesday, 19th  
& Wednesday,  
20th February  
2019**

## HOLY HOUR

Every Saturday at 5pm

**Next baptismal course  
for parents who want  
to baptise a child will  
be on Wed 20 Febru-  
ary & Wed 27 Febru-  
ary 2019 - 7.30pm.**

Please, call the office to  
reserve your space.  
Please, note that all bap-  
tism will be during  
Mass.

*I wish to take this opportunity to thank Gail O' Flaherty and all the staff for their sterling efforts in bringing St Edmund's pupils to a high standard. It's very much appreciated. Fr Christopher*

## Readings for this and next Sunday

1st Reading; Jeremiah 17:5-8  
Psalm 1: 1-4, response Psalm 39:5  
2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 15; 12; 16:20  
Gospel - Luke 6; 17, 20-26

1st Reading; Samuel 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23  
Psalm 102: 1-4, 10, 12-13 response v 8  
2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 15; 45-49  
Gospel - Luke 6; 17, 27-28

### Rejoice and dance for joy

I need to surrender myself to God which means I hand myself over to him, to transform me. It's the cure of self which is at the very centre; I am in need to be cured of self which would change me, as bread and wine on the altar are changed into the Body and Blood of Christ.

In surrendering to the Lord, I firmly believe, the cure for the torment of myself, which is called the psychological suffering. It's a cure for my weakness which cannot carry the burden of the world's sin; It's a cure from fear that causes my will to fade before the challenges of life, the cure for my tenuity that makes the impact of natural beauty painful, the cure for cowardice that makes the heart to shrink when faced with the challenge of love.

When we look at the Saints, it seems to me they surrender themselves this way, and they will accept whatever situation God allows for them. Sometimes God might go out to meet them because of their unique vocation. In such situations as poverty, persecution, pain, bereavement, the Saints might not accept them because they think they are mere essential of their life but compared to the beauty and power of God they are nothing at all. It's almost like the great wind blowing the leaves, the wind of the Spirit of Love that whizzes the world like a fire, that sets alight with the glory of God. To the saints, the surrender to God is a prodigious fling of the heart, commensurate to a vault into eternal Love, to glow in the radiance of its light and to dance with joy.

It might be for us a secret thing, but nevertheless miraculous. It means we are able to enjoy life and cautiously achieve the strength of the spirit until we can enjoy everything. Amen. *Fr. Christopher*

### SECOND COLLECTION TODAY FOR RUCIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY, 17th February

*Colossians 3:23* "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as if working for the Lord, not for human masters"

In a world steeped in violence, conflicts, and discrimination, the Gospel demands that we acknowledge the dignity of the human person, the necessity of building peace, prosperity, justice for all.

In our task as disciples of Christ, our responsibility is to make sure people are treated with dignity at work and are not exploited. Migrant communities and those suffering from racial abuse are particularly vulnerable to being drawn into unjust working conditions and labour exploitation.

News and information regarding Racial Justice Sunday is available on the Catholic Bishop's Conference of England and Wales website: [www.catholicnews.org.uk/racial-justice-Sunday-2019](http://www.catholicnews.org.uk/racial-justice-Sunday-2019).

Funds raised through today's collection will be used for promoting justice in England and Wales.

+*Paul McAleenan*

*Lead Bishop on Migration and Asylum*

### The funeral of Fr Adrian John Walker who died on 24 January.

The Funeral Mass will take place on Wednesday 20 February at 12noon at St Joseph's church, 36 Cookham Road, Maidenhead SL6 7EG.

A coach has been booked for all who have wished to attend the funeral. We will start the journey from in front of our church at 9.30 am. We expect to be back at 4pm the latest. A short break for lunch is included in our time schedule but no food included. Please, bring your packed lunch if you wish.

The suggested donation towards the cost of the coach is £20, payable on the day to Katherine or after any Mass in the Sacristy. *Fr Christopher*

### FREE TEA AND COFFEE

There is free tea and coffee after Mass every Sunday. This makes a good time to meet your fellow parishioners. Come and join us. *Asha*

## TABLET

There are five copies of the Tablet available in the Sacristy at £3.60. If you are interested in having a copy please see either Paul or John with your payment. Thank you. *Fr Christopher*

### Cardinal's Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony

**Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 8 June 2019 at 3 pm.**

The Cardinal extends an invitation to all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic Marriage in 2019. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your details: husband's and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email), to Katherine at the office and she will forward your details to Marriage & Family Life, Agency for Evangelisation. Thank you. *Fr Christopher*

**Proclaim Spring Gatherings 2019** *Time: 9.30am to 3.00pm*

*Forming Missionary Disciples, Building Missionary Parishes*

**Saturday 23rd February, with Bishop Nicholas Hudson,  
at St Mary and St Michael, (Commercial Road), Parish Centre, 2 Lukin Street E1 0AA**

**Proclaim Spring Gatherings** are for laity and clergy from Parishes, Schools, Youth and other chaplaincies who are involved or interested in local evangelisation.

*The events are free, coffee & tea etc. provided. **Bring own lunch.***

To register for a **Proclaim Spring Gathering**, and for more information please e-mail Warren Brown at [catad-min@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:catad-min@rcdow.org.uk) Telephone contact is 0207 798 9152

Deacon Adrian Cullen, *Evangelisation Coordinator, Diocese of Westminster, 46 Francis Street, London SW1P 1QN, 0207 798 9150*  
[adriancullen@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:adriancullen@rcdow.org.uk), [www.rcdow.org.uk](http://www.rcdow.org.uk)

### Justice and Peace rep needed!

**What is Justice and Peace?** It's about wanting to make a difference, witnessing to gospel values in society, not only by helping those close at hand, or sending gifts overseas, but asking why problems are arising, and whether we can speak up for change. We are currently working on such things as climate protection, Fairtrade, the refugee situation, and peace in the Middle East. Justice and Peace reps can publicise our work, maintain a parish notice board, or raise awareness in the parish. Can you be your parish Justice and Peace representative? Contact the office at [justice@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:justice@rcdow.org.uk).

Barbara Kentish

Westminster Justice and Peace Commission, 4 Vincent Rd, London N15 3QH

Tel 00 44 (0) 208 888 4222

**Welcoming the stranger, watch out for ways of helping refugees!**

### ARE YOU PLANNING TO MARRY?

Well, that's wonderful: congratulations on your coming marriage. We hope and pray you will have many happy years together.

The process for arranging a marriage is fairly straightforward – provided you start in the right place – which is with me. It doesn't matter where you intend to marry or who is going to conduct the service, the documentation starts with me.

**But, please, contact me early in the process – don't go steaming ahead with all the other arrangements and contact the Church last of all.**

**Above all, be careful of so-called 'wedding planners'. Do not believe what they have to say about Church requirements; they frequently give misleading advice.**

To start the process off, call the office to book an appointment to see me. I will then be able to tell you what further information you need to supply and what else you need to do. I will tailor the process to your situation.

*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 Wed 20 February & Wed 27 February 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 arianna.sommariva@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.

**SET OF DONATION ENVELOPES** , if you want to donate in envelopes and to gift aid your donations, you can let me know via email and I will prepare a box for you. During the week the boxes are available from the office.

*Katherine*

**LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS:** loose: 597.69 envelopes: 483.69, total: **1081.38**

***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