

NEWSLETTER

SECOND
SUNDAY
OF EASTER**The Mercy that Overcomes fear**

One [sister], when she learned about my close relationship with the Lord Jesus, told me that I must be deluding myself. She told me that the Lord Jesus associates in this way only with saints and not with sinful souls 'like you, Sister!' After that, it was as if I mistrusted Jesus. In one of my morning talks with him, I said, 'Jesus, are you not an illusion?' Jesus answered me, 'My love deceives no one'.

On one occasion I was reflecting on the Holy Trinity, on the essence of God. I absolutely wanted to know and fathom who God is, In an instant, my spirit was caught up into what seemed to be the next world. I saw an inaccessible light, and in this light what appeared like three sources of light came words in the form of lightning which encircled heaven and earth. Suddenly, from this sea of inaccessible light came our dearly beloved Saviour, unutterably beautiful with his shining wounds. And from this light came a voice which said, 'Who God is in his essence, no one will fathom, neither the mind of angels nor man'. Jesus said to me, 'get to know God by contemplating his attributes'. A moment later, he traced the sign of the cross with his hand and vanished.

Once I was summoned to the judgment [seat] of God. I stood alone before the Lord. Jesus appeared such as we know him during his Passion. After a moment, his wounds disappeared except for five, those in his hands, his feet and his side.

Jesus said, 'You will go back to earth, and there you will suffer much, but not for long; you will accomplish my will and my desires, and a faithful servant of mine will help you to do this. Now, rest your head on my bosom, on my heart, and draw from it strength and power for these sufferings because you will find neither relief nor help nor comfort anywhere else. Know that you will have much, much to suffer, but don't let this frighten you; I am with you'.

St Faustina Kowalska



Apostle of Divine Mercy, Prophet of Our Times, Great Mystic, Mistress of Spiritual Life – these are the epithets usually appended to the name of Sister Faustyna Kowalska, St. Faustyna (Faustina), of the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy. **Sister Faustina** is one of the Church's most popular and widely known saints and the greatest mystics in the history of the Church.

Sister Faustina's principal task was to pass on to the Church and world the Message of Mercy, a recapitulation of the Biblical truth of God's Merciful Love for every human being, and a calling to each of us to entrust our lives to Him and to actively love our neighbour. Jesus not only revealed the depth of His Mercy to St. Faustina, but also gave her new forms of worship: the picture inscribed *Jesus, I trust in You*, the Feast of Divine Mercy, the Chaplet of Divine Mercy, and the Prayer in the Hour of His Death on the Cross, the Hour of Mercy.

If you want to get to know more, go to:

<https://www.faustyna.pl/zmbm/en/biography/>

MASS INTENTIONS**April 27, 2019**

6pm - Ints of Stella Oladinni

April 28, 2019

9am - People of the Parish

11am—No Mass due to Marathon

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

**No Holy Hour
this Saturday**

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**28th April—Marathon
Sunday**

no Mass at 11 am

(only at 9 am)

23 June—Parish BBQ

13 October— Parish One World Day

SUGGESTED READING for Easter Season, read Chapter 13-17 of John's Gospel on Thursdays as a good way to reflect on the Triduum. These five Chapters could be read through the rest of the year as well. *Fr. Christopher*

Readings for this & next Sunday

1st Reading; Acts 5: 12-6,
Psalm 117: 2-4, 22-27, response v 1
2nd Reading - Apocalypse 1:9-13, 17-19
Gospel – Luke 22; 14-23:56

1st Reading; Acts 10: 34, 37-43,
Psalm 117: 1-2, 16-17, 22-23, response v 24
2nd Reading - Colossians 3:1-4
Gospel – John 20; 1-9

NO EXCUSES

In each and every terrorist atrocity, there is something new to learn, to try and break the syndrome. At the time of writing, nearly 360 have died and over 500 injured, by far the highest single terror attack in history. One saw, one of the bombers calmly walking into the Church and patting a little girls head and the other lining up in a hotel restaurant where he was to detonate his device, and there colleagues doing the same at other venues that caused the deaths of so many and injured many others.

They were following a narrative ingrained into them 'martyrdom' by extreme Islamist ideology that lies behind such carnage. In my Country, there has not been hostility between Christians and Muslims. Muslims make up 10% of the population and Christians slightly less. One could say the attacks of the five-star hotels and Catholic Churches is the mindset of al-Qaida and Islamic State.

It is clear such groups hate the West and Christianity. When trying to understand the narrative such groups utilizes that turn young people to radicals is its powerful ideology. It is full of hate within it contain falsehood but has a compelling though fraudulent narrative.

Islamic State has said these attacks were in revenge to the Christchurch killings-I wouldn't credit everything it says, but it contains a propaganda effect and it could be the motivating factor that extremists feed off. To my mind, these bombings in SriLanka, suggests the power of ideology and some of the bombers were well educated and came from well to do families. We cannot attribute it to social disadvantage or alienation.

One has to commend the Government for shutting down social media and concerns about censorship though understandable in the light of this carnage it was prudent and was designed to protect the Muslim community from any reprisals. These attacks at the various venues didn't involve Buddhists or Hindus. sadly, it has been suggested my country is prone to large scale violence and in my view is gross defamation of Sri Lanka.

One has only to travel around the country to be greeted with hospitality, and friendship. We had peace for ten years though not perfect-not without its problems, but at peace. Could it be that the civil war and its aftermath played into this terrorist outrage?

When the civil war ended how relieved we were and the security concerns took a small role. Nevertheless, it doesn't explain the gross failure on the part of the Intelligence Services not to have acted or not have conveyed the concerns given by Indian and US Intelligence of a possible terror attack, and it shouldn't have been ignored. It is a gross defamation of Sri Lanka to suggest that the country is prone to large-scale violence.

Fr. Christopher Silva

OLIVE WOOD CARVES FROM THE HOLY LAND (BETHLEHEM).

We are the Good Shepherd Company from the Holy land (Bethlehem) which is based in Nottingham and works alongside with St. Vincent De Paul society for orphans and elderly in the Holy land.

Our goal is to support and help the Christian families in the holy land to stay at work as olive wood carves is one of the most important source of income for them, as 90% of the Christians rely on this sale. So by selling their produce here from the olive wood (rosaries, crosses, cribs and religious statues) in their behalf, this will prevent the Christians from leaving the country in search of better work opportunities, as a test survey from the bishops of Jerusalem there is only forty one thousands Christians left in the area.

Looking forward to meeting you. Thank you very much again for your help and support, Remember us in your prayers please.. *Kind regards, Good Shepherd Nottingham .*

UPCOMING EVENTS AT MOUNT STREET JESUIT CENTRE

"WHO ARE YOU, LORD?" - ENCOUNTERING JESUS CHRIST IN THE GOSPELS

Saturday 18th May 11am-4pm Brian Purfield

Mount Street Jesuit Centre, 114 Mount Street, W1K 3AH pathwaystogod.org 0207-495-1673

The gospels are filled with stories of people encountering Jesus. In these encounters, Jesus became identified and known in different ways, and those who came into contact with Him were transformed in that meeting. We will look at each evangelist's view of who Jesus is and what that means for disciples and would-be disciples today.

Easter Sunday Carnage

On Easter Sunday, when I was informed by one of my previous parishioners that a series of bomb blasts had taken place in Sri Lanka. It was disbelief at first, but when after Mass I checked there were so many emotions churning within me. St Anthony's Church, where I have frequented with my family and indeed a few days before my late father passed away (Joseph Francis Silva) he went to St Anthony's too light a candle. I for my part, each time I am in Colombo, have visited the Church and spoken to the priests, made my confession.

There were anger and hate, emotions with memories churning within me as to how anyone could do this on the day of all days. The Church that has attracted not just Catholic's but people of all faith's and none, who have come through its doors to shed tears in silent consolation and light a candle. On Easter, Sunday devotees went as usual to celebrate the Risen Christ and give thanks, their joy was ripped asunder by a suicide bomber in a hallowed place.

My heart goes out to those families who have a loved one injured or have lost a loved one may now be left destitute. We pray that the perpetrators and those behind it be brought to justice. It is now in all honesty, that I can bring myself to forgive. We will not let this atrocity define us but we shall rise with our Risen Saviour, to show that we are a people united respecting each other faiths, as shown when people volunteered to donate blood for the victims.

We will continue to pray for Sri Lanka, and May our Blessed Mother watch over us and our Country. Amen

Fr. Christopher Silva



The Rosary Group

Our May Devotions to the Blessed Virgin Mary

05th, 12th, 19th, 26th May

**Meet by the statue of Mary
after 11am Mass, every Sunday**

The theme of our prayers will be based on:

Persecution & Forgiveness

Beginners Welcome

Meetings held 1st Sunday of every month
Please bring your Rosary. Booklets Available

Pray With Us † Pray The Rosary

**ISLAND GARDENS
FOODBANK**

OUR LENTEN APPEAL

We need 300 items of supermarket own-brand food every week to help feed local people and families: (No Fresh, Frozen, or Chilled)

Tinned Fish, Tinned Meat, Tinned Soup, Tinned Fruit, Tinned Vegetables, Long-Life Whole Milk, Tea, Small Coffee, 500g Sugar, Breakfast Cereals, Porridge, Pasta, Rice, Sauce, Oil, Tinned Custard, Rice Pudding, Soap, Shampoo, Toothpaste. HELP US HELP OTHERS

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 13 May & Mon 20 May 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.

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

TEXT GIVING — Simply type: Parish (then space) then MILLW. Send it to 70800. Click send. £5 will be added to your mobile phone bill, as a donation to the parish.

NEW SETS OF DONATION ENVELOPES ARE READY FOR COLLECTION FROM THE SACRISTY, BEFORE AND AFTER EACH MASS (during a week - from the office).

If you spot any mistake, please, let me know immediately.

If you want to donate in envelopes and to gift aid your donations, but have not arranged for it so far, you can let me know via an email and I will prepare a box for you.

Katherine

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS: loose: 900.82 envelopes: 551.56 total: **1452.38**
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