

# NEWSLETTER

17TH SUNDAY  
OF ORDINARY  
TIME

## A Reflection on Our Father

Our Lord gave us this prayer as the model for all prayer. It's easy to say the Our Father by rote but it's meant for us to interiorize the prayer so it becomes our personal petition to God and entrusting to him our entire life.

We begin Our Father, not as a petition but we acknowledge that we are the children of the Father. This is the key once we recognize that we are the Father's children then we say the prayer properly. The opening statement 'Our Father who art in Heaven'.

At Mass, the Celebrant invites the people, by saying, 'At the Saviours command and formed by divine teaching we dare to say', This dare, comes from our understanding that God is our Father. Each of us sees the father as my Father, as a child who is loved by their parent and loves their child no matter what-even when they sin they know they are loved. This then is the starting point of all prayer and God loves us no matter what. With such an understanding, we have the confidence to call Him Our Father. Our Father is an expression of the New Covenant that was established by the blood of Christ. In this new relationship, we are God's people and He is our God. It is deeply personal and it is a gift from God to which we have no right. It is a grace and a gift.

This grace reveals our profound unity to our Lord and Saviour as the Son of God. We can call God 'Father' in so far as we are one with our Lord. The Lord's humanity unites us to Him and we now share in a deep bond with Him.

In calling God 'our' Father it reveals the union we share with one another. Everyone who calls God their Father in this intimate way is brothers and sisters in Christ. We are deeply connected together; we are able to worship God together. So, individualism is left behind in exchange for fraternal love and unity.

We are all members of this one divine family as an excellent gift of God. *'Lord, I trust in you'*

*Fr. Christopher Silva*

### *The Father Who Gives to His Children*

If your whole life is a free, joyous welcoming of his love and a laborious, patient seeking of his face, along with the One, you will be able to stand before him like a true child, and in your heart, the Spirit of his only Son will cry out: Abba! Father!.

Since you have acknowledged God, or rather, he has acknowledged you, if you love him, keep his Word; and the Father will love you, and God, One-in-Three will come into you and make you his dwelling place.

Then you will be able to say, you no longer live but God lives in you, and you will be the living tent of his presence, truly consecrated. For that temple is sacred, and you are that temple.

Everything is designed to lead you precisely to that point. God is devouring fire wanting to consume you utterly in his love. May the words the Lord is saying to you today remain deep in your heart. Do this and you will live.

*The Jerusalem Community Rule of Life*

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### July 27, 2019

6pm - Int of Desmond  
Madden

#### July 28, 2019

9am - Ints of the  
Parish Project  
11am—People of the Parish

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



## Readings for this & next Sunday

1st Reading; Genesis 18; 20-32,  
Psalm 137; 1-3, 6-8 response v 3  
2nd Reading - Colossians 2:12-14  
Gospel – Luke 11; 1-13

1st Reading; Ecclesiastes 1:2; 2:21-23,  
Psalm 89; 3-6, 12-14, 17 response v 1  
2nd Reading - Colossians 3:1-5, 9-11  
Gospel – Luke 12; 13-21

## Holiday time News

Holiday time has arrived.

Fr Christopher will be away from 5th August for a month.

We will welcome Fr Victor, Fr Brian and Fr Francis during his absence.

If you need to speak to Fr Chris, do not leave it for “later”:)

This Newsletter is the last one before the holiday break back on 14th September 2019

There will be no Holy Hour from 9th August—back on 14th September 2019

We want to wish safe and happy holidays for everyone who goes away to rest.

## Sacramental Programs here at St Edmund

As we come to the end of another academic year and we look forward to the next academic year, with this in mind our programs will commence as follows:

**RCIA ( Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)** on 24th September 19 at 7.30 pm (registration forms and programme will be available shortly so if you are interested, please, contact the office.

**First Holy Communion:** The registration forms are now on the table in the porch. Those parents who wish their son/daughter to make their First Reconciliation and First Communion, please collect the form and submit it to the parish office. The last date for submitting the forms is 20th October 2019.

**Confirmation:** Applications for this program will be put on the table in the porch in September. The course will commence on 11th January 2020 (from 4 to 6pm).

## St Faustina's Picture will come to our church!!!

*Maria Faustyna Kowalska, known as St Maria Faustyna of the Blessed Sacrament and popularly spelled Faustina, was a Polish Roman Catholic nun and mystic. Her apparitions of Jesus Christ inspired the Roman Catholic devotion to the Divine Mercy and her the title of 'Secretary of the Divine Mercy'.*

*Born: 25 August 1905, Glowiec, Poland, Died: 5th October 1938, Krakow, Poland*

*She was Canonized on 30th April 2000, St Peter's Square, by St Pope John Paul II. Her feast is on 5th October.*

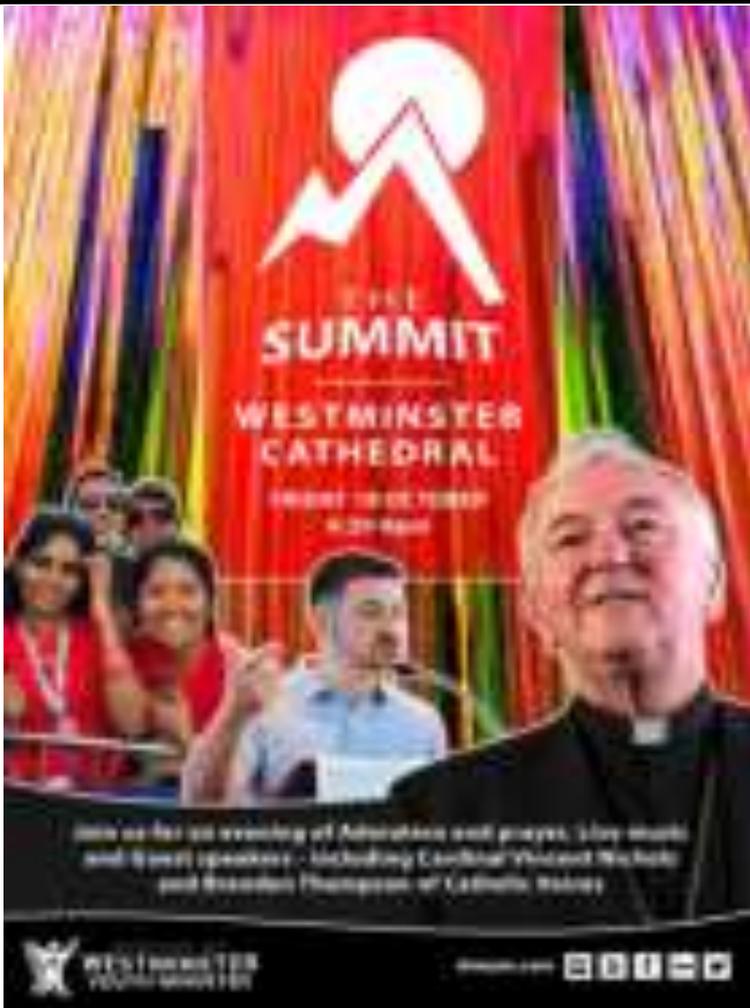
Last year, polish community of our parish founded a picture of Devine Mercy that you can see on the left hand side of the Altar. This year, an initiative has risen, to present a picture of St Faustina (similar size to the Divine Mercy) and put it on the other side of the Altar. The cost of the painting is about £400. Should you wish to make a contribution, envelopes are available on the table in the porch, (marked ‘Special offering for St Faustina 's Picture). Kindly take one and place your contribution and put it in the collection, or alternatively hand your envelope to one of the Sacristans. Thank you for your generosity and care. Fr Christopher

## Cardinal Newman Canonisation

The Vatican has announced that on 13th October 2019, Pope Francis will be Canonising Blessed John Henry Newman, along with four other Blessed, in Rome. This will make Cardinal Newman the first English person who has lived since the 17th century officially recognised as a Saint by the Catholic Church.

## Altar Servers

Those of our young people, who have made their First Holy Communion. Would you like to become Altar Servers, please, give your details to Catherine at the office. Alternatively, you could speak with Joseph, Lauren or Kevin who



On Friday 18th October, Westminster Youth Ministry will be hosting an event for all the young people of the diocese called 'The Summit'. The event will take place at Westminster Cathedral from 6.30pm to 8pm and it is intended to be a follow up to the biennial Flame festival for young people and the national Eucharistic Congress. It will also tie in with similar evenings Westminster Youth Ministry has been hosting on a deanery level throughout the diocese and which have proven to be popular with our young people.

The evening will consist of inspiring reflections, contemporary worship music and exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Brenden Thompson of Catholic Voices will be one of the speakers and Cardinal Nichols has kindly agreed to speak and preside at exposition and benediction. The event is free and all young people of school age, students and young adults are invited. No tickets are required.

Archbishop John Wilson (formally Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster Diocese) has been installed the eleventh Archbishop of Southwark in St George's Cathedral

'This inauguration of my service falls on the feast day of the Apostle St James, the great pilgrim of Compostela. Dear friends, together we will continue to make our pilgrimage of faith, trusting in the overwhelming power that comes, not from us, but from God. In this journey, each of us has a unique and essential place. For my part, I will do my very best to try and love you as a father, to try and walk beside you as a brother, and to try and serve you as a friend.'



## The Rosary Group's Monthly Prayer Meeting

**Meet by the statue of Mary**

**On Sunday, 4 August after 11am Mass**

*The theme of our prayers will be:*

*'Safe Holidays'*

**Beginners Welcome**

Meetings held 1st Sunday of every month

Please bring your Rosary. Booklets Available

**Pray With Us † Pray The Rosary**

**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; <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/millwall/>



**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 in September-9th & 16th at 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](mailto:arianna.sommariva@rcdow.org.uk) or at Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, SW1P 1QN.

**AN EMAIL NEWSLETTER** — from June 2019 our Newsletter will no longer be distributed by an email. You can always download it from our website. <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/millwall/>

**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.

**GLUTEN FREE HOSTS** Those parishioners who for medical reasons can only take Gluten Free as per their diet. We here at St Edmund's have Gluten Free Hosts. Should you require, see Fr. Christopher before Mass, so he could consecrate the hosts for you.

**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: £446.82 envelopes: £545.23 total: **£992.05**

Standing orders in June: **£2227.98**

*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