

NEWSLETTER

**24TH SUNDAY
OF ORDINARY
TIME**

Divine Mercy, a divine Motif

Not without reason has Saint Luke narrated three parables in order; that of the sheep which was lost and then found, that of the drachma which was mislaid and was located, and that of the son who had died and was brought back to life. All of this so that, having been taught the lesson of the triple remedy, we can cure our wounds.

Who, then, is this father, this shepherd, this mother? Could they not, perhaps, represent God the Father, Christ, and the Church? Christ carries you on his shoulders, the Church seeks you out, and the Father receives you. One, because he is the Shepherd, continues carrying you; another, as Mother, ceases not to search for you; and then the Father comes back to dress you. The first as a work of mercy; the second, looking after you; and third, reconciling yourself to him. Each one of them matches these qualities perfectly well; The redeemer came to save, the Church assists, and the Father reconciles. The same mercy is present in all divine activity. The Shepherd calls out to the tired sheep, the drachma which had been lost is found, and son, on his own initiative, returns to the father, fully repentant of his errors, which he accuses himself of

And this drachma, which carries the imprint of the figure of the prince, is not something of little value. The riches of the Church consist in possessing the image of the King. We are his sheep. Let us pray so that we may become worthy of placing ourselves in the waters which give life (cf.Ps 22:2). I have said we are sheep; let us ask for the pasture; and as we are sons and daughters, let us run towards the Father.

Truly, he will come out running to meet you, his arms will be all embracing-for the Lord *raises up those who are bowed down* (Ps145:8)-and he will give you a kiss, a sign of affection and of love; he will order his servants to dress you, to put a ring on you and give you sandals. You still are fearful of the affront you have caused, but he returns to you the dignity which you had lost. You fear punishment, and he kisses you. Finally, you fear being scolded, but he entertains you with a banquet.

Saint Ambrose

MASS INTENTIONS

Sept 14, 2019

6pm - People of the Parish

Sept 15, 2019

9am - Ints of Jozef Skibicki

11am—Charles Belli (Aniv)

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

Starts again next week

Saturday at 5pm

LK 15: 1-32 / Reflection

In reading and reflecting on the Gospel. It's clear that we have to be open to receiving mercy. We are at our best when receiving the mercy of God and the forgiveness of another since we belong to the community of mercy. The sheep belonged to the sheepfold and now it's back happy on the shoulder of our Lord. The drachmas that the woman lost was found was back where it belonged. Both the woman and the shepherd were rejoicing, they were not angry at all but overjoyed-with God's mercy, we are back where we belong in God's love.

When we are grateful for mercy in our own lives, then we will rejoice when mercy is shown to others. Mercy heels desire for revenge, hatred, anger. It's then we share in the Joys of our Lord, (the beating heart of the Gospel, Pope Francis).

Try an take a moment to look at your own life when you experienced the mercy of God or the forgiveness and understanding of another. Be thankful.

Fr. Christopher Silva

Readings for this & next Sunday

1st Reading; Exodus 32; 7-11, 13-14

Psalm 50; 3-4, 12-13, 17, 19 response Luke 15:18

2nd Reading - 1 Timothy 1:12-17

Gospel – Luke 15; 1-32

1st Reading; Amos 8:4-7,

Psalm 112; 1-2, 4-8, 17 response v 1, 7

2nd Reading - 1 Timothy 2:1-8

Gospel – Luke 16; 1-3

Easter Sunday Explosions in Sri Lanka

Dear Friends,

Hope you all had a pleasant summer and now back to the daily grind of school runs etc; as you know I have just returned from Sri Lanka. During my time there I had a meeting with His Eminence, Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith, Archbishop of Colombo and his letter to me after our conversation is attached in the News Letter.

It has been suggested that we hold a Second Collection to help the Cardinal Fund, whereby the monies raised goes directly to help the victims. Currently, there about 250 children who have been orphaned and are supported by the fund. I have met with some of the families. What is now needed is funds to train counsellors who could work with these children and adults who are undergoing trauma (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) which will be a long term effort. The priests at St Anthony's and St Sebastian Churches are doing their best but need support.

I am mindful that two Collections are due on the 5th / 6th October for CAFOD Family Fast Day and the other The Sick and Retired Priests on 9th / 10th November. Your generosity to these and other Collections is humbling and I am immensely grateful. I would like feedback from you as to how best we as a parish could help the Cardinal Fund, where the monies raised goes directly to help these people. Many thanks and God bless you all. Fr. Christopher

Sacramental Programs here at St Edmund

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) on 24th September 19 at 7.30 pm (registration forms and programme are available from a table in the churches' porch or from the office during a week.

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 later in September. The course will commence on 11th January 2020 (from 4 to 6pm).

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND—MARCH 2020

We are planning a second parish Pilgrimage to the Holy Land in 2021 (15th –22nd March) with Pilgrimage People again. To make it happen we need to gather a group of around 20 people. We want to encourage you to take part in this event. If you think you can make it—please, drop an email to mill-wall@rcdow.org.uk or give your details to Fr Chris or our Sacristans. We already got an itinerary that is available from the office. The cost will be £1680. If you are interested we are ready to open a saving club to those who want to save money over the next year. We look forward to hearing from you.

Fr Christopher, Katherine, Stella & Julia

Invitation CAFOD information afternoon - Wed 18th Sept 2.30pm-4pm, Oakwood, North London.

CAFOD will be hosting a supporter's information afternoon with a guest speaker, Laura Ouseley, who has first-hand experience of our work in Overseas.

Come and hear how CAFOD is helping communities, thanks to your support.

Meeting will take place from 2.30 – 4pm at CAFOD's Volunteer Centre, 1st Floor, Church of Christ the King, 29 Bramley Road, Oakwood, London, N14 4HE

Bookings taken on 0208 449 6970 or e mail westminster@cafod.org.uk

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 would be more than willing to answer your questions and training will be provided. Thank you, *Fr Christopher*



Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith

August 12, 2019

Rev. Fr. Christopher Silva
St. Edmund of Abingdon RC
297, Westferry Road
Millwall E14 3RS
United Kingdom

Dear Fr. Christopher,

This has reference to our discussion this morning and your kind request to inform you about the programs we have established to help the victims and their families affected by the Easter Sunday bomb attack. I understand you will be organizing a fund raiser for the benefit of these victims. Whilst thanking you for your kindness and generosity, I give below the several projects that will be funded by whatever monies you will be collecting during this event.

- Granting of scholarships to 215 children who either have lost both their parents, a single parent or their guardian.
- We are also looking after the medical care of nearly 300 people, some of whom are in critical condition in hospitals even now.
- Constructing of houses on a land that has been brought by this money for those who were in rented homes.
- Some families who have incurred debts and have lost their breadwinners are also being helped to get over their debts.
- Establishing of self-employment programs for some families who do not have any source of income any more.

Please note that all monies donated by the people are used exclusively for the benefit of the affected people.

We are also planning to publish a booklet in due course where we will indicate how we have spent the monies received for the relief fund.

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Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith

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All programs and projects with regard to the Easter Sunday disaster are handled by our Caritas Director, Rev. Fr. Lawrence Ramanayake and his team. His contact details are given below.

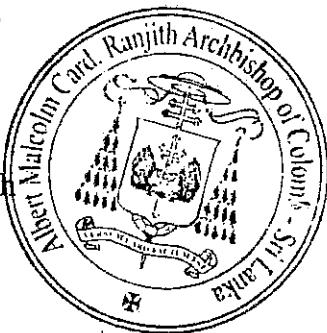
Rev. Fr. Lawrence Ramanayake
Director, Seth Sarana - Caritas Colombo,
Archbishop's House
Colombo 8
Tel: 0777899116 (Mobile) +94 (11) 2688999
Email: sethdirectorma@gmail.com; ccaritas@slt.net.lk

I thank you once again and wish you God's blessings in all your endeavours.

Yours devotedly in Christ,

+On 1st July 2016

✠Malcolm Cardinal Ranjith
Archbishop of Colombo



TOWER HAMLETS

ST MARY & ST MICHAEL, 2 LUKIN STREET, COMMERCIAL ROAD, E1 0AA

FRIDAY 27 SEPTEMBER, 7-9pm

*14-18 years



A chance for young people to socialise, share a meal together, learn more about their faith and be introduced to a deeper level of prayer and adoration, with contemporary worship music



dowym.com

WORKS OF MERCY

The Helpers of God's Precious Infants reach out in love and compassion to mothers who are in crisis pregnancies and to those who have suffered the effects of abortion. Why not come and join us and help to hold out God's Hand of Love and Mercy? The next Rosary Procession Vigil, will be held on Saturday 14th September at St. Patrick's Church, 21a Soho Square W1D 4NR. We begin with 9.00am Mass with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament at 9.40am. We begin our Rosary Procession at 9.50am following an Image of Our Lady of Guadalupe, to Marie Stopes abortion centre, Whitfield Street, W1T 5BE, where we pray 15 decades of the Rosary and sing hymns, returning at approx. 11.30am to the church for Benediction followed by refreshments. Full details on poster in church porch or contact tel. 01727 763832 or e-mail marg@helpersuk.org

Seven Rules to be Happy

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------|
| 1) Never hate | 2) Don't worry |
| 3) live simple | 4) Expect little |
| 5) Give a Lot | 6) Always Smile |
| 7) And keep in touch with God | |

The Cardinal Vaughan Memorial School – Admission for September 2020

Year 12 (Sixth Form) Admissions:

Thursday 3 October and on Tuesday 15 October 2019. The Headmaster will speak at 5.00 pm.

Guided tours of the school will follow his speech. The last tour will be held at 6.00 pm.

SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

The bishops have ruled that a child's application for admission to a Catholic school has to be supported by a certificate of Catholic Practice. This means the child's family are required to attend Mass on every Sunday and on Holydays of Obligation. Anything less does not constitute required commitment.

Parents should take this seriously and come to meet with me to discuss any problems you might have in attending Mass and any problems you might have in proving your attendance. Please, do not leave talking to me until it's too late. Leaving it late would lead to unnecessary disappointment.

Primary school applications are made between September and 15th January. Some schools may require the forms a week earlier. Secondary school applications are from September until the end of October (check with each school you apply to, to be sure). Therefore, parents are advised they need to prove regular attendance preferably two years ahead of that September, however, three years would be more conclusive.

Parents need to maintain evidence of attendance throughout their child's education, which includes their move to secondary school. This includes when transferring schools, perhaps because of moving home (including to a different parish), and when moving to a secondary school. A fresh Certificate of Catholic Practice is needed for each new school application.

Fr Christopher

Music in our church

If you can play an instrument or sing and would like to share your talent with other parishioners by joining our choir, please, contact the office or just approach our piano player—Kriemhild, after 11 am mass on a Sunday.

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 not 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 — **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: £504.09 envelopes: £519.34 total: £1023.43
Standing orders in July: £2399.14

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