

NEWSLETTER

27TH SUNDAY
OF ORDINARY
TIME

Luke 17: 5-19

Faith could be compared to a mustard seed its weak. If we examine our lives we could see those times when our faith was weak. Faith links us to God who is strong and out of our weak faith he can make our faith strong. All of us were born with seeds of faith.

Faith grows in us it doesn't matter which faith we belong to. All seeds do look the same and the daffodil bulb looks like any other bulb but when it grows it looks more like what it would become. Faith too grows in different ways and when the faith is strong then we have known of those who have died for their faith. Faith grows in our communities of faith and it's there before the church! We were born into the faith and baptised into the church.

Faith grows within the church community, in prayer, in the church, school, and within the family. If faith is not inculcated within the family, then its difficult for the school. If faith is not nourished it will die, indeed a light bulb needs to be turned on.

During difficult times in life can nourish our faith if we turn to God. Just like the daffodil bulb needs to be manured to nourish it our faith can be nourished what seems bad or weak in life. Illness, loss of some kind, addiction can bring a person close to God.

*Fr. Christopher***Parish Project– Extension to the Rear of the Church and Hall**

At the end of last year Keely from the Diocese came and spoke to us at Mass about how we could obtain funding to increase the size of our hall.

We now have the funding in our account to be able to push on with this process.

The starting point of this journey is understanding more about what we really need. Some parishioners have already shared their views but we would like to know more about how would you like to see the space used? What is really important to you about the space? Have you ever thought of ways that our spaces could be improved?

We already have chosen some parishioners to be members of the Steering Committee to facilitate the process. These are: Stella Oladinni, Chris Murray, Emma Gilfillian, Chris Winship, Daniel Pytlewski, John Chesson, Katherine Woznicki and FR Chris.

But we want to talk to as many Parishioners and local residents as possible to ensure that your views inform how the space is redeveloped.

To do this we will be hosting a drop-in event for the whole community on **Wednesday 16th October** from **19.30 – 20.30**. We will even provide some tea and cakes.

There are no preconceived ideas about how this space can be improved and there are no plans to show you, this is your opportunity to come and have a chat and feed into the very start of the process.

We hope to see many of you at this event, and please do bring your friends and neighbours! Thank you.

MASS INTENTIONS**October 5, 2019**

6pm - Alvy & Dieter Korte
(Anniv)

October 6, 2019

9am - People of the Parish
11am—Ludwik Kotecki
(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

**Starts on
Saturday at 5pm**

Dates for your diary:**The One World Day**

Our Parishes One World Day will be held on **13th October 2019** after the 11 am Mass. We bring a dish from the country of origin to share with one another. It's an opportunity to meet and greet new parishioners and meet up with old friends.

Readings for this & next Sunday

1st Reading; Habakkuk 1:2-3, 2:2-4,
Psalm 94; 1-2, 6-9 response v 7-8
2nd Reading - 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14
Gospel – Luke 17; 5-10

1st Reading; 2 Kings 5:14-17,
Psalm 97; 1-4, response v 2
2nd Reading - 2 Timothy 2:8-13
Gospel – Luke 17; 11-19

Family Fast Day Friday 4 October

Second Collection this weekend, 5-6 October

No one should be beyond reach of the love and support they need to thrive. This Fast Day, CAFOD invites us to fast, pray and give, so we can extend the hand of friendship to the world's poorest people. Fabiano's village in rural Uganda has been devastated by drought. Every day, children would trek miles for water, risking their education – and safety. Donations from parishioners across England and Wales helped install a solar powered water pump in the village. Now Fabiano and his friends can collect water quickly and safely. On Family Fast Day, CAFOD invites us to eat a simple meal for lunch or dinner and give the money we save to help children like Fabiano. Please collect a Fast Day envelope from church's porch this weekend and return next weekend and give generously. Further Fast Day materials are available on a web page here: <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Fast-Day>

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. (You are still welcome to join).

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 are on the table in the porch. We will accept them until the end of November. The course will commence on 11th January 2020 (from 4 to 6pm).



The Rosary Group's Month of the Holy Rosary

06th, 13th, 20th, 27th October

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

A plenary indulgence may be gained this month by
praying a Rosary in church or as a family

Each week will have a different theme about:

Against Brutality

Beginners Welcome

Meetings held 1st Sunday of every month
Please bring your Rosary. Booklets Provided
Pray With Us † Pray The Rosary

Music Ministry Scholarship and Diocesan Summit

1) **Music Ministry Scholarship 2019-2020.** Are you a young musician in a parish music group? Would you like to improve your skills with the help of a professional for free and meet young musicians from other parishes? For more information on how to apply, please visit <https://dowym.com/voices/apply-now-for-the-music-ministry-scholarship-2019-20/> or email Westminster Youth Ministry at youth@rcdow.org.uk.

2) Join Westminster Youth Ministry for **The Summit** at Westminster Cathedral, an evening of inspiring speakers, live music and Eucharistic adoration. **The Summit** is aimed at 13-25yrs from across the diocese and will be on **Friday 18 October, 6:30-8pm**. The evening will include exposition and a talk by **Cardinal Vincent Nichols**, as well as inspiring speakers, including Brenden Thompson of Catholic Voices, and a live praise and worship band. Families, classes, youth groups, confirmation groups and whoever else are all welcome. For more information, visit <https://dowym.com/events/the-summit-westminster-cathedral/> or email youth@rcdow.org.uk.

With all good wishes, Andrzej Wdowiak, Director, **Westminster Youth Ministry**

125 Waxwell Lane, Pinner, HA5 3EP | **E:** andrzejwdowiak@rcdow.org.uk | **T:** 020 3757 2502 | **M:** 07736 293 637

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 to 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

DO YOU ACTUALLY LIKE GIVING MONEY TO THE GOVERNMENT?

We have about 65 nationalities in the parish and that is wonderful – but it probably does mean that there will always be people here who are not familiar with the UK tax system and the way it can be used to increase parish income, at no cost to you.

I am talking about 'Planned Giving' and 'Gift Aid'. Any money you give to the parish comes out of taxed income – in other words, If you earn £100, the government takes £20 in tax, leaving you with £80; to put it the other way round, to give the Church £80, you have first to earn £100. In the UK, you can sign a form that enables a charity to claim back from the Government the tax you originally paid.

Most people are willing to help in this way, but they get confused by the paperwork. Part of the confusion is that some people think that, when they register as members of the parish, they automatically register for Gift Aid and/or Planned Giving: that is not so. The forms are available on the table in the porch:

Registration Form. This gets you into the parish records and means we know how to contact you, what your needs are likely to be, can send you the parish Christmas Card. No-one who is not registered is eligible for references, passport forms being signed, etc.

Gift Aid Declaration. This tells the Government that you want the tax paid on your donations to be returned to the parish. When the Parish Office receives this form, Katherine will automatically issue you with a box of envelopes (unless you also say you want to pay by Bankers Order).

Bankers Order. This is the instruction to your bank to make regular donations to the parish bank account. If you put that in as well as a white form, we can claim the tax back on your donation.

Given that you actually pay tax, once you have put the Gift Aid Declaration in, we can reclaim tax on everything you give us, provided we have an auditable record of the gift. In other words, if for example you suddenly have a windfall and want to share your good luck with the parish, you just need to tell us that when you make the special gift and we can link it in the records to your envelopes or your standing donations.

I would hope that every parishioner, if he/she has not already done so, would put in at least a Registration Form and a Gift Aid Declaration and thereafter would make their gifts to the parish in a traceable way.

I never have liked giving money unnecessarily to the Government!

Fr Christopher

Counting the Collection—your help urgently needed

Under the new guidelines, we have to have a team of volunteers to count the money. I am appealing for volunteers to come forward who would be willing to count the collection. You would go on a rota, its hoped you would be counting once a month. To make it work we would require two in a team making up four teams. If you think you could help and training will be provided by John, kindly drop a line to me at millwall@rcdow.org.uk. Please, let me know asap if you can spare some time once a month to help your parish. Thanks and God bless, Fr. Christopher

PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND—MARCH 2021

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 millwall@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

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 or at Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, SW1P 1QN.

NEWSLETTER — 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.

CARDINAL RANJITH APPEAL—SRI LANKA
(EASTER SUNDAY EXPLOSIONS)
OUR GOAL IS TO RAISE £1000.00
WE HAVE ALREADY RAISED—£70.00
£930.00 TO GO!

LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS: it will be announced next week
Standing orders in August: **£2502.28**

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