

## NEWSLETTER

OUR LORD  
JESUS CHRIST,  
King of the Universe**The Kingship of Christ**

It has long been a common custom to give to Christ the metaphorical title of King because of the high degree of perfection whereby he excels all creatures. So he is said to reign in the hearts of men, both by reason of the keenness of his intellect and the extent of his knowledge, and also because he is very true, and it is from him that truth must be obediently received by all mankind. He reigns, too, in the wills of men, for in him the human will be perfectly and entirely obedient to the holy will of God, and further by his grace and inspiration he so subjects our free will as to incite us to the noblest endeavours. He is King of hearts, too, by reason of his *charity which exceeds all knowledge* (Eph 3:19), and by his mercy and kindness which draw all men to him, for never has it been known, nor will it ever be, that man be loved so much and so universally as Jesus Christ.

On many occasions, when the populace thronged around him in admiration and would have acclaimed him King, he shrank from the honour and sought safety in flight. Before the Roman magistrate, he declared that his Kingdom was not of this world. The Gospels present this Kingdom as one which men prepare to enter by penance, and cannot actually enter except by faith and by baptism, which signifies and produces an interior regeneration. This Kingdom is opposed to none other than that of Satan and to the power of darkness. It demands of its subjects a spirit of detachment from riches and earthly things, and a spirit of gentleness. They must hunger and thirst after justice, and more than this, they must deny themselves and carry the cross.

Christ as our Redeemer purchased the Church at the price of his own blood; as priest he offered himself and continues to offer himself as a victim for our sins. Is it not evident, then, that his kingly dignity partakes in a manner of both these offices?

*Pope Pius XI*

Luke 23: 35-43 'Jesus,' he said 'remember me when you come into your kingdom'.

In your agony Lord, you heeded the call of the thief and you replied, 'Indeed, I promise you,' he replied 'today you will be with me in paradise' This gives me hope, in my sinfulness, that even upon the cross your mercy didn't have any bounds. I can appeal to the Lord in the words of the good thief, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom'

I hold on to the words, to call you a king is to use a human metaphor with its connotations and tainted by associations. You are my Lord and my strongest desire is to be with you when death calls me.

*Fr. Christopher***MASS INTENTIONS****November 23, 2019**

6pm - Holy Souls

**November 17, 2019**

9am - People of the Parish

11am— Fr Christopher (B'day)

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****First Reconciliation  
and First Holy  
Communion Course**

Application process is now closed. Parents meeting will be on 4th December at 7.30 pm in our church. Parents have to buy two books for the whole course. The cost of each book is £20. The first book that covers first reconciliation must be bought during the meeting on 4th December 2019.

This Sunday, 24th November, Fr Chris celebrates his 70th Birthday. We invite you to wish him all the best ( Birthday card is provided after every mass during weekend), and to share a birthday cake with him after 11 am Mass .

*Parish Social Committee.***Readings for this & next Sunday**

1st Reading; 2 Samuel 5: 1-3

Psalm 121;1-5, response v 2

2nd Reading - Colossians 1:12-20

Gospel – Luke 23; 35-43

1st Reading; Isaiah 2: 1-5

Psalm 121;1-2, 4-5, 6 response v 1

2nd Reading - Romans 13:11-14

Gospel – Mathew 24; 37-44

### 'The God Who Speaks'

*'The study of the sacred Scripture must be a door opened to every believer. It is essential that the revealed word radically enrich our catechesis and all our efforts to pass on the faith'* Evangelii Gaudium

Commencing on the First Sunday of Advent, 1 December 2019 the Catholic Church in England and Wales in partnership with Bible Society, will be focusing on meeting Christ in the Scriptures. The year 2020 in the 10th anniversary of *Verbum Domini*, Pope Benedict's Apostolic Exhortation on The Word of the Lord, and the 1600th anniversary of St Jerome's death.

The key themes for this coming year for the Word will be:

Celebrating God's Word- enriching our worshipping and spirituality in our community.

Living God's Word-enriching our social action

Sharing God's Word-enriching our evangelisation, formation and proclamation

Throughout the Year St Edmund's will be receiving reflections on Sunday Gospels and these reflections will be inserted into our News Letter. I strongly suggest that you take a copy of the Newsletter home with you and read the reflections. Furthermore, I propose a Bible group here in the Parish during the year of the Word to come together to read and reflect on Sunday Readings each week. Should you be interested would you kindly give your details via e-mail to [millwall@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:millwall@rcdow.org.uk)

**Next baptismal course will be on 27th November & 2nd December at 7.30pm.** Please, call the office to reserve your space. **We have had to change the dates so sorry for any inconvenience caused.**

### BAPTISMS

Baptisms that take place here in the parish of St Edmunds will be during Parish Masses, at Saturday 6pm, Sunday 9am, 11am.

We recognize, that families need to plan ahead, when they have friends and family attending the baptism, you can through Katherine at the office book the time and date of the baptism. We do emphasize it's conditional to the completion of the baptism course, provision of godparent references being completed before the actual baptism.

The date and which Mass can be booked with Katherine (Parish Office) but must be confirmed in writing. Canon Law (Church Law) requires that each child must have godparent; should there be a second godparent, one has to be male and the other female.

A godparent is defined as a confirmed, practicing Catholic. Should the godparent not be a member of this parish (St Edmund) we require a reference from his / her parish that they meet the requirement- that he/she is attending Mass regularly. Although the maximum number of godparents is set at two, families could have additional people whose standing is that of 'witness to the baptism.' During the baptism, we don't distinguish between godparents and witnesses, but only the names of the godparents will be inserted in the baptismal register and in the baptism certificate.

Equally, baptized Christians from other denominations may participate as witnesses to the baptism, but they cannot participate as godparents. Members of other faiths (or none) cannot serve as either godparents or as witnesses to the baptism.

Both parents and godparents, as part of the baptism, must make a declaration of faith. Prior to the baptism could we ask that you go through beforehand and ascertain you both can honestly make it? In all probability, if anyone one has a problem with any part of it, the problem lies in understanding what is meant rather than with the article of faith itself- do please, contact me to discuss it well before the baptism. The unpleasant thing you could do is start your child's relationships with God by affirming in His presence to something you don't believe.

Since all baptisms are during Mass, the choice you are faced with is whether to clothe your child with a white garment: whatever your child is wearing at the time of the actual baptism, this is something additional (and white) that is added a minute or so later. Traditionally, the garment would be a white shawl, but it could be as simple as a length of white ribbon going around the neck. It recalls the practice in the early Church of baptism by total immersion; as the newly baptized person came out of the water he/she would be dried and clothed in new white garments. You need to let Catherine know well in advance of your decision prior to your child's baptism.

We don't charge for baptism but we ask for families to make a contribution to defray the cost by given a donation in the range of £50-100, with others giving more. It doesn't mean you have to subject yourselves to unnecessary financial stress, but give what you think you can afford.

*Fr. Christopher*



## The Rosary Group's Monthly Prayer Meeting

**Sunday 01st December**

Meet by the statue of Mary  
after 11am Mass

*The theme of our prayers will be the:*

**Acts of Christmas Kindness**

**Beginners Welcome**

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

**Pray With Us † Pray The Rosary**

### "How singing enhances your life"

A workshop to discover how singing can help to develop yourself, physically and mentally, no matter if you are a child, an adult, or a teenager.

Chiara Zurlo, experience singer, vocal coach and music teacher, will guide you through the fascinating world involved in singing.

You will find out, with simplicity and clarity, how singing can improve your daily-life and your well-being.

After the workshop, Chiara will be performing a Christmas concert for the community, with the participation of the "Heidi's Club", the vocal assemble founded by Chiara and her colleague Angela Tursi.

Don't miss it!

Bring yourself and your kids to enjoy an amazing afternoon together!

December 15th, St Edmund Millwall

Workshop: 15:30 -16:15

Tea and refreshment: 16:30 -17:00

Christmas concert... and more: 17:00 -18:00

### Advent Giving Calendar

Advent is a special season in the Church's year when we prepare to celebrate the coming of Christ. However, for many people facing food poverty,

Christmas can be a difficult time. Currently, 8.4 million people in the U.K.

regularly do not get enough to eat. **The Caritas Food Collective are a new project working to tackle food poverty in the Diocese of Westminster.** This year, we have created an 'Advent Giving Calendar' to help use this season as a time when we think of those who might be struggling, and do our bit to help them in the run up to Christmas.

To find out more about the Caritas Food Collective and get involved, or if you would like to find out about food support in your area, contact us at:

[cfc@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:cfc@rcdow.org.uk)

[www.caritasfoodcollective.org.uk](http://www.caritasfoodcollective.org.uk)

**Your Advent Giving Calendar you can find on the table in our church's porch. Please, take one and follow the instructions on reverse.**

### CHRISTMAS CARDS AND TIMETABLE

There are Christmas CARDS available now on the table in the church's porch. Please, take one for you and another one for your neighbour !

Christmas timetable inside.

### 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](mailto: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

### The Parish Project

Dear Friends in Christ,

On the 16th of October, we held a meeting of the Steering Committee on the Second Phase which is Consultation. We are now in this second phase and **we are appealing to you to give some thought as to what you would like to see in the extension to the small hall, and when you are ready to, place your suggestion on the paper leaf. Insert unto the tree of love. Both leaves and the tree you can find at the back of the church. I ask you to spare a moment after a mass and to write down your ideas. You can also email your ideas if is more convenient.** All of them will be collected at the end of this process. They will be handed over to the Architect, who will incorporate the suggestions as best he can into the drawings. It would then be submitted to Tower Hamlets Planning Committee for approval. Having secured the approval, Alison & Keely will apply for grants to cover the whole project. Please, could we ask you to pray for the project and thank you for your support.

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](mailto: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 on 27th November & 2nd December 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](mailto: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 WAS TO RAISE £1000.00**  
**A big thank you for St Edmund School’s support— children have raised £548.85.**  
**WE HAVE ALREADY RAISED IN TOTAL—£2860.85!!!**  
**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY.** The collection will be continued until Christmas.

**LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS:** loose: £455.77 envelopes: £479.0. total: £934.82  
Standing orders in September: **£2869.30**

The Sick & retired Priest’s Collection last Weekend; **£527.74**

**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