

## NEWSLETTER

4th SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIMEJesus & Mary

At the Annunciation, when the angel Gabriel said to Mary, 'You have found favour with God' when Gabriel re-assures her, all Mary can say, 'Here I am, the Lord's servant, let it happen to me as you have said'. And in our Gospel, Simeon waits for Israel comforting and the Holy Spirit rested upon him. Simeon tells Mary, 'You see this child; he is destined for the fall and for the rising of many in Israel, destined to be a sign that is rejected-and a sword will pierce your own soul too-so the secret thoughts of many be laid bare'.

Her Son's sufferings will be her sufferings too, for our Lord was the fullness of grace; His soul was perfect peace, and he had the will to present himself as the redemptive victim. Mary's grace produced two contrasting effects; the sheer joy of the Annunciation and the Nativity; The desire to be united with our Lord in his sufferings for our salvation. Today, at the presentation in the Temple, Mary offers her Son to us. Should we care to look closely, joy and sorrow are knitted together in the heart of Mary, the Mother of God, who is the Mother of us all who believe in her Son our Lord.

*Fr. Christopher*The Presentation

'Now, Master, you can let your servant go in peace,  
just as you promised;  
because my eyes have seen the salvation  
which you have prepared for all nations to see,  
a light to enlighten the pagans  
and glory for your people Israel'

These are such wonderful words from Simeon and it is said at Night Prayer throughout the Church. The elderly here in our parish reminds me of Simeon and Anna. Who comes into the gospel for a brief moment, like Joseph, Zechariah, and Elizabeth and they each have something to say about the coming of the Lord. Just like each person we encounter who has something to say of God. Each one of us are witnesses of our patient search for God in our lives. The elderly here gives the church the security of a life-time's faithfulness and an awareness of God.

Sadly I have seen the elderly put to a side because some feel they are a nuisance. Yet it's the elderly who tell us the history of things and we can learn so much if we care to listen, they carry forward the faith and hands it over to us to inherit. Any society that does not care for and respect the elderly does not have any future, such a society doesn't have memories. They are the treasures of any society.

*Fr. Christopher*MASS INTENTIONSFebruary 1, 2020

6pm - Franca Santia &amp; Giovanni Ferrero (Anniv)

February 2, 2020

9am - People of the Parish

11am— Maria Adora &amp; Darell Benjamin (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 HOUREvery Saturday  
from 5pmAnointing  
Of The Sick

The annual anointing of the Sick will take place here at St Edmund's on 9th February 20 at the 11 am Mass

Should you or anyone you know who would like to be anointed bring them along, and put this date in your Dairy. Thanks

*Fr Christopher*

## Readings for this &amp; next Sunday

1st Reading; Zephaniah 2-3, 3:12-13,  
Psalm 145:7-10, response Mathew 5:3  
2nd Reading - Colossians 1:26-31  
Gospel – Mathew 5; 1-12

1st Reading; Isaiah 58:7-10,  
Psalm 111:4-9, response v 4  
2nd Reading - Corinthians 2:1-5  
Gospel – Mathew 5; 13-16

**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 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. We are planning to organise a meeting shortly to show you how we spend our time there last year. We look forward to hearing from you.

Fr Christopher, Katherine, Stella & Julia



**ANNUAL MASS OF THANKSGIVING FOR THE SACRAMENT OF MATRIMONY**

**WESTMINSTER CATHEDRAL, SATURDAY, 30th MAY 2020 at 3pm**

The Cardinal will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5th, 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60th) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2020. If you are celebrating an anniversary, and you wish to attend this mass, please, give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number if no email).

**Life in the Spirit seminar**

**Every Thursday 7-9 pm  
20 Feb to 26 Mar 2020**

At St Charles Borromeo Church

- |                           |  |
|---------------------------|--|
| Week 1 - 20 Feb           | Welcome and Witness  |
| Week 2 - 27 Feb           | The Father's love  |
| Week 3 - 5 Mar            | Search and rescue  |
| Week 4 - 12 Mar           | Salvation through Jesus  |
| <b>Wk-end 13-15 Mar *</b> | <b>New Heart New Spirit<br/>Come Holy Spirit<br/>Learn to walk, learn to run</b> |
| Week 5 - 19 Mar           | Prayer   |
| Week 6 - 26 Mar           | Church and Sacraments  |

\* To get the most out of the 'Life in the Spirit Seminar' the residential weekend away Friday 13th to Sunday 15th Mar 2020 at King's Park, Northampton is highly recommended.



**Catholic charismatic prayer group**

Venue: St Charles Borromeo Church, 8 Cogle Street, W1W 6HS  
(Nearest Tube Stations: Warren St, Goodge St, Great Portland St, Oxford Circus)  
For more details and to register visit [www.soulfoodgroup.org/llss](http://www.soulfoodgroup.org/llss)

Contact: Soul Food [lifeinthespirit@sgc.souffoodgroup.org](mailto:lifeinthespirit@sgc.souffoodgroup.org)



**The Rosary Group's Monthly Prayer Meeting**  
**Sunday 02nd February**  
Meet by the statue of Mary after 11am Mass

*The theme of our prayers will be:*  
**For those with no-one to pray for them**

**Beginners Welcome**

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

**2020 THE YEAR OF ST MATTHEW** – ‘The Sermon on the Mount: Call to Discipleship’, Scripture from Scratch with Sister Anne Walsh OP on 30th January, 7.30-9pm at Niland Centre, Rosary Priory, 93 Elstree Road, Bushey Heath, Bushey, Herts, WD23 4EE  
Suggested donation £5 per session. To register please e-mail at [bookings@nilandconferencentre.co.uk](mailto:bookings@nilandconferencentre.co.uk) or call 07746 707 247

**THE NATURE OF MISSION IN THE CHURCH OF POPE FRANCIS** – ‘A mission of mercy and joy’ by Fr Paul Rout OFM on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 7.00-8.30pm at Vaughan House, 46 Francis Street, SW1P 1QN.

Suggested donation £5 per lecture. Registration is required: email [livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk) or leave a voice message at 020 7931 6078

**EXPLORING OLD TESTAMENT TREASURES** – ‘Finding Christ in the Old Testament’ by Fr John Hemer MHM on 5<sup>th</sup> February, 7pm at Allen Hall, 28 Beaufort St, Chelsea, London SW3 5AA. Refreshments will be served at 7pm, followed by the lecture in the Chapel at 7.30pm, and Night Prayer at 8.45pm. Donations welcome. Please register at [livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:livingfaith@rcdow.org.uk)

### Beginning Experience Weekend

A healing weekend for men and women who are separated, divorced or widowed will be held from **3rd to 5th April 2020 at the Domus Mariae Centre, Chigwell, Essex.**

For details please contact Freda 01322-838415 or Maura 01322-551503 or email [johnbrotherton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:johnbrotherton@hotmail.co.uk).

## **ARCHCONFRATERNITY OF ST STEPHEN**



*Annual Guild Dinner Friday 21st February 2020*

**At Holy Trinity Parish Centre, Brook Green, London, W6 7BL**

Principal Guest of Honour:

The Most Reverend Bernard Longley, Archbishop of Birmingham

A three-course dinner at 7.30pm

Gathering from 6.45pm, an opportunity to meet other Servers & Guests

Teenage Servers especially welcome.

Tickets £26.00 per head.

(Main Course: Steak & Ale Pie. A Vegetarian option is available.)

Nearest stations: Hammersmith (District, Circle, Piccadilly & Hammersmith & City)

Buses: 9, 23, 27, 72, 220, 283, 295 & 306.

**Please complete the slip below, it must be returned by Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> February together with a cheque made payable to “The Archconfraternity of St Stephen”**

**Very important, please list names in full of all those attending from your parish.**

I would like to book..... places at the Annual Dinner. .... Meat .....Vegetarian

Contact Name: ..... Phone No: .....

Address: .....

Post Code: ..... Email.....

Guild Branch: .....

**All bookings to be made by post and sent to the address: Annual Guild Dinner, c/o 41 Brook Green, London W6 7BL**

**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 January 2020 & 3rd February 2020 at 7.30pm**. Please, drop an email to 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**

For the Victims of Easter Sunday 2019 Bombings.

We started an Open Collection for this fund in October until Christmas. I am happy to inform you, that we have succeeded in raising the sum of £3,245.85 ( when converted to Sri Lankan Rupees is Rs 773009.96, which will be sent to the Fund via the diocese. May I take this opportunity to thank each and every one of you, the Head Teacher Gail O’ Flaherty, the staff and the pupils of St Edmund’s Primary School for your generosity. It will go along way to help with the rehabilitation and with the education of the young people who were orphaned.

ad multos annos

*Fr. Chris*

**LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS:** loose: £444.77 envelopes: £534.41 total: **£979.18**

Standing orders in November: **£2062.00** Standing orders in December: **£2264.30**

**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