

## NEWSLETTER

6th SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**Called to Surpassing Righteousness**

Jesus was not satisfied with destroying sin and meriting only a sufficient amount of grace for our salvation. He did much more and he himself declared it, *I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full (Jn10:10)*. This plenitude of life is the plenitude of grace, the supernatural life which causes sanctity to blossom. Sanctity is not reserved for a few; Jesus, by His Incarnation and by his death on the cross, merited the means of salvation and sanctification for all who believe in him. He, All-holy, came to sanctify us and has taught us, *You must, therefore, be perfect just as your heavenly Father is perfect (Mt 5: 48)*.

Jesus did not give this precept to a chosen group of persons, nor did he reserve it for his Apostles and close friends; he proclaimed it to the multitude who were following him. Saint Paul received this message and announced it to the gentiles: *What God wants is for you all to be holy (1 Th 4:3)*. And in our times the Church has repeated it strongly and on many occasions to the modern world: 'Christ has called the whole human race to the lofty heights of sanctity, There are some who say that sanctity is not everyone's vocation; on the contrary, it is everyone's vocation, and all are called to it, Jesus Christ has given himself as an example for all to imitate'. And elsewhere: 'Let no one believe that sanctity belongs to a few chosen people, while the rest of humanity can limit itself to a lesser degree of virtue'. Jesus comes not only to save me but to sanctify me, He is calling me to sanctify and has merited for me all the graces I need to attain it.

*Fr. Gabriel of Saint Mary Magdalen*

**National Day of Re-dedication**

Dear Friends,

On 29th March 20, The dedication of England to Mary will take place at Walsingham. In 1381, the world in political turmoil, King Richard II, having sought the assistance of Mary Mother of God, dedicated England to Mary. This year, we are called to offer ourselves as a personal gift to Mary, in one great Re-dedication of England as Mary's Dowry.

Here at St Edmund of Abingdon, Millwall, we in preparation for the dedication will be saying The Angelus at 6 pm on Saturday and 12 on Sunday commencing on 22nd & 23rd February.

Furthermore, to focus our minds I have ordered copies of 33 Days to Morning Glory which you could use in preparation for Marian Consecration. The Statue of Our Lady of Walsingham will Be Touring every Catholic English Cathedral promoting prayer through Mary, the message of Walsingham and an understanding of the ancient title of Mary's Dowry. The final stop of the tour will be Westminster Cathedral from 26th - 28th March, in preparation for the dedication on 29th March 2020.

*Salve Regina*

**MASS INTENTIONS****February 15, 2020**

6pm - Ints of Fr Christopher

**February 16, 2020**

9am - People of the Parish

11am— Fr Fernando Suarez RIP

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**

Every Saturday  
from 5pm

**DATES  
FOR YOUR DIARY****ASH WEDNESDAY**

26th February 2020

Masses: 9.15 am

& 8pm

**PENITENTIAL SERVICE**

10th March at 8pm

**Readings for this & next Sunday**

1st Reading; Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20,  
Psalm 118:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34 response v 1  
2nd Reading - Corinthians 2:6-10  
Gospel – Mathew 5; 17-37

1st Reading; Leviticus 19:1-2, 17-18  
Psalm 102:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13 response v 8  
2nd Reading - Corinthians 3:16-23  
Gospel – Mathew 5; 38-48

**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).



**Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP**  
Minister of State for School Standards

Sanctuary Buildings, 20 Great Smith Street, Westminster, London, SW1P 3BT  
tel: 0370 000 2288 www.education.gov.uk/help/contactus

Ms Gail O'Flaherty  
St Edmund's Catholic School  
299 Westferry Road  
London  
E14 3RS

27 January 2020

Dear Ms O'Flaherty,

I would like to congratulate you, your staff and your pupils on the very high standard of achievement demonstrated in the reading and mathematics Key Stage 2 assessments last year.

Your school's results, as published on 13 December, show that 100 per cent of your pupils reached or exceeded the expected standard in reading and mathematics at the end of Key Stage 2. This means that for achievement in reading and mathematics, St Edmund's Catholic School is in the top 1 per cent of primary schools in the country.

The Government wants to ensure that every child has the fluency in reading and mathematics necessary to prepare them for a successful secondary education and beyond, which is why I was delighted to see your results.

Thank you for your work in continuing the drive towards higher academic standards, and congratulations again to you and your staff for your commitment and success.

With best wishes.

Yours sincerely,

**Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP**  
Minister of State for School Standards

**St Edmund's Catholic School**

Dear Friends,

It gives me great pleasure to thank Gail O' Flaherty and the Staff of St Edmund's on achieving such excellent results at the end of Key Stage 2. St Edmund's is in the top 1 percent of primary schools in the country. I have enclosed a copy of the letter sent to Gail O' Flaherty by Rt Hon Nick Gibb MP, Minister of State for School Standard, his letter was dated 27 January 2020. We also extend our thanks to all the pupils of Key Stage 2.

Fr. Chris

**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 Fre-da 01322-838415 or Maura 01322-551503 or email [johna-brotherton@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:johna-brotherton@hotmail.co.uk).



## THE ANGELUS PROMISE

The Angelus Promise is a spiritual exercise created to assist you to embrace the message of Our Lady, as expressed in the Angelus. It invites you to "share in the joy of the Annunciation" by following Mary's openness to God's call, through her faith-filled "yes". Through your own faith-filled "yes", the Lord will work wonders in your life.

**R: The Angel of the Lord declared unto Mary**

**V: And she conceived by the Holy Spirit**

As God once chose Mary to become the Mother of His Son through the message of an angel, so He chooses me this day, and invites me through the ministry of the Church or the example of another, to seek and do His Will at this moment in my life.

**Hail Mary full of Grace...**

**R: Behold the handmaid of the Lord**

**V: Be it be done unto me according to thy Word**

Mary's response to her invitation, "let it be done to me according to your Word", opened her heart to God's grace and all things became possible. Let my "yes" today take away fear, as I embrace God's Will, and like Mary "ponder these things in my heart".

**Hail Mary full of Grace...**

**R: And the Word became flesh** (*Bow or genuflect*)

**V: And dwelt among us**

At a moment in history, Mary's faith-filled "yes" conceived Him, first in her heart, which then led to the birth of our Saviour.

Through accepting Him in my heart, enable me to recognise my role in bringing Christ to my sisters and brothers today.

**Hail Mary full of Grace...**

**R: Pray for us most holy Mother of God**

**V: That we may be made worthy of the promises of Christ**

Let us pray: O Holy Mother of God, pray for us, and assist us as we dedicate ourselves this day. Your Yes at the Annunciation brought our Saviour Jesus into the world, and you invite us to contemplate the great mystery of the Incarnation, sharing your joy in announcing that "the Word was made flesh and lived among us." May our yes, this day, open our hearts to serve our sisters and brothers in this your Dowry, that they too may share our joy in the Good News that God walks among us. We make this prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

**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 18th March 2020 & 25th March 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.

**LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS:**

loose: £332.03 envelopes: £449.43 total: **£781.46**

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