

## NEWSLETTER

5th SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY TIME**Salt and Light**

The path to leadership is a difficult one. A true leader is committed to a cause or goal. They would sacrifice their time, talent and we do have some examples such as Nelson Mandela. Such leaders gather many followers. Such followers become leaders when they make a commitment and the easy way becomes difficult. For our Lord, followers were those who took the hard road, who sacrificed for the Kingdom and they would be salt of the earth and light to the world.

Salt has various uses; used for seasoning, to preserve food. The disciples are called to preserve faith and be the light through their evangelization. Evangelization was a means to communicate God's blessings to the people and even the land would benefit. Our Lord is informing his disciples and those who follow him cannot have their cake and eat it. One cannot be a believing Christian, and act as though faith didn't matter. For faith leads to action and action points to the Kingdom.

Our Lord as a priest offered a sacrificial love to the Father. We might ask ourselves, what sacrifice of love do I offer to the Father? We could offer our married life, family, work, single, our outreach to others, and our social life together with our prayers, difficulties, and sufferings to God. We could offer them at any time but the best time is at Mass when we offer ourselves with our Lord to the Father.

Our Lord as a prophet proclaimed the Good News of salvation. God calls us to evangelize by our word and example. We witness most effectively when others see the difference our Lord has made in our lives. The most credible way of our witness lies in our ability to 'get out of God's way' and allow him the room to work through us.

Our Lord was King who became a servant of all through his self-giving. We are called to give ourselves so our places of work and our homes we might be more humane. We are called by our Lord to serve in our parishes so that we would grow in faith and become more alive. So we integrate our Christian faith into our daily lives and our service becomes His service to others. God calls us to worship, to witness, and to give.

Who inspired you to live as a Christian? What have they done to inspire you?

What can you do today to be a good Christian example for others?

**The Fatima Prayers**

Mary gave the children this prayer, as well as the Fatima Prayer/Decade Prayer, on June 13th, 1917. The prayer is meant to be recited when you are offering up suffering to God.

The apparition of an angel and Our Lady to three poor children in Fatima, Portugal in the early 20th century is one of the most famous miracles in the Catholic world.

The children received many messages, mostly calling for personal conversion and prayer, as well as the words of 5 new prayers. The first prayer is one many Catholics are likely already familiar with, **but the other 4 are not as well-known**. Here are the 5 prayers given to the children at Fatima: **(go to the next page)**

**MASS INTENTIONS****February 8, 2020**

6pm - Ints of Tom Madden  
(sick)

**February 9, 2020**

9am - People of the Parish  
11am— Ints of sick of the Parish  
Ints of Katherine & Pawel (Wedding 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**

Every Saturday  
from 5pm

**Anointing  
Of The Sick**

The annual anointing of the Sick will take place here at St Edmund's this Sunday,

**9th February 2020**

**at the 11 am Mass**

*Fr Christopher*

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY****ASH WEDNESDAY**

**26th February 2020**

**Masses: 9.15 am**

**& 8pm**

**Readings for this & next Sunday**

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

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

### You are the light of the world?

The Church was founded for the purpose of spreading the Kingdom of Christ throughout the earth for the glory of God the Father, to enable all men to share in his saving redemption and that through them the whole world might enter into a relationship with Christ. In the Church, there is a diversity of ministry but a oneness of mission. Christ conferred on the Apostles and their successors the duty of teaching, sanctifying and ruling in his name and power. But the laity likewise share in the priestly, prophetic and royal office of Christ and therefore have their own share in the mission of the whole people of God in the Church and in the world.

They exercise the apostolate in fact by their activity directed to the evangelisation and sanctification of men and to the penetrating and perfecting of the temporal order through the spirit of the Gospel. In this way, their temporal activity openly bears witness to Christ and promotes the salvation of men. Since the laity in accordance with their state of life, live in the midst of the world and its concerns, they are called by God to exercise their apostolate in the world like leaven, the ardour of the spirit of Christ.

The laity derive the right and duty to the apostolate from their union with Christ the head; incorporated into Christ's Mystical Body through baptism and strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit through Confirmation, they are assigned to the apostolate by the Lord himself not only that they may offer spiritual sacrifices in everything they do but also that they may witness to Christ throughout the world. The sacraments, especially the most Holy Eucharist, communicate and nourish that charity which is the soul of the entire apostolate.

Such a life requires a continual exercise of faith, hope, and charity. Only by the light of faith and by meditation on the word of God can one always and everywhere recognise God, in whom *we live, and move, and exist* (Acts 17:28) The very testimony of their Christian life and good works done in a supernatural spirit have the power to draw men to belief and to God; for the Lord says, *your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven.*

*Apostolicam Actuositatem (From the Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity)*

**1) THE FATIMA PRAYER/DECADE PRAYER** *"O my Jesus, forgive us our sins, save us from the fires of hell, lead all souls to Heaven, especially those most in need of Thy mercy. Amen."* Mary told the children that people should add this prayer to the end of each decade of the Rosary.

**2) THE PARDON PRAYER** *"My God, I believe, I adore, I hope and I love Thee! I beg pardon for all those that do not believe, do not adore, do not hope and do not love Thee."* This prayer was given to the children by the angel that visited them in 1916, the year before Mary appeared to them..

**3) THE ANGEL'S PRAYER** *"O Most Holy Trinity, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I adore Thee profoundly. I offer Thee the most precious Body, Blood, Soul and Divinity of Jesus Christ present in all the tabernacles of the world, in reparation for the outrages, sacrileges and indifferences by which He is offended. By the infinite merits of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Immaculate Heart of Mary I beg the conversion of poor sinners."* This is another prayer given to them by the angel. There was a Eucharistic host and chalice suspended in the air, and the angel led them in kneeling before it and praying this prayer.

**4) THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER** *"Most Holy Trinity, I adore Thee! My God, my God, I love Thee in the Most Blessed Sacrament."* When Mary appeared to the children for the first time on May 13, 1917, she said, "You will have much to suffer, but the grace of God will be your comfort." According to Lucia, one of the children, a bright light shone all around them, and without thinking about it, they all started reciting this prayer.

**5) THE SACRIFICE PRAYER** *"O Jesus, it is for the love of Thee, in reparation for the offenses committed against the Immaculate Heart of Mary, and for the conversion of poor sinners [that I do this]."*

**So get praying!**

### 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).

### 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).

## COULD YOU BE OUR NEW DIRECTOR?

We're looking for someone with a passion for young people and the ambition to take a new step in their professional journey. We're excited about our renewed strategy and seek someone to help lead us.

### Could it be you?

The role provides a great opportunity to grow in responsibility, with a support package in place to help you develop as a Church and charity leader.

WE WANT TO SUPPORT THE CHURCH TO SHOW YOUNG PEOPLE HOW MUCH THEY ARE VALUED. WILL YOU HELP US?

MILLIONMINUTES.ORG/VACANCIES

## 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 - 6 Mar	Search and rescue
Week 4 - 12 Mar	Salvation through Jesus
Wk-end 13-15 Mar*	<i>New Heart New Spirit Come Holy Spirit Learn to walk, learn to run</i>
Week 5 - 19 Mar	Prayer
Week 6 - 26 Mar	Church and Sacraments

\* To get the most out of our "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 Port and St. Oxford Circus)  
For more details and to register visit [www.soulfoodgroup.org/usa](http://www.soulfoodgroup.org/usa)

**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 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: £345.81    envelopes: £496.55      total: **£842.36**  
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