

## NEWSLETTER

23rd Sunday in  
Ordinary Time*The Importance of Prayer*

I have been overcome with grief at times and felt my heart like a stone in my breast, it was so heavy, and always I have heard, too, that voice, 'Pray'. What can we do? We can pray. We can pray without ceasing, as Saint Paul said. We can say with the Apostles, 'Lord, teach me to pray' We can say with Saint Paul, *What am I to do Lord?* (Acts 22: 10). Will our Father give us a stone when we ask for bread?

We remember Jesus' words, 'I tell you solemnly once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them (Mt 18: 19-20). There is another bit of scripture which stands out in my mind these days, it is this: *However great the number of sins committed, grace was even greater* (Rm 5: 20). resting in this promise, I am Content...

Many young people have come here and worked with us, and they tell us after a while that they have learned a lot and are grateful to us, but they disagree with us on various matters..., You people are impractical, they tell us, nice idealists, but not headed anywhere big and important. They are right. We are impractical, as one of us put it, as impractical as Calvary. There is no point in trying to make us into something we are not.

We are not another community fund group, anxious to help people with some bread and butter and a cup of coffee or tea. We feed the hungry, yes; we try to shelter the homeless and give them clothes if we have some, but there is a strong faith at work; we pray. If an outsider who comes to visit doesn't pay attention to our praying and what that means, then he'll miss the whole point of things.

*Servant of God Dorothy Day*

**Sacramental Program in the next Academic Year which commences in September.**

RCIA ( Rite Of Christian Initiation of Adults). If you or anyone you know who is keen to learn more about the Catholic Faith and would like to be received into the Church. Please give your details to the parish office and the Registration Forms will be available on the Table in the Lobby of the Church, in late September.

First Holy Communion: Parents who wish their Son /Daughter to make their First Holy Communion. You are advised that registration forms are now available on the table in the lobby of Church.

Confirmation: Those young people who wish to make your Confirmation, be advised that the registration forms will be available on the table in the lobby of the Church now.

Baptism: The course would commence in late September. Dates will be announced on our www. Please, drop an email to [Millwall@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:Millwall@rcdow.org.uk) if you are interested.

**MASS INTENTIONS****Sept 5th, 2020**

6pm - Fr Christopher  
Gawecki RIP

**Sept 6, 2020**

9am—Ints of the Parish  
11am— Fr Thomas Quinn  
RIP

For weekday mass intentions please, see the notice board on the left hand side of the main door of the church.

Confession  
only by appointment.

**Spiritual  
Communion**

Jesus!

My God and my All  
my soul longs for thee.

My heart yearns to  
receive thee in

Holy Communion, come, O  
Lord.

Bread of heaven and food of  
angels to nourish my soul  
heal my body and to rejoice  
my heart

come most lovable friend of  
my soul,

to inflame me with such love  
that I may never again be  
ever separated from thee.

Amen

Parish Office will be closed from Monday, 7th September until Monday, 21 September 2020. Fr Christopher will be around and you can talk to him calling on 0207 987 4114. The next Newsletter will be on line on 27th September. Sorry for any inconvenience caused. Katherine

**Readings for this & next Sunday**

1st Reading; Ezekiel 33: 7-9  
Psalm 94: 1-2, 6-9 responsive v 7-8  
2nd Reading - Romans 13: 8-10  
Gospel – Mathew 18; 15-20

1st Reading; Isaiah 27: 30-28;7  
Psalm 102: 1-4, 9-12 responsive v 8  
2nd Reading - Romans 14:7-9  
Gospel – Mathew 18; 21-35

**Holy Hour**

The Holy Hour will be re-introduced from Saturday 12th September Please note, the Celebrant will be singing some parts without responses from the congregation. Thank you for your co-operation.

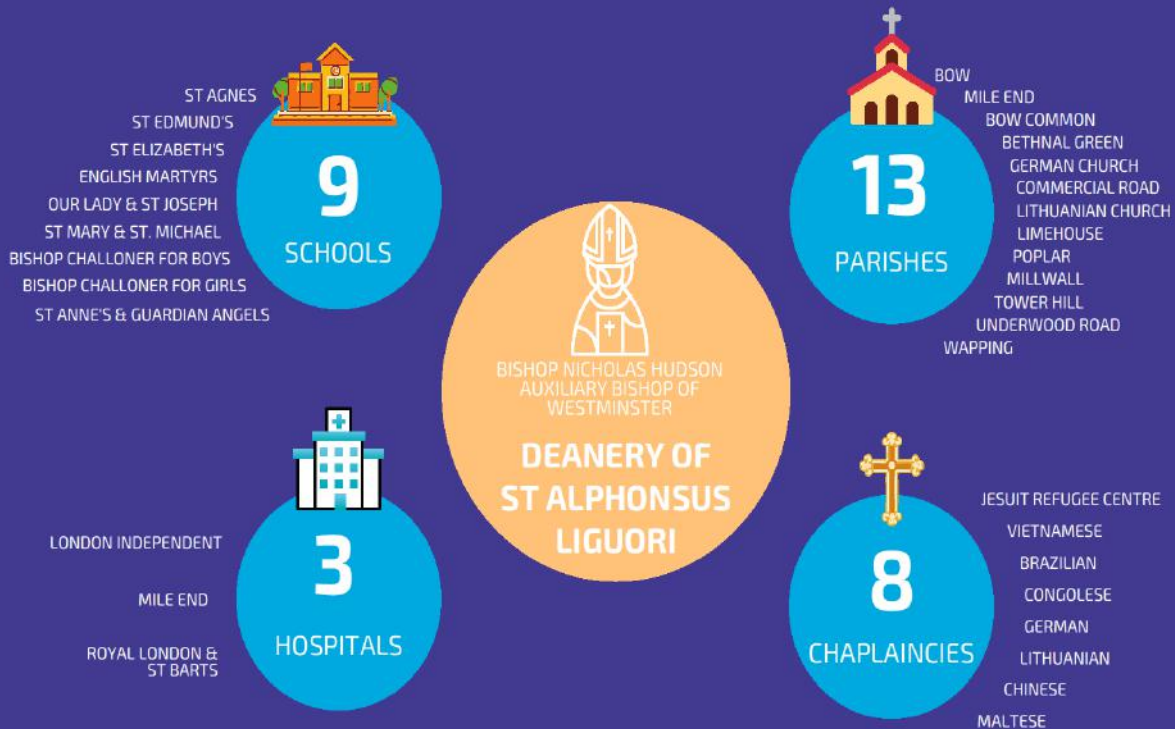
*“The pandemic has exposed and aggravated social problems, above all that of inequality. Some people can work from home, while this is impossible for many others. Certain children, notwithstanding the difficulties involved, can continue to receive an academic education, while this has been abruptly interrupted for many, many others. Some powerful nations can issue money to deal with the crisis, while this would mean mortgaging the future for others... In the face of the pandemic and its social consequences, many risk losing hope. In this time of uncertainty and anguish, I invite everyone to welcome the gift of hope that comes from Christ. It is He who helps us navigate the tumultuous waters of sickness, death and injustice, which do not have the last word over our final destination.”*

*Pope Francis*

*“Charity is always the high road of the journey of faith, of the perfection of faith. But it is necessary that works of solidarity, the works of charity that we carry out, not divert us from contact with the Lord Jesus. Christian charity is not simple philanthropy but, on the one hand, it is looking at others through the very eyes of Jesus and, on the other hand, it is seeing Jesus in the face of the poor. This is the true path of Christian charity, with Jesus at the centre, always. May Mary Most Holy, blessed because she believed, be our guide and model on the path of faith in Christ, and make us aware that trust in him gives full meaning to our charity and to all our existence.”*

*Pope Francis*

**WE ARE TOWER HAMLETS DEANERY**



**YOUR PRIESTS ARE FROM**



Dear All,

I have received a letter from Bishop Sherrington that I would like to share with you. Please, support our charities as much as you can but I want you to understand, that this is just a gentle request in this strange times. Thank you, Fr Christopher

Dear Father

I hope this email finds you well and that you were able to manage some form of restful break over the summer.

As parishioners are slowly returning to a more regular Mass attendance in our churches, I am writing to update you on the situation with regard to the second collections originally scheduled for the spring and summer 2020.

I recognise that the financial challenges created by the pandemic and downturn in the economy are affecting many in our communities. While parishioners have continued to demonstrate generosity in their giving to their parishes, it is important to recognise the reality that many currently face. We owe it to them to prioritise the financial resilience of our parishes, both for the good of the parishes and for the longer term good of the external charities who rely on the generosity of our parishioners.

It is therefore recommended that, other than our own diocesan Sick and Retired Priests' Fund collection on 8<sup>th</sup> November, and those mandated by the Holy See, the remaining collections be treated as entirely optional retiring collections. Each parish might wish to notify parishioners that on certain weekends there is an appeal for the particular charitable work and that ways of donating are available for those who wish to do so (either directly to the charity or via a retiring collection basket). There is no obligation to hold these collections. This is also the view of the Bishops' Conference.

The external charities will be informed that this is the approach we are taking this year. Any donations they receive will be very welcome but they will be asked not to put any pressure on our parishes to promote them.

The proposed schedule for the autumn charitable appeals is:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Appeal</b>	<b>Beneficiary</b>
Sunday 13th September	Holy Places of Palestine	Holy See
Sunday 4th October	Peter's Pence	Holy See
Sunday 8th November	Sick and Retired Priests	Diocesan Sick and Retired Priests' Fund
<b>Optional</b>		
Sunday 11th October	CAFOD Harvest Fast Day	CAFOD
Sunday 18th October	World Mission Sunday	Pontifical Mission Societies
Sunday 15th November	World Communications	Bishops' Conference
Sunday 29th November	Day for Life	Bishops' Conference
Sunday 13th December	Home Mission	Bishops' Conference
Sunday 20th December	Sea Sunday	Stella Maris UK

With thanks and prayers for all that you are doing in your parishes,

with every good wish

+John

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Bishop John Sherrington  
Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster

