

## NEWSLETTER

28th Sunday in  
Ordinary Time

True Faith is not shown here below in peace, but rather in conflict; in passing out of the country of sin, we necessarily pass through it

The continual results, as I may call them, of [The Christian's] faith, are righteous and holy, but the process through which they are obtained is one of imperfection; so that could we see his soul as Angels see it, he would, when seen at a distance, appear youthful in countenance, and bright in apparel; but approach him, and his face lines of care upon it, and his dress is tattered. His righteousness then seems, I do not mean superficial, this would be to give a very wrong idea of it, but though reaching deep within him, yet not whole and entire in the depth of it; but, as it were, wrought out of sin, the result of a continual struggle, -not spontaneous nature, but habitual self-command.

True faith is not shown here below in peace, but rather in conflict; and it is no proof that a man is not in a state of grace that he continually sins, do not remain on him as what I may call ultimate results, but are ever passing on into something beyond and unlike themselves at holiness through infirmity; because man's very condition is a fallen one, and in passing out of the country of sin, he necessarily passes through it. And hence it is that holy men are kept from regarding themselves with satisfaction, or resting in anything short of our Lord's death, as their ground of confidence; for, though that death has already in a measure wrought life in them, and effected the purpose for which it took place, yet to themselves, they seem but sinners, their renewal being hidden from them by the circumstances attending it. The utmost they can say themselves is, that they are not in the commission of any such sins as would plainly exclude them from grace; but how little of firm hope can be placed on such negative evidence is plain from St. Paul's own words on the subject, who, speaking of the censures passed upon him by the Corinthians, says, 'I know nothing by myself', that is, I am conscious of nothing, 'yet am I not hereby justified; but He that judges me is the Lord'. As men in a battle cannot see how it is going, so Christians have no certain signs of God's presence in their hearts, and can but look up towards their Lord and Saviour, and timidly hope.

We have much to be forgiven: we have the more to be forgiven the more we attempt. The higher our aims, the greater our risks. They who venture much with their talents, gain much, and in the end they hear the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant," but they have so many losses in trading by the way, that to themselves they seem to do nothing but fail. They cannot believe that they are making any progress; and though they do, yet surely they have much to be forgiven in all their services. They are like David, men of blood; they fight the good fight of faith, but they are polluted with the contest.

*St John Henry Newman*

**MASS INTENTIONS****October 10th, 2020**

6pm - Sarah Casey  
(Anniv)

**October 11th, 2020**

9am—Pro Populo

11am— Ints of Sick &  
Housebound

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

**Holy Hour** is every Saturday  
from 5pm to 5.45 pm.

## Readings for this &amp; next Sunday

1st Reading; Isaiah 25: 6-10

Psalm 22, responsive v 6

2nd Reading - Philippians 4: 12-14, 19-20

Gospel – John 1; 14-12

1st Reading; Isaiah 45: 1, 4-6

Psalm 95; 1, 3-5, 7-10 responsive v 7

2nd Reading - Thessalonians 1: 1-5,

Gospel – Mathew 22; 15-21

### Saint John Henry Newman

St John Henry Newman was born on 21 February 1801 in London, England. As an Anglican clergyman for over twenty years, he won renown as a preacher and theologian. A fellow of Oriel College, Oxford, he became one of the leaders of the Oxford Movement and a prominent figure in the Church of England. On 9th October 1845, he was received into full communion with the Catholic Church by Blessed Dominic Barberi of the Passionist Congregation. After a period of study in Rome, he was ordained a priest on 30th May 1847. On his return to England, he established the Oratory of Saint Philip Neri in Birmingham. He was an influential writer on many subjects, most notably the development of Christian doctrine, the true understanding of conscience, faith and reason, the role of the laity, and university education. In 1879 he was created Cardinal by Pope Leo XIII and given the title of San Giorgio in Velabro. He died in the Birmingham Oratory on 11th August 1890. He was beatified by Pope Benedict XVI on 9th September 2010 and canonised by Pope Francis on 13th October 2019.

### Accepting the Invitation

*What great nation is there that has its gods so near as the Lord our God is to us whenever we call to him?* (Dt 4:7). Saint Thomas Aquinas took up this saying in his reflections for the Feast of Corpus Christi. In doing so, he showed how we Christians in the Church of the New Covenant can pronounce these words with yet more reason and more joy and thankfulness than Israel could; in doing so, he showed how this saying, in the Church of Jesus Christ, has acquired a depth of meaning hitherto unsuspected: God has truly come to dwell among us in the Eucharist. He became flesh so that he might become bread. He gave himself to enter into the 'fruit of the earth and the work of human hands'; thus he puts himself in our hands and into our hearts. God is not the great unknown, whom we can but dimly conceive. We need not fear, as heathens do, that he might be capricious and bloodthirsty or too far away and too great to hear men. He is there, and we always know where we can find him, where he allows himself to be found and is waiting for us.

Today this should once more sink into our hearts; God is near. God knows us. God is waiting for us in Jesus Christ in the Blessed Sacrament. Let us not leave him waiting in vain! Let us not, through distraction and lethargy, pass by the greatest and most important thing life offers us..., Let us not pass heedlessly by. Let us take time, in the course of the week, in passing, to go in and spend a moment with the Lord who is near.

During the day our churches should not be allowed to be dead houses, standing empty and seemingly useless. Jesus Christ's invitation is always being proffered from them. This sacred proximity to us is always alive in them. It is always calling us and inviting us in. This what is lovely about Catholic churches that within them there is, as it were, always worship, because the Eucharistic presence of the Lord dwells always within them.

*Pope Emeritus Benedict XVI*

Dear Friends in Christ,

I thank you for your generosity in these unusual circumstances. I cannot begin to comprehend the difficulties that COVID has put you in. Despite, all this you have been generous in your giving and I thank you, and may God bless you all. Our next second collection falls on the weekend of **7th & 8th November for Sick and Retired Priests and the Beneficiary is Diocesan Sick & Retired Priest's Fund.**

On the Table in the lobby, you would find CAFOD envelopes. Should you wish to make a donation to CAFOD then please take an envelope put your donation in and put it with the collection. Thank you ,

*Fr Christopher*

### **We should meditate on the mysteries of salvation**

'The child to be born of you will be called holy, the Son of God'. The fount of wisdom, the Word of the Father on high! This Word will become flesh through you, holy Virgin, so that he who says: 'I am in the Father, and the Father in me', may also say: 'I proceeded and came forth from God'.

'In the beginning was the Word,' he says. Already the fountain is flowing, but as yet only himself. 'The Word was with God,' dwelling in unapproachable light, and the Lord could say from the beginning; 'My thoughts are thoughts of peace, not of affliction'. But your thoughts is within yourself and we do not know what you think, for who has known the mind of the Lord and who has been his counsellor?

Therefore the thought of peace came down to be a work of peace: the Word became flesh and now dwells among us. He dwells in our hearts through faith, he dwells in our memory and thoughts, he penetrates even to our imagination. For what could a man conceive of God unless he first made an image of him in his heart? He was above our understanding, unapproachable; he was completely invisible and beyond our intellect; but now he wished to be comprehended, to be seen, to be pondered.

But how? you may ask. I answer; lying in a manger, resting on a virgin's bosom, preaching, on the mount, spending the night in prayer; or hanging on the cross, the pallor of death on his face, like one forsaken among the dead, overruling the powers of hell; or rising again on the third day, showing the apostles the print of the nails, the sign of victory, and finally ascending from their sight into heaven.

Is there anything here that cannot be reflected on, truthfully, lovingly, reverently? If I reflect on any of these things, I reflect on God, and in all of them, I find my God. I call it wisdom to meditate on these things. I judge it prudence to recall the fragrance which the rod of Aaron produced so plentifully in these buds, the fragrance which Mary draws from above she pours generously on us.

*St Bernard*

### **Sacramental Program inn 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.** Due to Covid situation, the decision will be based on interest , when / how to start the course. Drop your email to Millwall@rcdow.org.uk

***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.

***The final date to submit your applications is 18th October 2020. Be advised that after this date NO applications would be accepted. The Parents Meeting will be on 3rd December 20 at 7 pm. in the Church.***

**Conformation:** Those young people who wish to make your Confirmation, be advised that the registration forms are available on the table in the lobby of the Church now. **The final date to submit your applications is 15th November 2020.**

**Baptism:** The course will be on Wednesday, 21st October at 7pm on Zoom. Both parents have to be present.. If you are interested in doing the course, please, drop the email to give us your email (that is essential to receive an invitation to join the course). You also have to come to the office to pick up the Baptismal Pack and to pay a fee of £10 payable on receiving the pack.

***"In any age, those who have an authority, any authority, even in the Church, in the people of God, can be tempted to do their own interests, instead of those of God himself. And Jesus says that true authority is when one does service, is in serving, not exploiting others. The vineyard belongs to the Lord, not ours. Authority is a service, and as such it must be exercised, for the good of all and for the spread of the Gospel."***

*Pope Francis*

**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**

**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’s date will be on Wednesday, 21st October at 7pm on Zoom.** The one after that - two weeks later. Please, drop an email to the office to reserve your space and to give us your email as you will be invited by your email to join the session. Please, note that all baptism will be on a Saturday morning/afternoon only at present.

**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 con-

**LAST WEEK’S COLLECTIONS:** loose: £128.25 envelopes: £388.70 total: **£516.95**  
Standing orders in August **£2405.14** Peter’s Pence—**£238.00**

As a charity we rely on your donations only. As you have not been allowed to come to the church, we only were receiving donations set up as standing orders. We will be grateful for your financial support when you are back.

Your new sets of gift aided envelopes are available for collection before/after any mass or from the office.

Alternatively you could send your donation by bank. Parish account is on Parish Web.

*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