

NEWSLETTER

30th Sunday in
Ordinary Time*On the Lord's Prayer*

We need words to help us recollect ourselves and see what we are asking for; not to make us suppose that the Lord must be given information or swayed by words.

So, when we say, '**Hallowed be thy name**', we are counselling ourselves to desire that his name, which is always holy, may be held holy also among men; that is, that it may not be treated with contempt: and this for the benefit not of God but of men.

When we say, '**Thy kingdom come**', which will certainly come whether we wish it or not, we arouse our desire for that kingdom, that it may come for us, and that we may be worthy to reign therein.

When we say, '**Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven**', we are asking him for obedience for ourselves. that his will may be done in us as it is done in heaven by his angels.

When we say, '**Give us this day our daily bread**', we mean by 'today' this present time. We are asking either for sufficiency, by expressing its principal part, signifying the whole by the name 'bread'; or for the sacrament of believers, which is necessary at the present time in order to obtain the happiness not of this present time but of eternity.

When we say, '**Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us**', we advising ourselves both as to what we should ask for, and what we should do to be worthy to receive it.

When we say, '**Lead us not into temptation**', we counsel ourselves to make this petition lest we be abandoned by his help, and either be deceived into consenting to some temptation or be downcast as to give in to it.

When we say, '**deliver us from evil**', we bring ourselves to reflect that we are not yet in that happy state where we shall suffer no evil. This last petition in the Lord's prayer has such a wide scope that a Christian may in any trouble express his pain by it, pour forth his tears, begin from it, linger over it, and end his prayer at this point.

It is necessary by these words to impress the realities themselves on our memory. For whatever other words we may say-whether the devotion of the one praying precedes and forms the words to express itself, or accompanies the words and grows from them-if we are praying in the right way, we say nothing that has not already a place in the Lord's prayer. But whoever says anything that cannot be related to this prayer of the gospel, even though he is not praying unlawfully, he is praying in a fleshly, unspiritual manner; and I do not know how that should not be called unlawful, since people reborn of the Spirit ought not to pray otherwise than spiritually. *St Augustine*

Diocesan Sick & Retired Priests Fund,

Dear Friends in Christ,

I wish to remind you that the weekend of the **7th & 8th of November** we shall be having a Second Collection for our Sick and Retired Priests. We give thanks, for their dedication in severing in our parishes in the Diocese and in various capacities. Each year your generosity goes towards supporting them and paying for their medical bills and in certain cases for their accommodation. I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued generosity. God bless you all, thank you,
Fr Christopher

MASS INTENTIONS**October 24th, 2020**

6pm - Ints of Cardinal V Nicols

October 25th, 2020

9am—Pro Populo

11am— Ints of Sick and Housbound

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 Satur-
day from 5pm to 5.45 pm.

Readings for this & next Sunday

1st Reading; Exodus 22: 20-26

Psalm 17; 2-4, 47, 51 responsive v 2

2nd Reading - Thessalonians 1: 5-10,

Gospel – Mathew 22; 34-40

1st Reading; Apocalypse 7-4, 9-14

Psalm 23; 1-6, responsive cf v 6

2nd Reading - John 3: 1-3,

Gospel – Mathew 11; 28

The Command-and Capacity-to Love

'Love'-that is the word on which everything turns [and] if there is one thing in which men do believe, in which nothing can shatter their faith, it is love. Of course, the word is continually abused and much is called love that is not, but in their heart of hearts all men know the real thing from its travesty, and they value it more than life.

To say that someone is incapable of love is equal to saying that he is sub-human, and for a man to realise this in himself would be the greatest imaginable humiliation. No amount of virtue could make a saint of one wanting love; love is the heartbeat of sanctity, without it virtue is dead. On the other hand, the whole world forgives any sin or failure in one who proves his great capacity for love. So did the Lord of the world. There is no experience comparable to that which we call 'being in love'. It is only through it that we discover the glory and sweetness of the flowering of our own life.

Ask any young man in love if the suffering that he has known is worth the hour that it has brought him to, or if he would now forego his love to be exempt from future sorrow. It is not necessary for me to tell you his answer. Suppose that God gave every man the choice between a world in which there was no suffering, but also no capacity for love, or a world in which suffering remains, but everyone has the power to love. Which do you think mankind would choose? Which would you choose? Quite certainly the power to love, even at the cost of suffering. Now, this is precisely what has happened. The thing which makes us able to love is free will, and it is the same thing, free-will, which makes us able to sin. Without it, there would be no sin and no love in the world. Suffering is the result of sin., God does all he can, to change suffering from something that crushes and destroys us into something that exalts and renews us. This is a miracle which could be effected only by absolute love and beside which the creation of the world is pale.

Caryll Houselander

The Psalms are not texts created on paper; they are invocations, often dramatic, that spring from lived existence. To pray them it is enough for us to be what we are. We must not forget that to pray well we must pray as we are, without embellishment. One must not embellish the soul to pray. "Lord, I am like this," and go in front of the Lord as we are, with the good things and also with the bad things that no-one knows about, but that we inwardly know. In the Psalms we hear the voices of men and women of prayer in flesh and blood, whose life, like that of us all, is fraught with problems, hardships and uncertainties. The Psalmist does not radically contest this suffering: he knows that it is part of living..."

Pope Francis

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: *.The final date to submit your applications was 18th October 2020. The Parents Meeting will be on 3rd December 20 at 7 pm. in the Church.*

Confirmation: 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, 4th November 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.

MONTH OF HOLY SOULS

November is the month of holy souls. Please take a dead list envelope from the table in the lobby of the Church. Place all your deceased relatives and friends you wish to be remembered at all Masses during November. Requiescat in pace.

Thank you , Fr Christopher

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers, who could help clean the Church? If you can help, please give your details via email to the parish office (millwall@rcdow.org.uk) Thank you, Fr Christopher

Pope Francis is inviting leaders of other faiths to work together "with the gentle strength of faith to end all conflicts." His appeal comes as part of his discourse at an International Meeting for Peace, held in Rome and organized by the Community of Saint Egidio, entitled "No one is saved alone. Peace and Fraternity."

By Vatican News staff writer : Pope Francis set the tone of his speech on Tuesday by recalling the historic Assisi Meeting desired by Saint Pope John Paul II on 27 October 1986, in which for the first time in Church history the Pope invited leaders of other religions to join him in prayer for peace for the human family. That meeting, he said, contained a prophetic seed "that by God's grace has gradually matured through unprecedented encounters, acts of peace-making and fresh initiatives of fraternity." He noted that since that Meeting many painful events have taken place, at times in the name of religion, but that we also acknowledge the fruitful steps undertaken since then in interreligious dialogue. "This is a sign of hope that encourages us to continue cooperating as brothers and sisters," he said, recalling the *Document on Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together*, which he signed with the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, Ahmad Al-Tayyeb, in 2019. Pope Francis also referred to his just-released encyclical, *Fratelli tutti*, in which he reiterates that "the commandment of peace is inscribed in the depths of the religious traditions."

Religions at the service of peace and fraternity "Believers have understood that religious differences do not justify indifference or enmity. Rather, on the basis of our religious faith we are enabled to become peacemakers, rather than standing passively before the evil of war and hatred," he said. For this reason, he continued, this gathering is an encouragement "to religious leaders and to all believers to pray fervently for peace, never resigned to war, but working with the gentle strength of faith to end conflicts." "We need peace! More peace! We cannot remain indifferent," the Pope appealed, noting that the world has a profound thirst for peace. Indifference and the pandemic aggravating the evil of war in many countries, people are suffering due to wars, he said, and there is the risk that in political life and public opinion we grow inured to the evil of war as if it were simply a part of human history. Quoting again from *Fratelli tutti*, the Pope said "Let us not remain mired in theoretical discussions, but touch the wounded flesh of the victims... Let us think of the refugees and displaced, those who suffered the effects of atomic radiation or chemical attacks, the mothers who lost their children, and the boys and girls maimed or deprived of their childhood". All this pain, he continued, is aggravated by the suffering caused by the coronavirus and the impossibility, in many countries, of access to necessary care.

Peace is the priority of all politics The Pope said those who hold political responsibilities have the solemn duty, before God, to put an end to war: "Peace is the priority of all politics." He recalled the words Jesus spoke to Peter: "Put your sword back into its place; for all who take the sword will perish by the sword." He added that those who perpetrate violence possibly, but erroneously, believe that it will resolve difficult situations quickly. "Enough!" was Jesus' unambiguous response to any form of violence, the Pope said, highlighting how "That single word of Jesus echoes through the centuries and reaches us forcefully in our own time: enough of swords, weapons, violence, and war!"

We can only be saved together Pope Francis said the dream of all men and women of goodwill is for a world rid of every war. But how do we go about, he asked, achieving this dream? "No people, no social group, can *single-handedly* achieve peace, prosperity, security, and happiness," he said, noting that the lesson learned from the coronavirus pandemic is "the awareness that we are a global community, all in the same boat, where one person's problems are the problems of all." "Once more we realized that no one is saved alone; we can only be saved together." (cf. *Fratelli tutti*, 32). All of us, the Pope said, peoples, communities, government leaders, and international organizations must realise that we are a single human family and that "we can only be saved together through encounter and negotiation, setting aside our conflicts and pursuing reconciliation, moderating the language of politics and propaganda, and developing true paths of peace (cf. *Fratelli tutti*, 231).

Pope Francis concluded his speech noting that all the persons of different religious traditions, gathered together at the Capitoline Hill, are sending a message of peace: "To show clearly that the religions do not want war and, indeed, disown those who would enshrine violence."

And asking everyone to pray for reconciliation and to strive to enable fraternity to pave new paths of hope, he expressed his firm belief that "With God's help, it will be possible to build a world of peace, and thus to be saved together."

**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

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, 4th November at 7pm on Zoom** but all places are now taken. 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 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: £210.05 envelopes: £244.10 total: **£454.15**
Standing orders in August **£2405.14**

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