

## NEWSLETTER

2ND SUNDAY  
OF LENT

Mark 9: 2-10

A heart that listens is a heart that is warmed by God, and his words teach us. We listen to the Son of God, Jesus transfigured in his humanity. Prayer is described as listening than speaking. We need to spend time echoing his words or listening to the mood of love and peace in prayer. Peter, James, and John following Jesus up the mountain was a following in love that would be part of their lives in the future. It was difficult going up the mountain for the apostles but the view from the top was worthwhile: the glory of Jesus and the invitation of God to listen to him. This is the same for us in our discipleship.

Prayer at times can be like a long mountain walk! we wonder is it worth the effort and even don't have the stamina. If we give quality time to it, as we do now, it is worthwhile. As Jesus took Peter, James, and John, he will take us too, if we are willing to climb. We must try not to be irritable as we make our way upward to him. We may not have spiritual experiences, but in his presence and listening to him brings its own reward at an inner level. It's in this way we are transfigured. Remember too, that the transfiguration was for the benefit of the disciples, for their faith and confidence in the lasting glory of Jesus at bad times. It can be the same for us as well in prayer. God's voice still echoes, inviting us to listen to Jesus. So, let us allow ourselves to be drawn into the presence of the Beloved, to be close as Peter, James, and John. Say as they did, 'it is wonderful for us to be here'

Fr. Christopher

**Ancient Prayer to St Joseph**

O St. Joseph, whose protection is so great, so strong, so prompt before the throne of God. I place in thee all my interests and desires. O St. Joseph, assist me by thy powerful intercession and obtain for me all spiritual blessings through thy foster Son, Jesus Christ Our Lord, so that, having engaged here below thy heavenly power, I may offer thee my thanksgiving and homage.

O St Joseph, I never weary contemplating thee and Jesus asleep in thine arms. I dare not approach while he reposes near thy heart. Press him in my name and kiss his fine head for me, and ask him to return the kiss when I draw my dying breath.

St Joseph, patron of departing souls, pray for me. Amen

**Stations of the Cross**

Every **Friday** and during **Lent**, we will have here at **St Edmund's** the **Stations of the Cross** at **7.00 pm**. The first will happen on 26th February. If you would like to volunteer to lead, please give your name and details to the parish office. First session will be led by Paul.

**This coming week, let's pray-** *"We pray for all considering abortion. We pray that the love and kindness of those around them would support pregnant women everywhere to continue with their pregnancy and find peace and joy in what the future holds. Lord hear us"*

**MASS INTENTIONS****February 27th, 2020**

6pm - Linda Yoxall (Sick)

**February 28st, 2020**

9am—Pro Populo

11am— Ints of Cardinal  
Nicols

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.

**ADORATION**

***Every Friday from 9.45  
until 1pm.***

***Everyone is invited***

**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.

## Readings for this &amp; next Sunday

1st Reading; Genesis 22:1-2; 9-13; 15-18  
Psalm 115;10, 15-19, response Psalm 114;9  
2nd Reading - Romans 8; 31-34  
Gospel – Mark 9; 2-10

1st Reading; Exodus 17:3-7;  
Psalm 94;1-2, 6-9, response v 9  
2nd Reading - Romans 5; 1-2, 5-8  
Gospel – John 4; 5-42

## A Lamentation

Lord, Forgive us our foolish ways. We're sorry that we have not loved you as the One True God. Forgive our infidelity and help us to return to you with all our hearts, to return to the truth and to the home of integrity and justice. Have mercy on us for we have treated your holy name without the respect it deserves. Forgive us for the times we have been to Mass or gone to Church for outward appearances only; we're sorry for the times we approached your sacraments with a worldly attitude and repent for having taken your name in vain and having used your Church as if it were our own. Forgive us for not honouring your wish to keep Sunday a sacred day. We're sorry for often having put aside coming to Mass by giving preferences to other self-indulgent delights of little value and taking upon ourselves activities better done on other days of the week; forgive us for profaning your holy day. We're sorry for not showing any gratitude for your goodness to us, in your coming in the flesh, and your self-abasement on our behalf and the glorious unmerited work of our redemption. Lord forgive us.

We repent for not having honoured our parents, ignoring their Christian example, and for not being prepared to make sacrifices for them, in their old age; we are sorry for thinking that we are too busy. Forgive us for abusing our wives and children and for casually taking part in the culture of death. Through the use of contraception, support of abortion and assisted dying or those designed to get rid of vulnerable embryos. We have become an adulterous, fornicating generation Jesus and we cry out forgiveness for rejecting the beautiful gift of chastity. For having defiled the marriage bed, for seeking only pleasure from sex, and allowing lust to run amuck in society, for giving our silent approval to all forms of sexual perversion, and not protecting our young people from harmful immoral lifestyles; Jesus forgive us for all the lies we have spoken about our neighbour and the cruel things we have talked about other people. Forgive us for having a heart of stone for those whom we are supposed to love. We regret allowing impurity to imbed itself in our homes by careless attention to what our children might be doing online; forgive us for allowing pornography to become part of our lives and for allowing our children to be corrupted by sexual falsehoods. Help us to take more responsibility for the purity of our families in teaching them the truth about human sexuality and morality.

We repent of our greed for unimportant things and for allowing ourselves to amass mountains of unnecessary goods not stopping to think about the poverty and exploitation of those who made them. Forgive us, Lord, for damaging the environment, for deforestation and for destroying the wildlife due to our greed. We accept full responsibility for the mess we now find ourselves in and we have only ourselves to blame. Lord, you have blessed us with freedom and even though we know we can do whatever we want-even to our own detriment-we have gone and done it anyway. We accept in all humility that we haven't used our freedom in a responsible way, and we have taken the road to perdition and not the narrow road to life. Please forgive us for human trafficking and slavery; forgive our greed for paying low wages and profit-obsessed businesses. Forgive us for opening our shops seven days a week and paying staff zero-hours contracts. We have allowed ourselves to develop unhealthy, self-indulgent, and sedentary lifestyles, driven by our obsession with sitting in front of screens without moderation; we take full responsibility for not striving to lead healthy lives and leading ourselves to disease. We are sorry for abusing and consuming vast quantities of food, and we have compromised fertility rates which have led to all the difficulties associated with an ageing population. We made this problem and now we need your help to get right with you and your ways for your laws are perfect. Jesus forgive us for allowing anger, sloth, lust, and envy to drive us to behave like pagans when you have given us the proven civilising power of the Holy Spirit; Help us this Lent to amend our lives, be merciful to us and help us.

Dear Jesus who throughout these forty days for us did fast and pray, teach us with you to mourn our sins and by thy side to stay. As you with Satan did contend and win the victory, give us strength with you to fight and with you conquer sin. Thirst and hunger you did bear, so teach us, Lord, to die to self and daily live by thy holy word, through these days and passion tide, yes in life and death Lord with us abide. Amen

*Fr. Christopher* ( Received from John Cassidy and I have adapted slightly here)

### Mill Hill Missionaries; National Novena to St. Joseph, 10th -18th March 2021

This year, for the first time the Masses from St. Joseph Church will be available on Zoom, via the Mill Hill website: [www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena](http://www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena) You can go here to check for more details. For further details you could ring the Freshfield office: Telephone 01794875048

### The Kingdom of God is at Hand

The call goes forth  
 From the lockdown of addiction to power,  
 come to the freedom of service.  
 From the lockdown of oppressing others,  
 come to the freedom of brotherhood.  
 From the lockdown of hatred,  
 come to the freedom of forgiveness.  
 From the lockdown of ruthless power,  
 come to the freedom of the power of love.  
 From the lockdown of vengeance,  
 come to the freedom of forgiveness.  
 From the lockdown of amazing vulgar wealth,  
 come to the freedom of graceful sharing.  
 From the lockdown of wounding and looting others,  
 come to the freedom of the Good Samaritan.  
 From the lockdown of obsessed with one's own family,  
 treat the whole world as family-God is our Father,  
 we are all brothers and sisters.  
 From the lockdown of storing our wealth in banks and gold,  
 come to the freedom of sharing food with the hungry,  
 shirt to the naked, spend time with the lonely.  
 From the lockdown of despair,  
 come to the freedom of hope in the country,  
 for the faith of a mustard seed, we can move mountains.

The Kingdom of God belongs to the meek and humble. Evil has an expiry date, Good asserts at the end. There will be new Heavens and a New Earth, there will be no more tears. Believe and you will see wonders in life. May lent open our eyes to this reality; Seek truth and shed the self-delusionary lie in life. The Son of the carpenter; Jesus changed world history for the good and the benefit of all humanity. There were leaders such as Caesar, Hitler, Stalin, Mao Zedong, Pol pot left with a dirty history, who killed millions of people.

May peace reign in our heart,  
 May love be our life pursue,  
 Forgiveness be our lifestyle. *Cardinal Charles Bo*

### DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

Fast from hurting words and say kind words  
 Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude  
 Fast from anger and be filled with patience  
 Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope  
 Fast from worries and have trust in God  
 Fast from complaints; contemplate simplicity  
 Fast from pressures and be prayerful  
 Fast from bitterness: fill your hearts with joy  
 Fast from selfishness and be compassionate  
 Fast from grudges and be reconciled  
 Fast from words; be silent and listen. *Pope Francis*

### Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2021

Cardinal Nichols thanks all of you for your generous support for the Lenten Appeal, especially throughout the unprecedented events of 2020. Your donations have helped to fund initiatives in parishes, schools, and charities in three mission areas which are more critical than ever. Marriage and Family Life: enriching and supporting marriages, the essential building block of society and the Church. Youth and Evangelisation: helping young people, the future of the Church, as they grow in their relationship with God and deepen their Catholic faith. Caritas Westminster: putting our faith into action by serving those in need. Education Service: supporting our schools. This year the Cardinal is asking us to think about families who are struggling to put food on the table. Poverty is deepening across our Diocese and the need for food banks and supermarket vouchers has accelerated. Through your generosity, we're continuing to provide food for those most in need. Please take a donation envelope or alternatively you could make a donation online using the QR code, which you can scan using your mobile. Thank you for your generosity.

### Those who might be in Need

If you are aware of anyone who might be in need at this difficult time, do let the parish office know, by giving their details after having consulted with them. We can assist with food vouchers and one of our neighbours are willing to help with groceries. Do let us know if anyone might need help.

Thank you, Fr Christopher

### Pray the Rosary

Our Holy Father, Pope Francis has requested us all to pray the Rosary for peace in the world and an end to the pandemic. To pray it individually or as a family. Thanks.

*Fr. Christopher*

**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**

**BAPTISMS can happen now on a Saturday morning or afternoon.**

Parents must attend a 2-session Baptism Formation Program (during pregnancy or after birth) – **Next baptismal course will be on 24 March 2021 at 7pm on Zoom.** Please, drop an email to the office to reserve your space during the next course. Later we will need your email address to invite you to join the session. Before you do the course you need to come to the office to buy a baptism pack (£10).

**GARDEN PROJECT;** we want to launch a garden project in our parish. Our garden needs a complex approach. Each year we ask volunteers to come to help to clean it. But while cleaning it we dump a huge amount of organic matter out. If we could shred and to compost it instead of throwing away, we could reuse what is growing in the garden and put it back into the soil as compost. At the moment we do not own a garden shredder. We would very much like to buy one this season with a few other necessary garden tools. We can later share the shredder with our parishioners who have their own gardens. If you like the ecological approach to gardening and want to support us: please, donate in an envelope that you can find on the table in our porch: with GARDEN PROJECT on top of it or by your online banking with Garden as a reference..

We have collected : **£250.00 so far.** Thank you very much, Katherine

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO CLEAN THE CHURCH.** If you can spare an hour or two monthly to help us to keep the church clean, please, contact the office to discuss details. Thank you.

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**LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:** loose: £96.50 envelopes: £438.00 total: **£530.50**  
Standing orders in January **£2732.47**

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