

## NEWSLETTER

SEVENTH  
SUNDAY OF  
EASTER**John 17: 11-19**

John 17 informs us that Jesus is the giver of all life. Jesus possesses the Fullness of life. It's what he leaves us in his flesh and blood, the Eucharist. Prayer unites us to the sacrifice of Jesus all through his ministry here on earth, not only at Calvary, gave himself to us as a teacher, healer, protector-as a loving friend. What is your favourite title for Jesus? For me, my Lord and Saviour, my Friend, repeat yours in prayer and let it resonate throughout the day.

Jesus is a good friend. He wishes to keep us with him, just as we wouldn't want to lose a friend. Friendship with Jesus means being with him, and being sent by him in his name. our mission then, as his followers is in the midst and in the depths of the world. His love and message inserted in the centre of the world, the city, the neighbourhood, in the workplace, and in our homes. In following Jesus in his mission and love, we ourselves are sanctified. Prayer helps and completes this daily sanctification, in our growing closer to him.

Jesus prays for those who were with him at the Last Supper, and his prayer is that they will be in communion with him and with God, for their protection from the evil one and the evil that would surround them each day. Like ourselves, they are to find closeness with God and protection from harm even in the midst of the world.

Pope Francis says, 'that the Spirit does not remove evil with a magic word', instead 'he pours into us the vitality of life, which is not the absence of problems, but the certainty of being loved and always forgiven by Christ, who for us has conquered sin, death, and fear'. The reality of the risen Christ is that, from now on, nothing and no one will ever be able to separate us from his love.

To me, the outstanding witness to love was St Francis of Assisi and the other was St Theresa of Kolkata. Here are two practical steps we could take in loving our neighbour. We could practice putting the Beatitudes (Matthew 5: 1-10) and the other the prayer of St Francis of Assisi:

*'Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console, not so much to be understood, but to understand; not so much to be loved, but to love. For it is in giving that we receive; in pardoning that we are pardoned and in dying that we are born to eternal life'.*

Fr. Christopher

**This coming week, let's pray- "We pray for all women going through unexpected pregnancies, that they would experience peace and support in this circumstance, and recognise the many blessings that motherhood brings. Lord hear us"**

**MASS INTENTIONS****May 15th, 2021**

6pm - Pro Populo

**May 16th, 2021**

9am—Alba Salazar (Anniv)

11am— Jo Collins (Anniv)

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

Confession on Saturday between  
5.15-5.45 pm  
or by appointment.

**ADORATION**

**Every Saturday**

**from 5pm until 5.45**

**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; Acts 1: 15-17; 20-26  
Psalm 102; 1-2, 11-12, 19-20 response v 19  
2nd Reading - John 4; 11-16;  
Gospel – John 17; 11-19;

1st Reading; Acts 2: 1-11  
Psalm 103; 1, 24, 29-31 response v 30  
2nd Reading - Corinthians; 12;3-7; 12-13  
Gospel – John 20; 19-23;

### **One in His Name, Consecrated in Truth**

Saint Leo teaches that the Church must be one because Jesus Christ, her Bridegroom, is one. 'For the Church is that virgin, the spouse of one husband, Christ, who does not allow herself to be corrupted by any error. Thus, throughout the whole world, we are to have one entire and pure communion'. In Saint Leo's view, this remarkable unity of the Church has its wellspring in the birth of God's Incarnate Word. 'For Christ's birth is the source of life for Christian people; the birthday of the Head is the birthday of the Body. Although every individual is called in his own turn, and all the Church's sons are separated from one another by intervals of time, yet the entire body of the faithful, born in the baptismal font, is born with Christ in the Nativity, just as all are crucified with him in his Passion, raised again in the Resurrection, and set at the father's right hand in his Ascension', It was Mary who participated most intimately in this secret birth of the body, the Church, because the Holy Spirit gave fruitfulness to her virginity. Saint Leo praises Mary as 'the lord's virgin, handmaid, and mother, she who gave God birth'.

Furthermore, the Sacrament of Baptism makes those who are washed in the sacred font not only members of Christ, but also sharers in his kingship and his priesthood...Confirmation strengthens their assimilation to Jesus Christ, the Head of his body, the Church, and the sacrament of the Eucharist perfects this union. As Saint Leo says, 'the reception of Christ's Body and Blood does nothing less than transform us into that which we consume, and henceforth we bear in soul and body him in whose fellowship we died, were buried, and are risen again'. But mark this well: unless the faithful remain bound together by the same ties of virtue, worship, and sacrament, and all hold fast to the same belief, they cannot be perfectly united with the Divine Redeemer, the universal Head, so as to form with him one visible and living body. 'A whole faith', says Saint Leo, 'a true faith, is a mighty bulwark. No one can add anything to it, no one can take anything away from it'

*Saint John XXIII*

### **Contactless Giving**

Dear Friends, The members of the Finance Committee and I, have been thinking about increasing the revenue here at St Edmund's. One of the ways is Contactless Giving. It's a way of encouraging you and our visitors to give to the parish without using cash. Those parishes, that introduced this method have seen an increase in revenue. I have contacted the Diocese and we shall be installing a unit here in the lobby. I take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support to the parish, it's much appreciated. May God Bless You All, *Fr. Christopher*

### **A date for your Dairy**

The Solemnity of **THE MOST HOLY BODY AND BLOOD OF CHRIST ( CORPUS ET SANGUIS CHRISTI)**

Is fast approaching. The organisers of the International Eucharistic Congress taking place in Budapest this September- have asked every parish throughout the world to have an hour of Adoration on Saturday 5th June 21. We here at St Edmund's will be having our Adoration on Saturdays' from 5 pm -5.40 pm, Let's adore the King of the Universe. Do put this date in your diary and our Lord in his infinite mercy would heal the world. Amen

"I look at him and he looks at me!" (Catechism of the Catholic Church, 2715) It is like this: loving contemplation, typical of the most intimate prayer, does not need many words. A gaze is enough. It is enough to be convinced that our life is surrounded by an immense and faithful love that nothing can ever separate us from. Jesus was a master of this gaze. His life never lacked the time, space, silence, the loving communion that allows one's existence not to be devastated by the inevitable trials, but to maintain beauty intact. His secret was His relationship with His heavenly Father." *Pope Francis*

### **Brush up your skills starts April 2021**

Do you need support looking for a job	Need help with your CV
Pre-employment & Basic I.T	1 -2 -1 appointments
Online training courses	Small Group Sessions

**For more information and how to register contact:**

[Cathy.weir@island-house.org](mailto:Cathy.weir@island-house.org)

0207 531 0312/0315

[www.island-house.org](http://www.island-house.org)

### WITH TRUE FEELING,

**MEDITATION:** Although I was ill, I made up my mind to make a Holy Hour today as usual. During that hour, I saw the Lord Jesus being scourged at the pillar. In the midst of this frightful torture, Jesus was praying. After a while, He said to me, **There are few souls who contemplate My Passion with true feeling; I give great graces to souls who meditate devoutly on My Passion** (*Diary, 737*).

**MY PAYER RESPONSE:** Lord Jesus, may I meditate devoutly on Your Passion. May I contemplate Your Passion with true feeling. May the graces that I receive by meditating on Your Passion be dispensed to hardened sinners who are most in need of your mercy.

### ARE YOU PLANNING TO MARRY?

Well, that's wonderful: congratulations on your coming marriage. We hope and pray you will have many happy years together.

The process for arranging a marriage is fairly straightforward – provided you start in the right place – which is with me. It doesn't matter where you intend to marry or who is going to conduct the service, the documentation starts with me.

**But, please, contact me early in the process – don't go steaming ahead with all the other arrangements and contact the Church last of all.**

**Above all, be careful of so-called 'wedding planners'. Do not believe what they have to say about Church requirements; they frequently give misleading advice.**

To start the process off, just send me an email telling me you want to marry and giving your names, contact details, whether you have been married before and whether you are Catholics. I will then be able to tell you what further information you need to supply and what else you need to do. I will tailor the process to your situation.

*Fr Christopher*

First Holy Communion Parents,

The First Holy Communion Catechists, are requesting volunteers— parents to help with the sessions. Ideally, they would need 4 helpers, 2 for each group. Parents are needed to keep an eye on children while the catechists run the session. Should you be able to help, then speak with Monica Kabat Directly.

The session on 2nd May, the Fifth Sunday of Easter there wouldn't be a session at the church, instead the topic for this Sunday would be regarded as Homework. Thank you for your understanding. Fr Christopher

### First Communion Course's dates

18 April, 25April, **2nd May—no session at church**, 9thMay, 16th May, 23rd May  
with First Reconciliation on Saturday, 29th May at 11 am

30th May, 6th June, 13th June, 20th June, 27th June, 4th July  
with First Communion on Sunday, 11th July at 3pm

All session start with Mass at 9 am. Than the catechists will take children for a preparation classes. The parents have to come to collect their children at 10.45 am.

If you have not purchased the books you may do so from the Parish Office.

**NEW BOXES OF DONATION ENVELOPES** are ready for collection at the church's hall.

If you cannot find your box, please, drop an email to [Millwall@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:Millwall@rcdow.org.uk) and I will prepare the box for your. Katherine

**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**

**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

**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 courses will be on 16 June 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 : **£575.00 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: £161.42 envelopes: £2430.00 total: £591.42  
Standing orders in March **£2841.35**

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