

## NEWSLETTER

32ND SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY  
TIME

## Gospel Appeal

We shouldn't be surprised at the rising tumult in our time. The distinction between darkness and light is showing itself more clearly to those who have eyes to see. Our souls are precious to God, all human life matters and is destined for eternal life.

We shouldn't waste the opportunity that is set before us to get right with God. Jesus said, 'Do not fear him who can destroy the body but fear him rather who can destroy both body and soul'. The message of Jesus is not to frighten us but to bring us to the attention of the gravity and magnitude of the truth so that we might start to pay attention to all that is for the good of our moral, spiritual and eternal health and to make us holy.

God has done all that is possible through Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the apostles, His Church to help us embrace truth and goodness for it's His wish that everyone should be saved. This then is the Gospel for our time for it is the power of God *onto salvation for all those who believe*. We shouldn't be so smug as to think that everything would return to way they were for salvation history is moving on as darkness spreads. It has been said, if we are Catholic's who have lost the way, we should return to the Church, speak to a priest or someone of faith; start attending Mass; pray the rosary. Examine our lifestyle with the intention of making changes for the better by the grace of God. If we happen to be one of no faith, obtain a copy of the Catechism of the Catholic Church or the life of one of the saints. For those of no fixed abode might consider being received into the Catholic Church which has been referred to as the Noah's Ark for our time with its sound saving apostolic doctrines.

Whatever our course, make the salvation of our souls the prime priority to turn to God in humility a contrite, accepting our sinful status for this why Jesus hung upon the cross so that God's mercy and justice could freely flow our way from on high even though we don't deserve it for our God is merciful and good forever. Amen. *John Cassidy*

**7th** - "We pray for our Government, that their ability to support pregnant women would increase and that they would anchor themselves on the desire to protect all human life. Lord hear us"

## Sick &amp; Retired Priests,

Dear Friends, This weekend 6th & 7th November is the second collection for our Sick and Retired Priests' Fund. This parish has given generously over the years to the fund. The priests have over the years served the Diocese in various capacities in parishes, schools, and chaplaincies. Now in their senior years, they need our support in caring for them. Please give generously using the envelopes on the table in the lobby of church. Alternatively, you could donate online at [www.rcdow.org.uk/](http://www.rcdow.org.uk/) donations- the envelopes and posters feature a 'QR Code' that you can scan with your phone camera to give online, reducing the risks of handling cash. Once again I thank you for your generosity. God bless you all. *Fr. Christopher*

MASS INTENTIONSNov 6th, 2021

6pm - Justin Pereira RIP

Nov 7th, 2021

9am— Pro Populo

11am— Holy Souls

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*

"So many of us, when we pray, do not believe that the Lord can work miracles... Do we have this courage in prayer? To the One who can give us everything, let us ask everything... And may Our Lady, the prayerful Virgin, teach us to turn to God with all our heart, confident that He listens attentively to every prayer."

*Pope Francis*

## Readings for this &amp; next two Sundays

1st Reading— Deuteronomy 6: 2-6,  
Psalm 17;2-4, 47, 51 response v 2  
2nd Reading - Hebrews 5; 1-6;  
Gospel – Mark 10; 46-52

1st Reading— Daniel 12: 1-13,  
Psalm 15;5, 8-11, response v 1  
2nd Reading - Hebrews 10; 11-14, 18  
Gospel – Mathew 24; 42, 44

1st Reading— Daniel 7: 13-14,  
Psalm 92;1-2, 5, response v 1  
2nd Reading - Apocalypse 1; 1-8  
Gospel – John 18; 33– 37

### **'More than all who have contributed'**

One can imagine the disciple's jaws dropping as they had when Jesus declared the danger of riches, {Maksub 10: 25-26}. Wasn't this woman's donation practically worthless, so insignificant as to be beneath mentioning? Jesus explains; God measures the gifts given him on a basis totally different from human calculations.

He looks at the inner motives of the heart {I S 16:7; Lk 16:15}. The others were content to give God some of their overflow, having provided sufficiently for themselves-and impressing other people to boot. But this destitute woman had given God what she could not afford, all she had, her whole livelihood. She had given not out of her surplus but out of her *substance*. Her gift meant that she would have to rely on God even to provide her next meal. Such reckless generosity parallels the self-emptying generosity of God himself, who did not hold back from us even his beloved Son, She is an exemplar of 'the poor who are blessed by God {Mt 5:3; Lk 6:20} because their whole treasure is not in earthly possessions but in God. These words of praise for an impoverished widow are the last words spoken by Jesus in the temple of the old covenant...

Jesus' comments on the destitute widow are an example of the divine logic that overturns human ways of thinking. Who contributes most to the flourishing of the Church today? Perhaps it is those who are overlooked and insignificant in human terms.

This brings to mind the story of the 3rd-century martyr Saint Lawrence, who was Archdeacon of Rome and distributor of the Church's alms. In 258, by decree of the emperor, the pope and six deacons were beheaded, leaving Lawrence the ranking Church official in Rome. The city prefect summoned Lawrence and demanded that he hand over the treasures of the Church, Lawrence responded that the Church was indeed very rich, and asked for little time to gather its treasures. he then went all over the city seeking out the poor and infirm. On the third day, he gathered together a great crowd of orphans, widows, and people who were lame, blind, maimed, or suffering various diseases, and invited the prefect to come and see 'the wondrous riches of our God' Mary Healy

"Dear brothers and sisters, the Lord is not so much looking for skilled Scripture commentators, as He is looking for docile hearts which, welcoming His Word, allow themselves to be changed inside. This is why it is so important to be familiar with the Gospel, to always have it at hand – even a pocket-size Gospel in our pockets, in our purses to read and reread, to be passionate about it. When we do this, Jesus, the Word of the Father, enters into our hearts, He becomes intimate with us and we bear fruit in Him... So each one of us can become a living, different and original "translation" not a repetition but a living, different and original "translation" of the one Word of love that God gives us. This is what we see in the lives of the Saints for example. None of them is the same as another, they are all different, but with the same Word of God." Pope Francis

### **MEDITATION taken from Sister Faustina's Diary:**

#### **In Union with Your Sufferings**

Meditation: \_\_\_ I want your last moments to be completely similar to Mine on the cross. There is but one price at which souls are bought, and that is suffering united to My suffering on the cross. Pure love understands these words; carnal love will never understand them (*Diary*, 324).

#### My Prayer Response:

Lord Jesus, through the intercession of St. Faustina, help us to humble ourselves in our sufferings and lift us up to Your throne. Let us see Your glory, Lord, even in the midst of our sufferings.

#### **Victim Souls for Priests**

Meditation: \_\_\_ My daughter, why are you weeping? After all, you yourself offered to undertake these sufferings. Know that what you have taken upon yourself for that soul is only a small portion. He [Father Sopocko] is suffering much more (*Diary*, 596).

My daughter, suffering will be a sign to you that I am with you (*Diary*, 669).

#### My Prayer Response:

Lord Jesus, through the intercession of St. Faustina, help us to humble ourselves in our sufferings and lift us up to Your throne. Let us see Your glory, Lord, even in the midst of our sufferings.

**PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM:***Only one more wee left to submit your application.!*

**RCIA** If you or anyone you know who wishes to learn more about the Catholic Faith and be received into the Church. Then please pick an application form from the table in the lobby of the Church.

**Confirmation** If you are in year 9 and would like to be Confirmed, then kindly take an application form from the table in the lobby. Please fill it in and hand it back to the parish office. The course will start in December 2021. Sessions will be on Saturdays at 3.30 pm. Please, see the dates below:

4 December, 11 December, 8 January, 15 January, 22 January, 29 January, 5 February, 26 February, 5 March, 12 March, 19 March, 26 March. April—volunteering, May—Confirmation.

**First Holy Communion** If you are in year 3 and would like your son or daughter to make their first Holy Communion. Please collect an application form from the table in the lobby. fill it in and hand it to the parish office.

Parents Meeting will happen on 2 December 2021.

Dates of First Reconciliation Course:

9 January 2022, 16 January, 23 January, 30 January, 6 February, 20 February 2022

First Reconciliation on 26 February 2022

Dates of First Communion Course: 27 February, 6 March, 13 March, 20 March, 27 March, 3 April 2022

First Holy Communion on 9 April 2022

**PARISH PROJECT**

Before the pandemic, a small working group of parishioners were looking at extending the hall and re-ordering some of the parish rooms. We have picked up this project again and would welcome your feedback on the architect's plans before we make further decisions and consider financing it. Plans will be on display in the church during Advent. Please look out for further announcements. Thank you,

*Fr Christopher*

**November Dead Lists**

are now available on the table in the church's porch. Please, put your deceased loved ones on the list and put it in the envelope with your donation. Leave the envelope in the basket which is in front of the Altar.

**London Docklands Singers**

**CELEBRATION**

in aid of

**Pancreatic Cancer UK**

Handel - Zadok the Priest, Hallelujah Chorus  
Haydn - Trumpet Concerto, 1st Drum  
Mozart - Ave verum corpus  
and music by Bach, Parry, Ireland and Andrew Campling

19 November 2021 7pm  
Southwark Cathedral, SE1  
Tickets £20 (£18 concs., £6 transepts)

**[londondocklandssingers.org](http://londondocklandssingers.org)**

CANARY WHARF  
2000 - 2100

T. Gayford  
TERRACE DEERHAYSTON  
E1 6AA LONDON

**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

**ALTAR SERVERS** If you have made your First Holy Communion, and would like to be an Altar Server, could you submit your details to the parish office. We hope to commence training initially after the 11am Mass. Lauren, Joseph and Izabella will conduct your training. Thank you . *Fr Christopher*

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

Parents are asked to come to see Fr Christopher first. Next, they must attend a 2-session Baptism Formation Program (during pregnancy or after birth) – The **next baptismal courses will be on Wednesday, 1st December 2021 at 7pm**. Please, drop an email to the office if you are interested, also to book your appointment with Fr Chris. Later, we will need your email address to invite you to join the session on Zoom. Before you do the course you need to come to the office to buy a baptism pack (£10).

**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.

**LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:**

loose: £154.46 envelopes: £167.00 contactless collection last weekend: £13.00 total: **£451.46**  
Standing orders in September **£2464.00**

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 sent your donation by bank. Parish account is on Parish Web.

*Thank you for your Generosity*

WRCDT Charity No: 233699

"The SVP are distributing **11.500 Vinnie Packs** containing cold weather essentials to the homeless and those spending the principal part of their day on the streets. Each pack contains thermal gloves, thermal hat, two pairs of socks, wet wipes, toothbrush, toothpaste, Pavement magazine, information sheet and pen. Please could you consider sponsoring packs at a suggested donation of £3.70 per pack? Donations can be sent to **Vinnie Packs, PO Box 72264, London SW1P 9EZ** with cheques made out to SVP or by bank transfer to Nat West sort code **60-60-04, account no. 4608 8237**. Thank you so much for your support."