

NEWSLETTER

33RD SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY

We must not resist his first coming and then we need not fear his second.

'Then shall all the trees of the wood sing for joy before the Lord, for he comes, for he comes to judge the earth'. First, he came, and afterward, he will come again. On the first occasion, those words of his resounded in the gospel: 'And then you will see the Son of man coming in the clouds'. What does the word 'then' mean here? Surely the Lord will come in later days when all the peoples of the earth shall beat their breasts? First, he came in the person of his preachers and he has filled the whole earth. We must not resist his first coming and then we shall not have cause to dread his second coming.

What then ought the Christian to do? he should make use of the world, and not be its slave. What does that mean?—that those who possess the world should act as though they did not. In the words of Saint Paul: 'Brethren, the appointed time has grown very short; from now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who buy as though they had no goods, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the form of this world is passing away. I want you to be free from anxieties. The man who is free from anxieties waits for the coming of his Lord without fear. What sort of love of Christ is it to be afraid of his coming? Brethren, are we not ashamed that we love him and yet fear his coming?

Do we really love him or do we love our sins more? We should hate our sins and love him who is going to come to punish our sins. he will come, whether we like it or not. The fact that he has not come yet is no reason to think that he will not come. He will come, but when it will be you do not know. If he finds you ready, it is no disadvantage that you do not know.

'And all the trees of the wood shall sing for joy'. He came first and afterwards, he will come to judge the earth. Those who believed his first coming he will find singing for joy that he comes.

'He will judge the world with righteousness and the people with his truth'. What do 'righteousness' and 'truth' mean? He will gather together to himself his elect for judgment, but the rest he will separate apart. Some he will place on his right hand, some on his left. What is fairer, what is more right than that those who were unwilling to show mercy before the judge came should not look for mercy at his hand? but those who showed mercy will be judged with mercy. Those placed on his right hand will hear the words: 'Come, O blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world'. He gives them credit for works of mercy in words: 'I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink', and so on.

Again, what guilt is ascribed to those placed on his left hand? They are accused of having been unwilling to show mercy. What will be their fate except to depart into the eternal fire? That dread sentence will cause great wailing, but what do you read in another psalm? 'The righteous will be remembered forever; he will not be afraid of evil tidings. 'Evil tidings' here means, 'Depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; The man who rejoices in good tidings will not be afraid of evil tidings. That is justice and right.

Because you are unjust, shall the judge not be just? Because you are a liar, shall not the Truth speak the truth? If you want to find the judge merciful, be merciful yourself before he comes. Forgive if anyone offends against you, Give from your riches. from whose riches do you give except from his? if you give from your own riches it would be bounty, but if you give from his, it is only a repayment.

For what have you that you did not receive? The most pleasing sacrifice to God are mercy, humility, confession, peace, love. If we bring these to God, then we shall await without fear the coming of the judge who will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with his truth. *St. Augustine*

MASS INTENTIONS**Nov 13th, 2021**

6pm - Pro Populo

Nov 14th, 2021

9am— Holy Souls

11am— Sandra Lashmar RIP

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*****The Prayer for
Synodal Journey,**

We stand before you, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in your name.

With You alone to guide us;

Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.

Do not let ignorance lead us
down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together
to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right.

All this we ask you,
who are at work
in every place and time,
in the communion
of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever. Amen

Readings for this & next two Sundays

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

1st Reading— Jeremiah 33: 14-16,

Psalm 24;4-5, 8-9, 10, 14, response v 1

2nd Reading - Thessalonians 3; 12-4;2

Gospel - Luke 21; 25- 28, 34-36

Always Ready for the hour

Dearest Tonino: the other day my uncle, already sick for a long time, got worse. And today while I write I am too sad, and I need to write to you who, like me, trusts in the great goodness of the Lord. Although stricken, my spirit is resigned only because of that faith that I learned from childhood and which I have strengthened through contact with all my friends. My uncle, who loves me so much was so moved to see me, that today I couldn't approach his bed for fear of upsetting him too much, but now my task has been accomplished. Although unworthy, I was an instrument of divine providence, along with my good mother and the nun who lovingly cared for him, because I was able to get him to perform all his religious practices. Believe me that when he received the Sacred Host tears of joy mixed with those of sorrow streamed down my face. As soon as he received the Host, our merciful God soothed his pain and afterward my uncle made us call the parish priest of the village to tell him about his satisfaction in having received the Blessed Sacrament.

In his infinite mercy, God has surely not kept my innumerable sins in mind, but he has heard my prayers and the prayers of my family and has given my uncle the great grace of receiving the last sacraments while fully conscious. I believe that life should be a continual preparation for the next life because one doesn't know the day nor the hour of our passing. Affectionate greetings in Jesus Christ. The peace of the Lord be with you.

Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati

'Synodal process'

Meaning 'journeying together'

We begin with our own situation, with our own experience, especially this last year and a half which has surfaced both strengths and weaknesses in our life as the Church.

Some questions we can explore are these:

1. During this terrible pandemic what strengths did I find my faith and faith community?
2. How, during this time, was I disappointed and sorrowful?
3. In what ways did the grace of God most clearly touch and uplift me?
4. Whom did we neglect the most?
5. Who feels left out?
6. What could we do better?

How do we choose priorities for our own mission?

'The purpose of the Synod is not to produce more documents. Rather, it is intended to inspire people to dream about the church we are called to be, to make hopes flourish, to stimulate trust, to bind up wounds, to weave new and deeper relationships, to learn from one another, to build bridges, to enlighten minds, warm hearts and restore strength to our hands for our common mission' (Vademecum 1.3)

On 30th November there is an Area Meeting headed by Bishop Nicholas Hudson at St Mary and St Michael, 2 Larkin St, E10AA at 7pm where the discussion would centre on our Journey together. You bring your own views and concerns. If you are interested in attending, please give your name and details to the parish office and we would forward it to the Co-ordinator. Thank you. Fr Christopher

"Indeed, the world says that in order to have happiness you must be rich, powerful, always young and strong, and enjoy fame and success. Jesus overturns these criteria and makes a prophetic proclamation – and this is the prophetic dimension of holiness – the true fullness of life is achieved by following Jesus, by putting His Word into practice. And this means another poverty, that is, being poor inside, hollowing oneself to make room for God. Those who believe themselves to be rich, successful and secure base everything on themselves and close themselves off from God and their brothers and sisters, while those who know that they are poor and not self-sufficient remain open to God and to their neighbour."

Pope Francis

"In effect, to believe in Jesus means to follow him, to go behind him along his way, just as the first disciples did. And at the same time, it means avoiding the opposite way, that of egoism, of seeking one's own interests... The Spirit is the guide for this journey along the way of Christ, a stupendous but difficult journey that begins in Baptism and lasts our entire lives. We can think of it as a long excursion on the mountain heights: it is breath-taking, the destination is attractive, but it requires a lot of effort and tenaciousness."

Pope Francis

PARISH SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM:

Your last chance to submit your application is this weekend!

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

MEDITATION taken from Sister Faustina's Diary:

Refreshment for the Lord's Heart:

Meditation: Lie down and take your rest. I have let you experience in three hours what I suffered during the whole night (*Diary*, 1054).

Lord Jesus, thank You for the suffering You endured for me. May I be a refreshment for Your tormented Heart. And give me the strength to suffer out of love for You and others. (*Diary*, 1056). .)

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.

14th - - "Today we mark World Day of the Poor. We pray especially for all pregnant women, who due to financial struggles, feel pressured into having an abortion. We pray that as a society we would seek to provide a better system of care and aid for these women, enabling them to continue with their pregnancies and raise their child. Lord hear us"

November Dead Lists

are still 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.

Dockland's Singers—our local Choir, will sing next Friday at Southwark Cathedral. Do not looaset he opportunity to support them by joining in the Celebration. Fr Christopher

London Docklands Singers
CELEBRATION
in aid of
Pancreatic Cancer UK

Handel - Zorak the Priest, Jubilate Agnus
Haydn - Trumpet Concerto, 1st Movement
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

Canary Wharf
Gaylord
THORNDIKE & BUNDELAUER

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: £189.99 envelopes: £253.00 contactless collection last weekend: £115.00 total: **£557.99**
Standing orders in October **£2643.30**

Sick & Retired Priests,

Last weekend we collected **£221.91** for the second collection for our Sick and Retired Priests' Fund. Once again I thank you for your generosity. God bless you all. *Fr. Christopher*

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

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*