

NEWSLETTER

He came to Nazara

What do we read to nourish our minds? What do we refrain from reading because it wouldn't uplift our minds or corrupt our minds? Similarly, what TV programs would we watch, that would be helpful and what TV programs would we not watch since it wouldn't uplift us. We make choices as to what to watch depending on how it would nourish our minds and we make these decisions almost regularly on what to watch and what to read.

In our first reading from Nehemiah, Ezra the priest read the Law, which is the First five books of the Old Testament, to the Jews in Jerusalem, and in the Gospel, we are told that Jesus read from the prophet Isaiah in the synagogue in Nazareth. We are constantly encouraged to read our Bibles at home, it could be the Psalms, a gospel passage, or a reading from the old testament. The Bible is the Word of God and is the most nourishing food for our minds each day.

Indeed the Bible is so important that Vatican II reminds us that the Church always venerated the Scriptures as she venerates the Lord's Body (Dei Verbum, II), though not with the same worship. Even the Catechism of the Catholic Church (103) makes the same point. Origen the renowned preacher of the Church in the third century said, 'You receive the body of the Lord with special care and reverence lest the smallest crumb of the consecrated gift falls to the floor. You should receive the word of God with equal care and reverence lest the smallest word of it fall to the floor and be lost.'

Each time you come here and leave after Mass. Ask yourself, 'What is the Lord saying to me?' and we need to ask the question constantly, if not we will not hear the Lord. The Church teaches that when Sacred Scripture is proclaimed in the Liturgy it is Christ himself who is speaking. So readers, prepare well and allow Christ to speak through you to all who are present. Bear in mind that Christ uses your voice to speak to us all. Each time we open the Bible and read Christ speaks to us, so get into the habit of reading the Bible and nourish your mind. By doing it a few minutes each day. St Gregory said, 'The Bible is a love letter sent by God to his people in which we can perceive the heart of God', and St Jerome said, 'Ignorance of the Scriptures is ignorance of Christ' and Jesus read the Scriptures in the synagogue in Nazareth. In Psalm 119:105 says,

Your word is a lamp for my steps
and a light for my path.

Let us nourish and feed our minds every day on the Bible, God's love letter to us.

Fr. Christopher

This weekend: "As we begin this new year, we pray for all who may be considering an abortion. We pray that 2022 would see a decrease in cases of abortion, and instead a year of increased support, both practical and emotional, from all of us in society, bettering the care for all expectant mothers. Lord hear us".

Readings for this & next Sunday

1st Reading— Nehemiah 8: 2-6, 8-10
Psalm 18: 8-10, 15 response John 6:63
2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 12; 12-30
Gospel – Luke 1; 1-4; 4;14-21

1st Reading— Jeremiah 1: 4-5, 17-19
Psalm 70: 1-6, 15, 17 response v 15
2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 12; 13-13
Gospel – Luke 4;21-30

3RD SUNDAY
OF ORDINARY
TIMEMASS INTENTIONSJan 22nd, 2022

6pm - Pro Populo

Jan 23rd, 2022

9am— Ints of Jackie Campbell

11am— Maria Adora Benjamin 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

'He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up'

The hidden years at Nazareth remind us that God has in view always our needs and our trials. Christ came on earth to save us. His was the tremendous task of converting a hard-hearted world to a way of life that would upset all man's notions of self-indulgent living. Yet, with this great work to be fulfilled, he spent but three years in public life. The first thirty years were passed in a town so small and so thoroughly unimportant that people were to say to him, doubtfully, *can anything good come from [Nazareth]?* Probably, this was in the decrees of God because so many of us live what the world considers very unimportant lives. Armies do not march at our command; people do not go halfway around the world to see us; history will have nothing to say of us. No one, in fact, pays very much attention to us. If we take for ourselves no other models than those who are world-famous, this will hurt us a great deal and result in a lifetime of striving to be somebody. But if we follow the model of a Redeemer who for thirty years lived in obscurity, it should not distress us to be ignored. There are very few people of worldly importance; far in the majority are the multitudes of ordinary people whose path to heaven is unexciting and unromantic. How very kind of God to show us by his long, hidden life that his plan of redemption includes everyone, even those whose lives are so unremarkable that the world does not notice at all. *Sister Mary Jean, Dorcy*

"Not enough consideration is given to the fact that work is an essential component of human life, and even a path of holiness. Work is not only a means of earning a living: it is also a place where we express ourselves, feel useful, and learn the great lesson of concreteness, which helps keep spiritual life from becoming spiritualism... In fact, work is a way of expressing our personality, which is relational by its nature. And, work is also a way to express our creativity: each one of us works in their own way, with their own style: the same work but with different styles."

Pope Francis

"Many young people, many fathers and mothers experience the ordeal of not having a job that allows them to live serenely. They live day to day. And how often the search for work becomes so desperate that it drives them to the point of losing all hope and the desire to live. In these times of pandemic, many people have lost their jobs — we know this — and some, crushed by an unbearable burden, reached the point of taking their own lives. I would like to remember each of them and their families today. Let us take a moment of silence, remembering these men, these women, who are desperate because they cannot find work."

Pope Francis

"How many people go knocking on the doors of factories, of businesses [asking]: 'Is there anything to do?' — 'No, there isn't, there isn't. Lack of work! [I think] of those who feel wounded in their dignity because they cannot find this work... What gives dignity is not bringing bread home... What gives you dignity is earning bread — and if we do not give our people, our men and women, the ability to earn bread, there is a social injustice in that place, in that nation, in that continent. Leaders must give everyone the possibility of earning bread, because this ability to earn gives them dignity. Work is an anointing of dignity. And this is important."

Pope Francis

CHORISTER OPPORTUNITIES AT WESTMINSTER CHOIR SCHOOL

Dear Parents, If your son has some musical potential, in Year 2 or 3, he might consider becoming a chorister at Westminster Cathedral.

Each September Westminster Cathedral Choir School welcomes up to six choristers into year Year 4. Becoming a chorister at Westminster Cathedral offers boys the opportunity to sing both here in central London, and on tour internationally, in one of the world's great choirs. Boys also receive an outstanding education at one of London's leading schools.

Choristers board during the School week only, heading home to their families from Friday afternoon until Sunday morning at 9.45 am.

There are no financial barriers to entry: all boys receive generous scholarships, with bursaries worth up to 100% of fees available on a means-tested basis. It's an inclusive and diverse community; almost all the choristers are from Catholic primary schools, in the maintained sector; the only universal element is a love of singing! If interested please contact:

Lucy Auger to seize your golden opportunity;

Tel: 0207-798-9081 Email: lauger@choirschool.com alternatively visit the website: www.choirschool.com

Fr. Christopher

An Exorcist's 'Recipe' For Spiritually Protecting Your Family

Fr. Chad Ripperger gave the following advice. Parents have to have a habitual life of prayer. When the temptations occur-they have the prayer life to fall back on. Here then are his four tips:

1. pray the Angelus

'One of the things we found the most effective in creating a good atmosphere is to say the Angelus at 6 am, noon, and 6 pm

2. Pray for the protection of your children 'pray for the protection of your children on a daily basis.

3. Pray to Our Lady of Sorrows

'Ask Our Lady of Sorrows, specifically under that if there is anything going on.

Such as stuff that is hidden. This would be a way for parents to come to the knowledge of it.

4. Consecrating the family and the family's problems.

Consecrate the family and the specific problems that it has to deal with. Strengthening the family and rooting out the defects and the problems To Our Lady.

Say the prayer to St. Michael the Archangel, defend us in battle!



The Rosary Group's Monthly Prayer Meeting

Sunday 06th Feb

Meet by statue of Blessed Virgin Mary after 11am Mass

*Meetings held 1st Sunday of every month,
plus every Sunday in May and October*

Open to all. Beginners Welcome

Bring your Rosary. Booklets Provided

Pray With Us † Pray The Rosary



St Michael's Catholic Grammar School - Applications for Sixth Form Entry in September 2022 open until 28 February

St Michael's is a place of intellectual exploration and achievement and every year our students achieve outstanding A Level results which enable them to open doors to the most prestigious universities and courses.

St Michael's has a large and vibrant Sixth Form which welcomes significant numbers of new students who have studied their GCSEs elsewhere. It is an academic school which offers A Level courses only in the Sixth Form. If you are interested in applying for a Sixth Form place at St Michael's please take a look at the virtual open evening on our website <https://www.st-michaels.barnet.sch.uk/new-sixth-form-page/virtual-sixth-form-open-evening/>.

Applications can be made online through the Apply NOW button.

First Holy Communion

Dear Parents, We require a couple of parents to help with the preparation of our young people for First Holy Communion. If you could help please see Hajini who would brief you on what's needed. Many

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; <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.

Parents are asked to come to see Fr Christopher first. Next, they must attend a Baptism Formation Program (during pregnancy or after birth) – The **next baptismal courses will be on 23 February at 7pm on zoom**. Please, drop an email to the office if you are interested, also you have 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: £240.10 envelopes: £266.00

contactless collection last weekend: £130.00

total: **£636.00**

Standing orders in December **£3257.00**

Crib Collection; 165.00

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

Thank you for your Generosity

WRCDT Charity No: 233699