

## NEWSLETTER

## 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen'

I imagine this dramatic scene: how the mood of Jesus' hearers changed so dramatically. 'This is Joseph's son, surely?' Do I find his words reassuring or whether I desert him when he asks of me something demanding? Is it acceptable to me that God can bless people outside the Christian faith or churches? Am I willing to make room for everyone at the table of the kingdom?

Luke is reminding us from the outset that Jesus' ministry involves much pain, and that my ministry too would involve pain. I need to pray for his resoluteness. Jesus intends to lift their troubles from their shoulders-but effort is needed on their part too. He is telling the people of Nazareth it's not a question of spectacle or a show of miracles from a tap but a deep change of heart is needed. Jesus is offering healing and help-but we ourselves must be open to him to act in our lives.

Jesus is among his people of Nazareth but he finds it hard to get a hearing. When they heard his gracious words, their reaction was not to the words but to what they thought they knew of him. Son of Joseph, What did they know? That he was a carpenter and they judged him by association., by their families or hometown or trade or whatever.

So, the question, Why did they turn on Jesus? because of what he said about the prophets Elijah and Elisha implies that God's offer of salvation was no longer restricted to Jews but extended to Gentiles as well. Such an implication was anathema to those who viewed themselves as God's 'chosen people'. Is my Christian faith so restricted that I fail to see that God's choice is broader than mine?  
Fr Christopher

DEAR FRIENDS,

WE TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WISH  
ALL OUR CHINESE, VIETNAMESE, AND KOREAN FRIENDS,  
HAPPY NEW YEAR:  
KUNG HEI FAT CHOY  
HOI CHUC MUNG NAM  
SAEHAE BOK MANI BADEU SEYO

This weekend: we pray "For all going through difficult pregnancies, we pray for an overwhelming sense of hope and joy to fill their lives, and for increased support to be given by their family, friends, and local communities. Lord hear us".

## Readings for this &amp; next Sunday

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

1st Reading— Isaiah 6: 1-8  
Psalm 137: 1-5, 7-8 response v 1  
2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 15; 1-11  
Gospel – Luke 5;1-11

4TH SUNDAY  
OF ORDINARY  
TIMEMASS INTENTIONSJan 29th, 2022

6pm - Pro Populo

Jan 30th, 2022

9am— Ints of Maria Grant

11am— Darell 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

### ***Seeking to make Each Soul His 'Own Country'***

Jesus diffuses love because he is infinite Goodness: If we love him, we can't keep it stored away in the inner recesses of our soul. Wonder of wonders! The more we give to Jesus, the more we actually possess him.

It is enough to know him and love him in order to give him. Divinity is fullness-and all fullness overflows. Just as God by giving himself not only makes his creatures happy but at the same time glorifies himself, when the soul of the apostle gives Jesus to others he makes souls happy and he is giving Jesus souls who will glorify him.

We draw near to souls through the written word, through advice, through serving one another, and through teachings. If we have a true love for souls, Jesus will put in contact with them. Then our duty is to never refuse any sacrifice, either of body or soul, no matter what it might cost us. Are we suffering? Happy the trail that achieves grace! We should accept with a smile those circumstances that evoke sacrifice. Should we not reproduce the mystery of Christ in his apostolate? Goodness is the vengeance of great souls. Let us go forward, for faith and love shall overcome all failings and acts of ingratitude.

*Blessed Concepcion Cabrera of Armida*

"God always forgives: keep this clearly in your head and your heart. God always forgives. We are the ones who tire of asking for forgiveness. But he always forgives, even the worst things... For this reason, today I want to remember in a special way our brothers and sisters who are in prison. It is right that those who have done wrong should pay for their mistake, but it is equally right that those who have done wrong should be able to redeem themselves from their mistake. They cannot be sentenced without a window of hope. Any sentence must always have a window of hope."

*Pope Francis*

**BAPTISM** Baptisms that take place here at St Edmunds usually take place during one of the Masses. However, due to the pandemic and easing of restrictions, Baptisms will continue to take place outside of Mass on a Saturday morning. The date and time have to be booked with the Parish Secretary and confirmed in writing by her.

Prior to the Baptism parents are required to attend a Baptism course. These courses are run by the parish a few times a year according to need and are announced on the last page in the Newsletter.

You can attend the course by registering with Katherine at the Parish office and will contact you when the course would commence. The course can be done at any time after the mother knows that she is pregnant.

Both parents are required to attend the course—even if one is not a Catholic. This is not an attempt to convert the non-Catholic! It is that both parents are requesting Baptism and both are involved in bringing up their child as a Catholic. The non-Catholic parent might have issues that He/she must face up to. For example, the child will be told it's essential to go to Mass on Sundays; If one parent is not a Catholic, is not going to Mass, this might confuse the child thinking that her or his parents are not going to heaven. Without compromising the parent's non-Catholicity, the parent should work out a way of settling the child without undermining the child's faith.

If however, a non-Catholic parent is refusing to be involved with the request for baptism and is not cooperating with the promise to bring the child up as a Catholic, the Parish needs to be informed before any commitment to provide baptism can be entered into. Do bear in mind that it's a requirement of Canon Law that we are satisfied the conditions for baptism exist before we agree to baptise.

Requests are often made for permission for the baptism to be conducted elsewhere. In principle, I am willing to grant permission - subject to parents undergoing the same process they would have gone through were the baptism to take place here. Having the baptism celebrated elsewhere cannot be used as means of evading the preparation process.

*Fr. Christopher*

**ANOINTING of the SICK;** Dear Friends, We have all gone through some kind of trauma in this pandemic. Hopefully, we see the light at the end of the tunnel. So, on Sunday **13th February** at the **11 am Mass** we will have the Anointing of the sick, all are invited to come along and receive the sacrament of anointing, to heal and to be strengthened. Put this date in your diary.

God bless , Fr Christopher

"The Word of God is always "today." It begins with a "today": when you read the Word of God, a "today" begins in your soul, if you understand it well... It is not like ancient history, no: today. Today, it speaks to your heart."

*Pope Francis*

"God does not rely only on our talents, but also on our redeemed weakness... The Lord does not take away all our weaknesses, but helps us to walk on with our weaknesses, taking us by the hand. He takes our weaknesses by the hand and places himself by our side." *Pope Francis*

"Let us pick up the Gospel and choose each day a small passage to read and re-read. Keep the Gospel in your pocket or your bag, to read it on your travels, at any moment, and read it calmly. In time we will discover that these words are made especially for us, for our life. They will help us to welcome each day with a better, more serene outlook, because when the Gospel enters into today's world, it fills it with God... Let us familiarize ourselves with the Gospel, it will bring us the newness and joy of God!"

*Pope Francis*



## 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**

#### 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](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**

**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: £196.75 envelopes: £206.00

contactless collection last weekend: £280.00

total: **£682.00**

Standing orders in December **£3257.00**

**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