

## NEWSLETTER

'Leave me, Lord; I am a sinful man'

I may be too close to the shore's edge. If I am, I can forget about catching big fish—they tend to be out in deep water. Jesus uses every situation to convey his message of salvation. The water's edge, where sea and earth meet, is symbolic of the human person, the only creature in the universe composed of spirit and matter. The endless movement of the tides reminds us of the two dimensions of our being. We find ourselves in a continual movement from one to the other.

Being a fisherman, Peter depended upon the sea for his livelihood. From Jesus Peter learned that it could teach him important lessons about life in general. It was at the feet of Jesus on the seashore, after seeing the miraculous catch, that Peter realised that he was a sinner in need of forgiveness, the first step necessary for effective involvement in the lives of others. Peter's sorrow brought the consoling response from Jesus, 'Do not be afraid; from now on it is men you will catch'.

I need to have this image of the crowd pressing against him as he comes along the seashore to hear everything he says; I too can say, 'I will recognise him no matter where or when I meet him'. Though Peter had caught nothing, he was preparing his nets for the next catch, and wasn't he lucky he did! There are times when I don't get the results I would like which can leave me discouraged. So, what might I learn from Peter as I see how God uses his readiness?

The real message here is in the last few words, 'Then, bringing their boats back to land, they left everything and followed him'.

*Fr. Christopher*

"If the Lord is truly in the first place, our choices, including our ecclesiastical choices, can no longer be based on the politics of this world, but on the will of God... May we never tire of praying for one another and with one another... Let us serve those in need. Together, let us serve the suffering Jesus!" *Pope Francis*

This weekend: We pray for all women going through unexpected pregnancies, that they would experience peace and support in their situations, and enjoy the many blessings that motherhood brings. Lord hear us".

## Readings for this &amp; next Sunday

1st Reading— Isaiah 6: 1-8

Psalms 137: 1-5, 7-8 response v 1

2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 15; 1-11

Gospel – Luke 5;1-11

1st Reading— Jeremiah 17: 5-8

Psalms 1: 1-4, 6 response Psalm 39:5

2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 15;12, 16-20

Gospel – Luke 6;17, 20-26

5TH SUNDAY  
OF ORDINARY  
TIMEMASS INTENTIONSFebruary 5th, 2022

6pm - Margaret Dunn RIP

February 6th, 2022

9am— Pro Populo

11am— Hazel Donaldson 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

## Meditation

"Furthermore, let us produce worthy fruits of penance. Let us also love our neighbours as ourselves. Let us have charity and humility. Let us give alms because these cleanse our souls from the stains of sin. Men lose all the material things they leave behind them in this world, but they carry with them the reward of their charity and the alms they give. For these they will receive from the Lord the reward and recompense they deserve. We must not be wise and prudent according to the flesh. Rather we must be simple, humble and pure. We should never desire to be over others. Instead, we ought to be servants who are submissive to every human being for God's sake. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on all who live in this way and persevere in it to the end. He will permanently dwell in them. They will be the Father's children who do his work. They are the spouses, brothers and mothers of our Lord Jesus Christ."

—St. Francis of Assisi, p. 333

O Jesus, through the Immaculate Heart of Mary, I offer you my prayers, works, joys, and sufferings of this day for all the intentions of your Sacred Heart, in union with the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass throughout the world, for the salvation of souls, the reparation of sins, the reunion of all Christians, and in particular for the intentions of the Holy Father this month. Amen.

*"By reason of His immensity, God is present everywhere; but there are two places where He dwells in a particular manner. One is in the highest heavens, where He is present by that glory which He communicates to the blessed; the other is on earth—within the humble soul that loves Him."*

—St. Alphonsus Liguori

## BAPTISM

Baptisms that take place here at St Edmund's usually take place during one of the Masses. However, due to the pandemic and the easing of restrictions, baptisms will continue to take place outside of Mass on Saturday mornings. The date and time have to be booked well in advance with the Parish Secretary after having done the course, and she will confirm in writing.

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 in the News Letter.

Do bear in mind if you have done the course before, it doesn't mean that you don't have to do it again! You need to come and see Fr. Christopher and he will decide if you have to do it or not.

You can attend the course by registering with Katherine at the parish office and will contact you when the course would commence. You can do the course anytime 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 to ensure that both parents are requesting baptism and are committed to bringing up their child as a Catholic. The non-Catholic parent may have issues that He/she has to face up to. For example, the child will be told it's essential to go to Mass on Sundays; If the non-Catholic parent is not going to Mass, the child might think 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 on the other hand, 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 Catholic, the parish needs to be informed before any commitment to provide baptism can be entered into. Please bear in mind it's a requirement of Canon Law that we are satisfied that conditions for baptism exist before we agree to baptise.

Requests are often made for permission for the baptism to be made 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.

Dates of the Next Baptismal Course are announced at the back page of this Newsletter.

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

"Listening always requires the virtue of patience, together with the ability to allow oneself to be surprised by the truth, even if only a fragment of truth, in the person we are listening to. Only amazement enables knowledge. I think of the infinite curiosity of the child who looks at the world around them with wide-open eyes. Listening with this frame of mind — the wonder of the child in the awareness of an adult — is always enriching because there will always be something, however small, that I can learn from the other person and allow to bear fruit in my own life."

*Pope Francis*



### **Children's Playgroup coming to 11am Mass**

#### **Volunteer Today**

*Parents only. Rota-based  
Expected to arrive 15mins early  
Places limited to children of volunteers  
To open when we have enough volunteers*

**Free** DBS Check provided,  
for Criminal Records and Barred List  
May take two weeks to clear

Please email name, date of birth, address,  
and mobile, to [millwall@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:millwall@rcdow.org.uk)

**Parents Helping Each Other**

### **Be ready to help stop assisted suicide amendment**

Right To Life UK has had a challenging and busy month, with the assisted suicide lobby attempting to hijack the Government's Health and Care Bill and force them to lay an assisted suicide bill before Parliament within a year of the Bill passing into law.

The Health and Care Bill will shortly move onto Report Stage where there is a high risk that Lord Forsyth will retablo his amendment. As such, Right To Life UK is asking parishioners to sign up to their Action Alerts, so they can effectively participate in their efforts to stop this amendment passing, and others like it. You can do so by visiting the following link:

[www.righttolife.org.uk/#action-alerts](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/#action-alerts)



### **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**

Social Action for Health (SAFH) are offering a **FREE** 8 week course starting on Friday 11th February from 10:30-12:30pm at Trafford Friendship Hall, Trafford Street, Isle of Dogs.

Good Moves improves the health, health care utilisation, and self-management for residents with one or more long term condition especially long COVID

For more information please contact Dymphna on 07539078072

**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: £252.83 envelopes: £267.00

contactless collection last weekend: £173.00

total: **£692.83**

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