

NEWSLETTER

7TH SUNDAY
OF ORDINARY
TIME

'Love your enemies'

I have often said the Lord's prayer umpteen times and when I come to the words '*and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us*' I have found each time I am calm within. Then something happens it might be my fault, or perhaps I've had an argument. I find that I am very bitter and full of revenge, and now I have an enemy.

At first, I say he/she will recognise their mistake and would come around, just you wait and see. But sadly it's one of those cases where they would not come around. After some time I might say, this is ridiculous, and try to make contact by phone or in these times via email, to get things sorted out. But it's the opposite of what I intended and they do not want to have things as they were, in fact, they are quite fed up with me. Not long afterward, I find they have spoken behind my back on numerous occasions, and I realise I have an enemy.

Soon, after having discovered this reality, I am reminded of those words in Scripture, '*You have learnt it said: You must love your neighbour and hate your enemy. But I say to you; love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you*'. I find a new period in my life begins, I try to love my enemies-but how? There have been difficult loves in my life and I find I am applying it to my situation. How I loved my parents or those friends in college in my early years. I now love the parish that I am ministering to: the parishioners. I find the various shades of love there is that move the human heart during one's life. Now, I am reminded once again of that command to love my enemies, which is a new love in my life, and it's a discovery through a slow process- it's completely different from all other loves I have known, and it's anxious and unemotional. I discover it is in my will, but I hope that in the eyes of God it is a fire which, in his own good pleasure will melt the resistance that is within me, and our Lord's wish will be accomplished: '*That they may be one....may they be completely one*'

Fr Christopher

This weekend: - "We pray for our society. That as a culture we would promote the value of life, and that we would seek the protection of all humans from the point of conception to natural death. Lord hear us".

Readings for this & next Sunday

1st Reading— Samuel 26: 2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23
Psalm 102: 1-4, 8, 10, 12-13 response v 8
2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 15; 45-49
Gospel – Luke 6; 27-38

1st Reading— Ecclesiasticus 27, 4-7
Psalm 91: 1-4, 2-4, 13-16 response v 2
2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 15; 54-58
Gospel – Luke 6; 39-45

MASS INTENTIONSFebruary 19th, 2022

6pm - Its of Sick &
Housebound

February 20th, 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

NEXT BAPTISMAL COURSE WILL BE ON **23 FEBRUARY** ON ZOOM. READ THE LAST PAGE IF YOU ARE INTERESTED.

"It is always thanks to the communion of saints that we feel that the men and women saints who are our patrons — because of the name we bear, for example, because of the Church to which we belong, because of the place where we live, and so on, as well as through personal devotion — are close to us. And this is the trust that must always animate us in turning to them at decisive moments in our lives. It is not some kind of magic, it is not superstition, it is devotion to the saints. It is simply talking to a brother, a sister, who is in the presence of God, who has led a righteous life, a holy life, an exemplary life, and is now in the presence of God. And I talk to this brother, to this sister, and ask for their intercession for the needs that I have."

Pope Francis

"We all know that we can always turn to a friend, especially when we are in difficulty and need help. And we have some friends in heaven. We all need friends; we all need meaningful relationships to help us get through life. Jesus, too, had his friends, and he turned to them at the most decisive moments of his human experience."

Pope Francis

"In the history of the Church there are some constants that accompany the community of believers: first of all, the great affection and the very strong bond that the Church has always felt towards Mary, Mother of God and our Mother."

Pope Francis

"Let us consider, dear brothers and sisters, that in Christ no one can ever truly separate us from those we love because the bond is an existential bond, a strong bond that is in our very nature; only the manner of being together with each of them changes, but nothing and no one can break this bond. "Father, let us think about those who have denied the faith, who are apostates, who are the persecutors of the Church, who have denied their baptism: Are these also at home?" Yes, these too, even the blasphemers, everyone. We are brothers. This is the communion of saints. The communion of saints holds together the community of believers on earth and in heaven."

Pope Francis

Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2022

The impact of Covid-19 is still being felt by everyone, I am grateful for your generosity. There are fewer donation envelopes, and you will see that both the envelopes and posters feature a 'QR Code' that you can scan with your phone camera to give online. The funds raised in this year's appeal will be shared between parishes and Caritas Westminster. The effects of the pandemic are making daily life harder for all. The Church is responding with thousands of people putting their faith into action by serving those in need. Just as a mosaic is made up of many different coloured pieces, each one unique, each person's contribution to this mosaic of hope will bring light into the lives of people across the Diocese. Please take a donation envelope as you leave the Church from the table in the lobby. I thank you for your generosity. God bless.

Fr Christopher

Dear Friends,

How the time has passed since I came here to this parish of St Edmunds. As I look back at on twenty-five years of ministry where the Holy Trinity has taken me and I have enjoyed every minute with its challenges. Made so many friends: Yet having said all that, I am immensely grateful to God the Father for having sent here to St Edmund's a wonderful parish and even excellent parishioners. I thank you all.

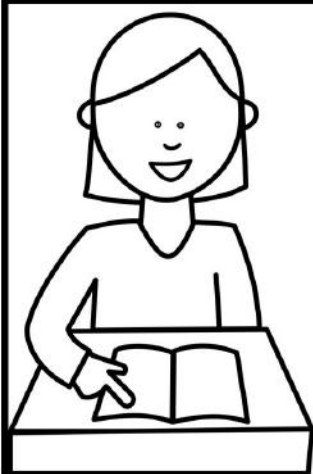
In June I shall be celebrating my silver jubilee and I couldn't ask for a better parish in which to celebrate it with all of you. It's a matter of watching this space. In the meantime, we shall be having our Planned Giving Drive commencing on the 5th / 6th of March; 12th /13th of March; 19th/20th of March. Members of the Parish Finance Committee will be speaking to you. The parish needs to be funded adequately and we have to secure its future and the mission for the next generation. As you know, we recently replaced the church boiler, thanks to your generous donations. But we have bills to pay every single month, as every household and we rely on your donations entirely. You might not be able to donate money but you could donate your time instead. We are looking for volunteers in many fields but at the moment the most urgent is to find someone: 1.who could help with Parish website; 2. to help with counting the weekly collection once a month; 3. to clean the church. If interested, give your details to the parish office, where you will be put on a rota (training will be provided). Could I invite you to reflect on your regular contribution I thank you all from the depths of my heart? May God bless you all

Fr. Christopher

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony

Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 14th May 2022 at 3pm.

The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their **5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60)** Wedding Anniversary of Catholic Marriage in 2022. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please give your parish clergy the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).



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

Parents Helping Each Other

 **Caritas Volunteering Fair**
Westminster

'Time to make a difference'



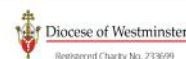
5 March 2022

12 pm - 2 pm

Westminster Cathedral Hall
Ambrosden Avenue, London, SW1P 1QH

Get involved | Share your gifts | Transform lives

Register on Eventbrite or RSVP to cvs@rcdow.org.uk



**London Docklands Singers
want to invite you for**

St Matthew Passion

J S Bach

On Saturday, 2 April 2022

at 7.30pm

At All Saints Church,

Poplar E14

Ticket £15 (£12)

londondocklandssingers.org



Help Us Help Others

Wanted: One Volunteer

Based at Christ Church, Manchester Road, E14 3BN
Must be friendly, team-player, and like to talk

Help with setting-up, prayers, signing-in, hospitality,
shop, registrations, and closing-down

Training Given

*Takes place every Tuesday of the year
Day starts 09.30am. Doors open 10.30am
Doors close 12.00pm. Day ends 1.00pm*

Please text name and mobile to 07968-971-874



Stations of the Cross

**Takes place: Every Friday
in Lent, 7pm, 30 mins**

Dates: 04Mar, 11th, 18th, 25th, 01Apr, 08th

Events led by new Readers

All Welcome. Please Attend

The Stations of the Cross.

This Year Ash Wednesday falls on the **2nd of March**. We shall have the Stations of the cross, commencing on Friday 4th March at **7.00 pm**. We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to lead. If you are interested, please give your details and which Friday you would like to lead to the Parish Office. Thank you.

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: £239.18 envelopes: £266.00

contactless collection last weekend: £20.00

total: **£515.18**

Standing orders in December **£3257.00**

Last Sunday there was a problem with our card reader and some people were not able to make a card donation. The problem happened due to a poor internet connection, we believe. But we are sorry for any inconvenience caused.

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