

NEWSLETTER

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

‘Holy Father, I pray not only for these’

Jesus in his farewell discourse prays, May[They] be one as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. I try to make this prayer my own, reflecting on the challenge of these words: the world only believe if we are one. Jesus continues to pray, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them. How could we imagine that we all are intimately close to the Trinity? I often reflect on the wonder that exists in me, when I am so sinful and unloving, that love that exists within the Trinity. A few chapters back, we heard Jesus saying the same thing by using the metaphor of the vine and the branches.

I might have some difficulty believing that Jesus was thinking of me during this prayer to the Father-perhaps he was praying for the disciples who were with him at that time? As we listen to this prayer its clear that he is praying for me, as I am one of those who believe in Jesus through the words of his early disciples. I listen to what Jesus asks of his Father to give me. He asks that I may be united with him and with the Father and with other Christians. He asks that I may be with him in heaven, to see his glory. Jesus prays for his followers through the ages. He prays for each one of us. Could we imagine him at prayer, as he names his apostles, his friends and all he wants to pray for? It is said, that prayer is our naming of God; it is also Jesus' naming of us to the Father. Allow him to name you. Even take time to think what he might pray for you. Each time we open ourselves to prayer, we open ourselves to Jesus praying for us. Just sit silently allowing his prayer for you to take over your heart. Am I one of those who could say, through the words handed down by the disciples, I believe in Jesus. Could I hear Jesus speak of me, prays for me, that I may be one with him and with the Father. It is his great wish that we are drawn into the life he shares with his Father. Can I ask Jesus to help me to let go of anything that holds me back from accepting his generous invitation. Jesus wishes to draw me into life so that I may give witness. Can I accept the nourishment that I need for my spirit, and considering the ways in which I am called to witness. What he asks of us is what he sought for himself: unity with God. Since I am invited to this relationship, can I consider what it might cost me and ask for the freedom I need. Jesus wants his disciples to live in such a way that the work of God is evident in them. Can I think of how I live and name the help I need.

Fr. Christopher

On Tuesday 31st May at 6 pm in Rome (5 pm in UK) the Holy Father will be reciting the Rosary in front of the statue at Our Lady Queen of Peace in the Basilica of Santa Maria Maggiore in Rome. In doing so ‘he wishes to offer a sign of hope to the world, suffering through the conflict in Ukraine, and profoundly wounded through the violence of so many other theatres of war’. To join him we here will be reciting the Rosary at 5 pm. Do make a note in your Diary and come to the Church.

Readings for this & next Sunday

1st Reading— Acts 7: 55-60

Psalm 96; 1-2, 6-7, 9 response v 1, 9

2nd Reading - Apocalypse 22, 12-14, 16-17, 20

Gospel – John 17; 20-26

1st Reading— Acts 1: 1-11

Psalm 46; 2-3, 6-9 response v 6

2nd Reading - Ephesians 1:17- 23

Gospel – Luke 24; 46-53

MASS INTENTIONS

May 28th, 2022

6pm - Pro Populo

May 29th 2022

9am— Ints of Sri Lanka

11am— Ints of all Jubilarians

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

On Saturday

(from 5pm until 5.45)

Annual Mission Appeal/ Date for your Diary

Cardinal Vincent Nichols has invited The Spiritans formerly known (Holy Ghost Fathers) to make their annual Mission Appeal in the Diocese of Westminster. Such Mission appeals are encouraged by the Bishops Conference as a means to inform parishioners of the Churches wider mission.

As such a representative of the **Spiritans will be here at St Edmund's on the weekend of 11th & 12th of June**

and will be speaking at all Masses. There will be a Second Collection and it will be Cash only. Thank you for your generosity.

Fr Christopher

‘May they be one in us, as you are in me and I am in you’

The idea in which God sees and loves the Church is his Son: *All the nations of the earth shall bless themselves by your descendants (Gn 22:18; Ga 3:8)*. This blessing is older than Abraham and Adam. The Father’s loving contemplation of the Son, which dates from all eternity, has always seen in him the head of an immense body and thus has also seen the Church which is this body.

The Son breathes out the love which makes the unity of the divine Persons: *Verbum spirans amorem*, the Word exhaling Love. And what is more representative of love and unity than the Church? She is therefore rooted, so to say, in the utmost depths of the divine being, Before being born from the pierced side of our Lord on the cross, she was eternally conceived in the Word.

The Son of God only entered our ranks with such reality-*the Word was made flesh*-in order to render to the Father all the homage of sanctification and all the homage of worship owed him by the human race which it had become incapable of repaying. He entered our ranks only to [expiate original sin] and all the individual sins which result from it. He expiates them by the all-sufficiency of his sacrifice. At the same time, he recapitulates in himself alone all religion and all sanctity. He alone disposes all the instruments of our good works. He alone make valid and authentic our merits and virtues. He will be all in all and all will be in him.

At the very moment when he bowed himself in a great act of obedience, it was as head of the race that he paid this supreme reverence to his Father. For his obedience is manifestly opposed to the disobedience of the first head of the human race: *As by one man’s disobedience many were made sinners, so by one man’s obedience many will be made righteous (Rm 5:19)*. Already all are in him and he is all in all.

Fr. Humbert Clerissac

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMATI, WHO WERE CONFIRMED
ON FRIDAY, 19 MAY 2022 BY BISHOP NICOLAS HUDON

CONFIRMATION CEREMONY TOOK PLACE AT ST MARY & ST MICHAEL, COMMERCIAL ROAD.
MANY THANKS TO ASHA, WHO HELPED THE YOUNG PEOPLE TO GET PREPARED FOR THIS SACRAMENT.



St Edmund's Church BBQ
combined with Fr Christopher's 25th Anniversary of His Ordination

Sunday 12th June 2022

12:15 to 2:30 pm

Selection of food and drinks included

Please come along to meet everyone and celebrate



**Tickets are now available to buy after any Mass
or from the Office. Get them in Advance so we can cater.**

Dear Friends. On 14th June, Fr Chris will celebrate 25th Anniversary of his ordination. We will celebrate with him during our BBQ on Sunday, 12th June. We want to encourage you to make a contribution toward a gift and a cake that we will share during our BBQ. If you want to contribute, please, find a prepared envelope on the table in the porch and put the money inside. Leave the envelope with our Sacristans: John or Paul, or put it into our collection basket. You can also leave it in the office during a week. Looking forward to celebrate together, Parish Council.

Pray the Rosary

The Holy Father, Pope Francis has urged all Catholic's to pray the Rosary, and to pray intensely before the Tabernacle. He urges all of us to go to the nearest parish or Church. He pleads with us saying, 'Wars, famines, are latent; the evil one is among us. To stop his plans, we must all pray to God the Father to pour out his Mercy on the world and that the Holy Spirit enlighten the rulers to be aware of god and evil and fight together for peace and love' He goes on to urge us to unite ourselves with him in prayer. He continues, 'Wherever you are in the world at your preferred time, drop everything and pray 3 x The Our Father, and Hail Mary. Plead with God the Father to send the Holy Spirit on the earth. Thank you for responding to Holy Father's appeal.

Road to Carbon Neutrality

Dear Friends, Sometime ago the Diocese selected 8 Parish's for a pilot project to achieve carbon neutrality. It's Cardinal wish that by 2030 Westminster Diocese would be carbon neutral. With this in mind, I approached Dymphna Dale with a group of enthusiasts to put forward suggestions, how we here can achieve this objective. Please see the Cardinal Vincent, video on the road to carbon neutrality <https://rcdow.org.uk/news/carbon-neutrality> Having seen the video, and should you wish to participate with the group you are most welcome. Many thanks to Dymphna and the group.

Fr. Christopher

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Roman Catholic Parish of St Edmund of Abingdon, Millwall
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Fr Christopher Silva

Parish Priest,

Mrs Katherine Woznicka

Parish Administrator

The office may be contacted by phone:

Monday to Friday 9am-2pm

Closed on Bank Holidays

Please pray for the people and the land of Ukraine 'Almighty God, Through Jesus' Divine name and the Immaculate Heart of Mary, we humbly ask for your mercy, to obtain peace in the land of Ukraine. May all the people of that Country remain safe from danger. Please do not let Chaos and war reign in the land of Ukraine but only peace that come from you'. Amen

Our Father, Hail Mary, and Glory be

NEW DONATION BOXES OF ENVELOPES, For those registered in previous years, the envelopes are now ready for collection in our Sacristy. If you would like to sign up, and to increase your donation by £0.25p from every pound you donate, please, find a Gif Aid form on a table in church's lobby and leave it in the Sacristy or deliver to the office. Once you sign the declaration, I can prepare a box of envelopes for you. You can also donate by a standing order.

Do not hesitate to contact the office on Millwall@rcdow.org.uk you should have any question. Katherine

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

loose: £274.16 envelopes: £192.00

contactless collection last weekend: £314.00

total: **£781.16**

Standing orders in April **£2697.45**

If you are experiencing problems while donating by card, if only you can, please, take a photo and email it to the office. During week-days the machine is working perfectly and we cannot make a proper complain to the provider as we do not see errors.

We do apologies 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 sent your donation by bank. Parish account is on Parish Web.

Thank you for your Generosity

WRCDT Charity No: 233699

The Garden

Dear Friends,

We are seeking volunteers to help to tidy the garden. If you could help us, then please give your details to the parish office. Much appreciated.

Fr. Christopher