

## NEWSLETTER

25 SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME

**Her Majesty  
The Queen**

1926-2022

**MASS INTENTIONS****Sept 17th, 2022**

6pm - Her Majesty The Queen

**Sept 18th 2022**

9am— Her Majesty The Queen

11am— Her Majesty The Queen

**Sept 19—Monday**

9.15 am—Her Majesty The Queen

**Children of Light**

Christian morality is more than anything society could ever propose to us. It is something greater than what is found in the writings of any philosopher. It is greater than any moral duty that we could merely think up on our own. We are not called to human perfection. We are called to divine perfection, something that only God himself can give., and in this divine perfection we find our highest human perfection as well. Grace is gratis, a gift, something freely given: *Because it is by grace that you have been saved through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God (Ep 2:8).* But Saint Paul is quite clear that this gift calls for us to be transformed and active, a new creation that is brimming with life: *We are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it (Ep2:10).* Everything remains divine in this moral tale. God is at its source (through creation and grace), he is at work in our action (in and through grace), and he is its end and goal (loved above all things, with his own eternal love., in glory, which is the consummation of grace). God gives us himself so that we can have the greatest honour ever imaginable: to give God to God, through his love, which has been poured out into the depths of our hearts. From top to bottom, from head to toe—indeed, to use a somewhat earthy metaphor, down to the tips of our toenails—we are called to be remade in Christ, to do all things in him: *Whatever you eat, whatever you drink, whatever you do at all, do it for the glory of God (1Co 10:31).*

Through the gift of grace, we receive a new light, a new vocation. Our eyes are opened to the glory of God, which we are called to manifest to the world. In the words of Saint John Chrysostom, we are the light 'not of one nation, nor twenty states, but of the whole inhabited earth'. Christianity spreads most effectively in our action, as the well-worn line attributed to Saint Francis of Assisi states: 'Always preach the Gospel, but only use words if necessary' Indeed, it was Christ himself who said, *Your light must shine in the sight of men, so that, seeing your good works, they may give the praise to your Father in heaven (Mt 5:16).* In short, your light is not for you but rather, is meant to shine forth for others, so that we might be instruments of God's own self-gift..., the divine life shared by all, even now here below. How marvellous a vocation! Love himself give Love to us so that we might love with that Love.

The world was transformed by the light of this love. As Saint John Chrysostom continues: 'More vehemently than the sunbeam did they overrun the whole earth, sowing the light of godliness'. Thus, as Christians, we have new eyes, a supernatural viewpoint, the 'God's eye' view of everything. This is the mystery of the gift of God given to us as our life as brothers and sisters of Christ... We are really and truly born anew.

*Dr. Matthew Miner*

**Readings for this & next Sunday**

1st Reading— Amos 8; 4-7

Psalm 112; 1-2, 4-8 response v 1,7

2nd Reading - 1 Timothy 2:1-8

Gospel - Luke 16; 1-13

1st Reading— Amos 6; 4-7

Psalm 145:7 response v 1

2nd Reading - 1 Timothy 6:11-16

Gospel - Luke 16; 19-31

Dear Friends,

It has been brought to my attention, that some young children running around the Church during Mass has caused distraction when trying to be focused. Since the Mass is the source and summit of all prayer. Also, while some were trying to pray after Mass, they were distracted by conversations at the back with tea's and coffees.

Could I suggest, that should your child wish to run around, then please take them to the hall or alternatively to the garden. Thank you If you stay behind for tea's and coffees then recognise the sacred space of the church and perhaps go outside. Thank you, Fr Christopher

### **Sacramental Programs**

Parish Sacramental Programme will be commencing. Please see the table in the lobby of the church for application forms starting from next weekend.

First Holy Communion: fill the details CLEARLY and submit the forms to the parish office. The closing date to hand in your application is 13<sup>th</sup> November 22. The parents meeting will be on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm.

Confirmation: If you are in year 9 in Secondary School, and would like to Prepare for Confirmation. . Fill it in Clearly and hand it into the parish office. The last date to submit you forms is 13<sup>th</sup> November 22. The course will commence in January 2023

R C I A: The Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults: If you or anyone you may know who would like to be received into the church, then collect application form Clearly fill it in and hand into the office by October 16<sup>th</sup>

### **Sowing Hope: To benefits of Gardening for the Bereaved and Grief Stricken**

Have you lost someone close to you?

Come along to our community garden programme and connect with people in similar situations

With our free 10 week programme you can get active in nature , nurture new friendships and take some time for yourself

The programme shall afford the opportunity to meet likeminded people whilst finding out about the therapeutic benefits that gardening and tending plants can have upon physical, social and mental health

Our programme will be at Strafford Friendship Club , 40 Strafford St, London E14 8LT

For more details , please contact Dymphna; **email [Dymphnasdesigns@aol.com](mailto:Dymphnasdesigns@aol.com) or calling 07539078072**

### **SCHOOL APPLICATIONS**

We are approaching that time of the year when parents request a priest's reference. Usually, it's the Catholic Practice form. Catholic Practice means regular attendance at Mass. It is a requirement that all Catholics attend Mass on Sundays and on holidays of obligation. While there may be genuine reasons for the occasional absences from Mass. It has been made clear that fortnightly or monthly attendance does not constitute the practice required by Church Law.

Since I've been here I have urged parents to come and see me to establish two things:

Any problems they might have in meeting the requirement to attend Mass every week and How we might establish proof as to what their attendance has been.

Most parents, don't think of the lead times that are involved. If you want your child to enter a new school in September 2022, the applications have to be in, depending on the school, somewhere between March and October 2021. Don't wait until then to speak to me about your problems or to discuss how to get evidence to support your request for weekly Mass attendance. You need to come to me a year prior to that.

Recently a problem has emerged: where families who, because of their situation, think they will not need a reference and so take no action to establish a basis; then circumstances change-they want to change school, and now they find themselves exposed, unable to get a reference that they need. It does not cost you to put a basis for a reference in place: please be prudent.

Thank you,

*Fr Christopher*

**FOODBANK,**

Dear Friends, We are in need of food donations for the food bank. Requests has been made by people who are in need. I thank you for your generosity. Fr Christopher

**Catholic Chaplaincy to London's University**— Are you a student at one of the universities or colleges in London? Our Catholic Chaplaincy is for you. It is based at Newman House, 111 Gower Street, WC1E 6AR. We have Sunday Masses for students and regular events during the week. And in many of the universities and colleges we also have campus-based Catholic societies and activities. Go to: [www.universitycatholic.net](http://www.universitycatholic.net) to find out more. You will be made very welcome at our Catholic community here, a 'home from home'. *Fr Philio Miller*

**ARCHCONFRATERNITY OF ST STEPHEN**

Invites all Altar Servers to the annual NATIONAL MASS at Westminster Cathedral

On Saturday, 1st October 2022 at 2.30 pm

(Servers to vest in the Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Avenue and be ready to process by 2pm)

Principal celebrant

Rt Rev John Sherrington

Auxiliary Bishop of Westminster

**BAPTISMS**

Due to COVID restrictions and until advised. Baptisms here at St Edmunds would take place Saturday's at 11am. We do recognise, that families need to plan ahead, when they have family and friends attending. Parents are advised to come to see me first and make NO plans until after they have completed the Baptism Course. Then you may contact Katherine at the office to book the date of the baptism. We do emphasize it's a requirement on completion of the baptism course, that godparent references being completed before the actual baptism. The date of baptism can be booked with Katherine (Parish Office) but it has to be confirmed in writing. It's a requirement of Cannon Law (Church Law) that each child must have a godparent: should there be a second godparent, one has to be male and the other female.

A godparent is defined as a confirmed practicing Catholic. Should the godparent not be a member of this (St Edmund) we require a reference form his/her parish that they meet the requirement-that they are attending Mass regularly. Although the maximum number of godparents is set at two, families could have additional people whose standing is that of 'witness to the baptism'. During the baptism, we don't distinguish between godparents and witnesses, but only the names of the godparents will be inserted in the baptism register and in the baptism certificate.

Equally, baptised Christians from other denominations may participate as witnesses to the baptism, but they cannot participate as godparents. Members of other faiths 9or none0 cannot serve as either godparents or as witnesses to the baptism.

Both parents and godparents, as part of the baptism, must make a declaration of faith. Prior to the baptism could we ask that you go through beforehand and ascertain you both can honestly make it? In all probability, if anyone has a problem with any part of it, the problem lies in understanding what is meant rather than with the article of faith itself- do contact me to discuss it well before the baptism. The unpleasant thing you could do is start your child's relationship with God by affirming in His presence to something you don't believe.

We don't charge for baptism but we ask for families to make a contribution to defray the cost by given a donation in the range of £50-100, with others giving more. It doesn't mean you have to subject yourselves to unnecessary financial stress, but give what you think you can afford.

Please, see the back of the Newsletter for the date of our next course. 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 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 Gift 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](mailto:Millwall@rcdow.org.uk) you should have any question. Katherine

### **LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:**

loose: £342.87   envelopes: £163.54.00   contactless collection last weekend: £285.00   total: **£576.00**

Standing orders in August **£2132.00**

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***

WRCDDT Charity No: 233699

### **BAPTISMS can happen now on a Saturday morning or afternoon.**

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 Thursday, 3rd November 2022 from 7pm to 9pm on Zoom**. Please, drop an email to the office [millwall@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:millwall@rcdow.org.uk) asap if you are interested, also 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).