

NEWSLETTER

28 SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**Were not all ten made clean?**

During the time of our Lord leprosy was an infectious skin-disease.

The skin deformations caused by it made those with leprosy repugnant. During Jesus' passion he would have looked repugnant to some. For that reason, St Therese of Lisieux referred to Jesus looking like a leper. 'I worship Thy Divine Face. Once it shone with beauty and sweetness of the Divinity: now for my sake it has become the face of a leper'.

Isaiah writing centuries before Jesus, in a passage we regard as a prophecy of His Passion, has a description of how awful Jesus looked during his Passion:

'so marred was his look beyond that of man,
and his appearance beyond that of mortals (Isa 52: 14)

..One of those from whom men hide their faces,
Spurned, and we held him in no esteem (Isa 53)

Jesus who healed the skin deformity of the ten lepers, looked terrible during his Passion from bleeding, scourges, and falling under the weight of the cross. Jesus who healed the lepers now looked like a leper or even worse than a leper. Jesus suffered all that so that we could be healed of something much worse than a skin ailment, so we could be healed of sin, so that we would be saved. That salvation flows to us from Jesus on the cross. The grace of all the sacraments flow to us from Jesus on the cross.

Now this makes me look at myself, to see the filth of sin that's in me, which makes me like a leper. When I turn to Him he does not see the sin but the person who can be saved through the sacraments. Each time I look to the cross I see the sacrifice that He made for me. Me who is full of filth and polluted how could God give me the grace of Calvary, the grace of salvation, through the sacraments. I would have preferred if God could have saved me in a more exalted way. Such as struggling with the humility necessary to receive God in his way was an issue for the Syrian Naaman in our first reading. When Elisha asked him to immerse himself seven times in the Jordan, he objected but his servants persuaded and he obeyed the word, he was healed.

The salvation from Jesus on the cross flows to us in humble ways that God has chosen. Jesus' salvation touches us firstly when-like Naaman in the Jordan-we are immersed in the waters of baptism and then in each sacrament after that. As Naaman struggled to immerse himself in the Jordan for healing, there is one sacrament that we struggle with to receive salvation: the Sacrament of Reconciliation. I have been asked, 'Why do I have to confess my sins to a priest? Since God uses the hands of a priest to consecrate bread and wine turning them into the Body and Blood of Jesus, why would it be any more extraordinary for God to use the words of a priest saying 'I absolve you from your sins?' Jesus breathed on the apostles and said to them, 'Receive the holy Spirit, Whose sins you forgive they are forgiven and whose sins you retain they are retained (John 20: 22-23). Who am I to presume I know better than God? I have to humble myself as did Naaman who immersed himself in the Jordan and was healed, and in the sacrament of Reconciliation God gives us his forgiveness and salvation flows to us from Jesus on the cross.

All we need is faith, faith like the Samaritan leper to see and believe and fall prostrate at the feet of Jesus to receive his salvation Amen

Fr. Christopher

Readings for this & next Sunday

1st Reading— 2 Kings 5; 14-17

Psalm 97:1-4 response cf v 2

2nd Reading - 2 Timothy 2:8-13

Gospel – Luke 17; 11-19

1st Reading— Exodus 17; 8-13

Psalm 120 response cf v 2

2nd Reading - 2 Timothy 3:14-4;2

Gospel – Luke 18; 1-8

MASS INTENTIONS**Oct 8th, 2022**

6pm - Pro Populo

Oct 9th, 2022

9am— Fr John Elliott RIP

11am— Justin Pereira 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**On Saturday**

(from 5pm until 5.45)

CAFOD's**Family Fast Day**

this year was on Friday, 7th October. **Second Collection in our church happens this weekend.**

We are collecting money to help people in Kenya, Ethiopia, and South Sudan, up to 20 million who are fighting for their survival due to the worst drought in four decades and by grain shortage caused by war in Ukraine. By having a simple meal and donating to the collection (using the CAFOD envelope from the table in the church's lobby), or by giving to CAFOD online, we are sharing a powerful act of solidarity.

Dear Friends,

In this month of October is The Month of the Holy Rosary and we are called to pray the Rosary as a family or individually.

Could I encourage you, to pray the Rosary for in Fatima Mary asked that we should pray the rosary every day, for peace, the conversion of sinners, the souls in Purgatory and to make the Consecration to her Immaculate Heart. With the devotion of the first Saturday of the month. 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 for both: First Holy Communion and Confirmation courses.

First Holy Communion: fill the details CLEARLY and submit the forms to the parish office. The closing date to hand in your application is 13th November 22. The parents meeting will be on Monday 5th 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 13th 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, DROP AN EMAIL to Millwall@rcdow.org.uk by 16th October.

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

A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY:

ON SUNDAY 16TH OCTOBER AFTER THE 11AM MASS WE WILL CELEBRATE ONE WORLD DAY HERE IN THE PARISH.

WE ASK YOU TO JOIN US AS WE BRING A DISH THAT IS CHARACTERISTIC OF OUR COUNTRIES/ REGION. TO SHARE WITH OTHERS, IT IS AN EXCELENT OCCASION TO MEET NEW MEMBERS AND OTHERS, WHO ATTEND MASS ON SUNDAYS. WE ALSO APPEAL FOR VOLUNTEERS TO HELP SET UP AFTER THE 9AM MASS ON THE DAY IN THE GARDEN. ALSO IF YOU ARE INTERESTED THE SOCIAL COMMITTEE IS LOOKING FOR NEW MEMBERS, INTERESTED THEN GIVE YOUR DETAILS VIA EMAIL TO THE PARISH OFFICE OR TO FR CHIRSTOPHER.

A Generous Donation

Dear Friends, I wish to take this opportunity, to thank the parishioner who donated £10, 000.00 to the parish towards winter fuel bills. It is much appreciated and thanks once again for the generosity. May God bless you.

Fr Christopher

"As the climate crisis faces an emergency, the parish has committed to help with different actions that may bring awareness on how we can all contribute to slowing the carbon emissions as a collective, no change is small when measured in a year, 5 or 10 years. This is why we are inviting you to join us on this journey, we will start by watching Cardinal Vincent's very eloquent video about how the Diocese wants to proceed with this matter. The video will be played every Sunday after 11 am mass, during the month of October. Let's connect to the God-given gift of nature"

FIRM £ FOUNDATIONS

in a

Cost of Living Crisis

A free one-day conference,
for representatives from
our parishes & schools

Get to know some of the organisations
who are here to help us all



Saturday 12th November



10.30am - 5pm



All Saints Catholic College
St Charles Square, W10 6EL

Details & register

<https://www.caritaswestminster.org.uk/event-list.php>



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 Administrator

The office may be contacted by phone:

Monday to Friday 9am-2pm

Closed on Bank Holidays

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. An audio system works there and you can hear the Mass. 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

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 you should have any question. Katherine

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

loose: £146.29.72 envelopes: £177.00 contactless collection last weekend: £365.00 total: **£688.29**

Standing orders in September **£2275.50**

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

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 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).

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

Please, note that we have been experiencing problems with our landlines. If you need to contact us, please, do it by email:

Millwall@rcdow.org.uk