

NEWSLETTER

'The harvest is rich but the labourers are few'

When I read Matthew 9: 36-10:8 I look at his vineyard. I see the vulnerability and powerlessness of humanity which is not a recent phenomenon marked by global warming, war, disease (Pandemic), famine.

We could be despondent about what we see and read. In our first reading, the Lord reminds Moses of what he has done and indicates that as evidence that God will continue to act for his people.: 'I will count you a kingdom of priests, a consecrated nation'

As baptised Catholics, 'Have their own part to play in the mission of the whole Christian people in the Church and in the world' (CCC 897),, the Gospel is often read with reference to prayer for priestly vocations. So ask the Lord of the harvest to send labourers to his harvest. Who are dedicated to the salvation of souls.

'Obeying Christ command'

St John Paul II wrote, 'the Church first of all makes a humble profession of faith: In praying for vocations, conscious of her urgent need of them for her very life and mission, she acknowledges that they are a gift of God and as such, must be asked for by a ceaseless and trusting prayer of petition'. He continued to say Prayer, is the pivot of all pastoral work for vocations' When we pray for these labourers, we do so with confidence that the Lord equips them for their task Recall how Isaiah, who says, that, he is a man of unclean lips, is purified by a burning coal from the altar' 'See now, this has touched your lips, your sin is taken away, your iniquity is purged' (Is 6:7).

Equally, Jeremiah objects that he does not know how to speak and is touched on the mouth by the Lord. 'There I am putting my words into your mouth' (Jr 1:9b). Then we have a prayer attributed to Cardinal Cushing who prayed; ' O Jesus, I pray for your faithful and fervent priests; for your unfaithful and tepid priests; for your priests labouring at home or abroad in distant mission fields; for your tempted priests; for your lonely and desolate priests. O Jesus, keep them all close to your heart'.

Let us consider Good Friday how many of his disciples remained faithful to Jesus? Judas betrayed him, Peter Denied him. Only John stayed with him at the foot of the cross.

Our prayers include gratitude for the shepherds who cleanse us of the leprosy of original sin, raise us from the death of our mortal sins, and freely give us the Eucharist as food. As Cardinal Cushing prayed, we can pray for 'the priest who baptised me; the priests who have absolved me from my sins; the priests at whose Masses I have assisted and who have given me your Body and Blood in Holy Communion..., all the priests to whom I am indebted in any other way'.

O Mother of Jesus Christ, you were with him at the beginning of his life and mission, you stood beside him when he was lifted up from the earth consumed as the one eternal sacrifice, and you had John, your son, near at hand; accept from the beginning those who have been called, protect their growth, in their ministry accompany your sons, O mother of priests. St John Paul II. Amen

MASS INTENTIONS**June 17th, 2023**

6pm - Ints of Fr Christopher

June 18th, 2023

9am— Pro Populo

11 am - Ints of Secular

Clergy Fund

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.

During next week
we will have one
morning mass :
on Friday
23 June at 9.15 am

**Readings for this
& next Sunday**

1st Reading— Exodus 19: 2-6,
Psalm 99; 1-3, 5

response v 3

2nd Reading - Romans 5; 6-11

Gospel – Matthew 9; 36-10;8

1st Reading— Jeremiah

20; 10-13

Psalm 68; 8-10, 14, 17, 33-35

response v 4

2nd Reading -

Romans 5:12-15

Gospel – Matthew 10; 26-33

Prayer to St Joseph, *Patron of the Unborn*

O St. Joseph, after your most holy spouse, our Blessed Mother, you were the first to take into your arms and heart the baby Jesus. From the first time you gazed upon him and held him, your heart and soul were forever bonded to him. You caressed the Holy Child with fatherly love and affection, and you committed yourself always to love, protect, and care for this Son.

Look now with similar love and affection upon this child of mine, who has gone from this world. I place my child, as well as my grief and guilt, into the eternal embrace of your arms. Hold and caress my child for me with the love of my arms and sweetly kiss my child with all the tender affection of my heart.

As God the Father entrusted the care of His most precious Son into your most loving and confident hands, so too do I entrust into your fatherly care this child of mine. Please present him to the merciful hands of Our Lord, so that one day, when I too leave this world, my child may greet me into eternal life. *Amen.*

Prayer to St Joseph, *Defender of Life*

Dearest Saint Joseph,
at the word of an angel,
you lovingly took Mary into your home.

As God's humble servant, you guided
the Holy Family on the road to Bethlehem,
welcomed Jesus as your own son
in the shelter of a manger,
and fled far from your homeland
for the safety of both Mother and Child.

We praise God that as their faithful protector,
you never hesitated to sacrifice
for those entrusted to you.

May your example inspire us also
to welcome, cherish, and safeguard
God's most precious gift of life.

Help us to faithfully commit ourselves
to the service and defence of human life –
especially where it is vulnerable or threatened,
Obtain for us the grace to do the will of God in all things.

Amen.

SIGN THE PETITION TO GET A NEW SECONDARY SCHOOL + SPORTS FACILITIES BUILT ON THE ISLE OF DOGS BEFORE WE LOSE THE FOOTBALL PITCHES & PART OF A SCHOOL AT CROSSHARBOUR

Click here to sign on the Council website; <https://democracy.towerhamlets.gov.uk/mgEPetitionDisplay..>

Why you should sign:

The owner of Westferry Printworks has refused since April 2016 to sign the lease to allow construction of a new secondary school + new sports hall + 4 outdoor sports pitches available out of school hours

But we will lose the football pitches and part of Canary Wharf College secondary school when the car park at Crossharbour is demolished for a new 38-storey tower

This petition asks Tower Hamlets Council and Mayor Lutfur Rahman to do a forced purchase of the land so that the Department of Education can build for Canary Wharf College a new school. This will also save the government from having to buy a new site for the school.

The more signatures the better

Local authorities are responsible for the compulsory purchase of land for all schools even though in this case the land would be probably be owned by the Department of Education as they would own the school building

This is also the only way it seems of getting new sports facilities for the fastest-growing place in the UK

Background is here; <https://www.facebook.com/.../permalink/3613742442099161/>

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST EDMUND, MILLWALL



CHURCH BBQ

SUN 2nd July
12:15PM–2:30PM



Tickets:
Adults £10
Senior £5
Children £5
Children under 5 FREE

Bring your appetite, bring your family, and
let's have a fantastic time together!

You can make your payment for tickets by card, but do not forget to pick them up from a person who sells tickets after mass.

**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

Mrs Diane Winship

Safeguarding Representative

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

loose: £352.89 envelopes: £159.55 contactless collection last weekend: £452.00 total: **£964.44**

Standing orders in February - **£5706.00**; , in March - **£3820**, in April **£4002**.

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

Altar Servers

Those of our young people who made their First Holy Communion on 20th May 23; You are now eligible to become an Altar Server.

If interested, Give your details into the parish office, and we will arrange training for you. This would take place after the 11am Mass on Sunday.

Thank you, *Fr Christopher*

Attention all parents who wish to baptise a child.

Parents are asked to come to see Fr Christopher first. Next, they must attend a Baptism Formation Program (during pregnancy or after birth) – The date of the **next baptismal courses will be announced soon**. Please, drop an email to the office millwall@rcdow.org.uk if you are interested, 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).

BAPTISMS can happen now on Saturday morning or during any Mass (if number of guests are limited).

Dear Friends, In light of the recent Audit carried out here at St Edmunds. We are looking for Volunteers who would be willing to count the collection immediately after the 11am Mass.

If interested please give your details via email to the parish office. You will be given training and you would be on a Rota.