

NEWSLETTER

Matthew 13:24-43

In the parable of the wheat and the darnel, our Lord once again portrays himself as the sower of the Word of God, with the devil coming and 'stealing away what was sown in [man's] heart' The Devil is the one who is forever trying to undo the labour that God undertakes for man's benefit. Concerning the weeds show the various ways in which we can lose the gift of his Word that God puts in our hearts. It's the lack of understanding is what allows the Devil to steal it unopposed, since understanding means my making something my own-a part of me that no one can take away.

It also be that the darnel of worldly anxiety and delightful encumbrances choke the tenderness of my infant faith. I so often want to say yes to the Gospel and to worldly success and enjoyment. This sower, this grain, this field, and this growth, all together are the kingdom of heaven. The tree does not stop its growth until its branches fill the entire space defined by the field, because field is the universe, and this tree is nothing less than the one planted by God in Eden at the beginning-the Tree of Life in the midst of the garden. It is this, called forth by God, and not the Tower of Babel, built by man, that gives true access to the life of God and that connects earth and heaven through nature rather than technology. The parable teaches us that heaven and earth are not antithetical but complementary realities, existing together within the same continuum of what God has created.

Heaven, the abode of God and the sanctuary of his mysteries, may be found through our contemplation of God's works and interventions on earth. To suggest that 'heaven' as a dimension to be 'climbed up to' to be explored and exploited with purely rational means, is an act of arrogance that can only lead to disaster. The Kingdom of heaven could be found only if we seek it as the result of God's planting, in the world as a field sown by him. There is something properly speaking miraculous in the realization that so much could have come from so little. Only the power and wisdom of God can reconcile the two poles in our mind. The mustard grain and its world -filling growth, in fact, are an icon of the creation as such, in which God planted a grain of nothingness into a chaotic abyss, and out of this sprang a whole bustling and variegated universe of harmony that God's delighted eyes found to be 'very good and very beautiful' (Gen 1: 31). Amen

**During the month of August weekend Masses are;
Saturday 6pm & Sunday 10am**

**Weekday Masses on
Wednesdays and Fridays at 9.15 am or as announced.**

**Those of you who are travelling for your holidays, have a splendid
break and do stay safe. See you back in September.
God bless you all, Fr Christopher**

MASS INTENTIONSJuly 22nd, 2023

6pm - Ints of Fr Christopher

July 23rd, 2023

9am— Pro Populo

11 am - Maria Adora Benjamin (B'day Anniv)

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.

Readings for this
& next Sunday

1st Reading— Wisdom

12; 13, 16-19

Psalm 85;5-6, 9-10, 15-16

response v 6

2nd Reading -

Romans 8:26-27

Gospel – Matthew 13; 24-43

1st Reading— King

3;5, 7-12

Psalm 118; 57,72,

76-77, 127-130

Response v 97

2nd Reading - Romans 8;28-30

Gospel – John 15; 15



Diocese of Westminster
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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

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

loose: £329.72 envelopes: £222.00 contactless collection last weekend: £170.00 total: **£721.72**

Standing orders in February - **in March - £3820, in April £4002, in May - £2533, in June - 3545**

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

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.

Dear Friends, A gentle reminder to those with young children attending 6 pm & 9am Masses. We have a sound system in our hall that enables you to listen to mass, should your child play up in the church. Thanks for your understanding.

Parish Office will be open during Summer Monday to Friday, 10-2pm.