

# NEWSLETTER

**6 SUNDAY  
IN ORDINARY  
TIME**

### Healing Prayer

Heavenly Father, I thank you for loving me.

I thank you for sending your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ, to the world to save and to set me free.

I trust in your power and grace that sustain and restore me.

Loving Father, touch me now with your healing hands, for I believe that your will is for me to be well in mind, body, soul, and spirit.

Cover me with the most precious blood of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ from the top of my head to the soles of my feet. Cast anything that should not be in me. Root out any unhealthy and abnormal cells. Open any blocked arteries or veins and rebuild and replenish any damaged areas.

Remove all inflammation and cleanse any infection by the power of Jesus' precious blood. Let the fire of your healing love pass through my entire body to heal and make any diseased areas so that my body will function the way you created it to function.

Touch also my mind and my emotion, even the deepest recesses of my heart. Saturate my entire being with your presence, love, joy, and peace and draw me ever closer to you every moment of my life. And Father, fill me with your Holy Spirit and empower me to do your works so that my life will bring glory and honour to your holy name. I ask this in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

*St. Padre Pio*

### MASS INTENTIONS

#### February 10th, 2024

6pm - Pro Populo

#### February 11th, 2024

9am— Ints of Hania & Kuba (B'day)

11 am - Derrel Benjamin (Anniv)

#### Mon - 12th February

9.15 am - Holy Souls

#### Ash Wednesday -

#### 14th February

9.15 am - Pro Populo

8 pm - For Priests

of the Diocese

#### Friday - 16nd February

9.15 am - No Mass

### FEAST OF OUR LADY OF LOIURDES-WORLD DAY FOR SICK

Feast Day 11<sup>th</sup> February: The World Day for the Sick was Introduced by St Pope John Paul II to help us remember to pray for all those who are ill and for their caregivers. He chose this day because it coincides with the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes which commemorates the appearance in 1858 of Our Lady to Bernadatte Soubirous in Lourdes. It has been a site of Pilgrimage renowned for healing ever since. Our Lady of Lourdes pray for us.

Dear Friends, If you are facing difficulties or problems, and its all getting stressful.

Then say this prayer

**Mary Mother of Jesus,  
Please be a Mother to  
me now.**

*St Theresa of Kolkata*

### A Prayer after Communion

Grant O Lord, we pray, that, benefiting from participation in heavenly things.

We may be helped by what you give in this present age and prepared for the gifts that are eternal. Through Christ our Lord. Amen

### Readings for this & next Sunday

1st Reading— Leviticus 13: 1-2, 44-46

Psalm 31; 1-2, 5, 11 Response v 7

2nd Reading - 1 Corinthians 10: 31-11:1

Gospel – Mark 40-45

1st Reading— Genesis 9;8-15

Psalm 24: 4-9, Response cf v 10

2nd Reading - Peter 3: 18-22

Gospel – Mark 4; 4

### *Learn to know the dignity of your nature*

When our Lord Jesus Christ, whilst never ceasing to be true God, was born true man, he himself became the prelude of a new creation, and in the manner of his coming, he gave the human race a beginning. What mind can understand this mystery, what tongue can do justice to this gift of grace? Evil reverts to innocence, the ancient becomes new; outsiders are adopted into the family and strangers enter into the inheritance.

O man, rouse yourself! Learn to know the dignity of your nature. Remember that image of God in which you were created, which, though defaced in Adam, is now restored in Christ. Use this visible creation as it should be used, as you use the earth, sea, sky, air, springs and rivers; and whatever is beautiful and wonderful in them acknowledge to the praise and glory of God.

Touch physical light with the bodily sense and embrace with all the power of your soul that true light 'that enlightens every man coming into the world', of which the prophet says, 'Look on him, and be radiant; so your faces shall never be ashamed'. For if we are the temple of God and the Spirit of God dwells within us, what each of the faithful has in his soul is greater than what can be seen in the heavens.

In saying this, my dearest brethren, I am not trying to suggest to you or persuade you to undervalue the works of God or feel that there is something contrary to your faith in the good things that the good God created. But I do mean that you should use all the virginity of creation and everything that makes this world beautiful, in as reasonable and balanced way, 'for the things that are seen are transient' as the Apostle says, 'but the things that are unseen are eternal'.

Hence, since we are born into this present world, but reborn into the world of the future let us not be given over to what is transient but let us set our hearts on what is eternal. And in order to have a deeper insight into our hope let us ponder over what the grace of God has given to our human nature. Let us listen to the Apostle's words, 'For you have died and your life is hid with Christ in God. When Christ who is our life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory', who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit world without end. Amen

*Pope St Leo the Great*

## **BAPTISMS**

Parents who wish to have their child baptised, are advised to come to see me first and make no plans until after they have completed the Baptism Course. They need to make an appointment by contacting Katherine at the office on millwall@rcdow.org.uk. Once I recognize them as practising Catholics, they need to buy a baptismal pack (£10/casj). The next step would be to complete the baptism course that we run every other month.

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 godparents; one has to be male and the other female.

A godparent is defined as a confirmed practicing Catholic. That is why we require a reference form his/her parish priest 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 or none 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 families to make a contribution to defray the cost by given a donation in the range of £50-100, with others giving more.

Baptisms here at St Edmunds would take place on Saturday's at 11am or at any Mass.

**The next Baptismal Course for parents who want to baptised the child will be on 27 February at 7pm on Zoom.** If you are interested - start the process by emailing the office now.

Fr. Christopher

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

This coming Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> February is Ash Wednesday.

Mass times: 9.15 am & 8pm.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS**

During Lent commencing on Friday 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm we will be having the Stations of the Cross. We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to lead. If your interested please give your name and the Friday you wish to lead to the parish office or to me. Thank you, Fr Christopher

**WALK WITH ME BOOKLETS AND CALENDARS FOR LENT**

We are at the beginning of Lent season. To help us to go through this time we offer a WALK with ME, A Journey of Prayer booklet for adults and for children. We also encourage parents to take a Calendar for children.

All is free of charge and you can find it on the table in the lobby.

Fr Christopher

**1st Communion Course,**

We remind all parents that First Confession/Reconciliation service will be held at St Edmund's Catholic Church at 10.30am on Saturday, 2nd March 2024. Please, put the date into your diary.

**Cardinal's Lenten Appeal 2024**

If you can, please show your support for the Cardinal's Lenten Appeal. All funds raised go towards projects across our Diocese. Each year, the Diocese uses donations made to support the work of our services, such as Marriage & Family Life; Youth Ministry, and Education. Funds are also used to support the work of Caritas Westminster, who work for and with some of the most vulnerable people in our Diocese. His Eminence, Cardinal Nichols, has expressed his gratitude to everyone who supports the Appeal, with whatever they can afford. So, please take a donation envelope today, for more information. You can use the QR code to make your donation online. Thank you for your generosity.

Wishing all our Chinese and Veitnamese, Tiwanese and Korean friends:

Kung hei fat choi

Chuc Mung Nam Moi

Xinnian kuaile

Saehae bok mani bada

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES**

The Lourdes Pilgrimage takes place from 19th to 26th July 2024. Join the pilgrimage as a pilgrim. Serve the pilgrimage by coming as a praying assisted pilgrim. Support assisted pilgrims by sponsoring the sick to join the pilgrimage and praying form them. For more information please, go to

<https://rcdow.org.uk/pilgrimages/lourdes/> or contact the Pilgrimage Office on 0207 798 9173

***The Small Seed  
of Christian Love***

Pope Paul VI [said that] love is the core value that the world awaits from the Church today. If this is true, and it is true, to respond to the needs of the Church and to the demands of our world we need to be love made concrete...All things have value if they are inspired and carried out by love, while without love nothing has value, at least not in life's final analysis. If this is our focus, we will be able to say of each of our actions, 'this will remain'. This holds true for our work, as it does for our relaxation, for educating our children, for our conversation with others, our travels, our way of dressing, our manner of eating, and for any other smallest of actions. It holds true for all the unexpected things that each day brings, the surprises God has in store for us. It even holds true-and this is very consoling-if an illness forces us to inactivity and confines us to bed with no apparent end in sight.

It is a truth often mentioned but equally forgotten that what matters is not so much what we do or are capable of doing (even in apostolic endeavours) but how we do it. The more our actions are animated by love, the more fruitful they will be....So, if we Christians do not want to be behind the times, we must put love into everything we do. And we need to be especially vigilant that we are not lacking in love when life proves most difficult and painful.

Yes, everything passes: people, health, beauty, possession, God alone remains. Misfortune can mark the time for us to choose God anew as the one and all of our life, and thus to live the way he commands: to love. When you love you understand many things, and you will see how the golden thread of your life, apparently interrupted, continues to shine as brightly and even more so than before. In our lives we might experience all kinds of disruption, but the life of God is always alive, and so it is in those who have grafted themselves over and over onto him.

*Servant of God Chiara Lubich*

**Diocese of Westminster**  
**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**

**Mrs Diane Winship - Safeguarding Representative**

**LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:**

loose: £241.17 envelopes: £174.00 contactless collection last weekend: £1070.00      total: **£1485.17**

**GAZA COLLECTION - £548.00**

Standing orders in **in January - £3286,**

As a Charity, we rely on your weekly donations. We will be grateful for your financial support. Your New offertory envelopes will be available at the end of March for collection after Mass or from the parish office. If you wish to have an offertory envelope, then give your details to the parish office, where a new box of envelopes will be made available to you. Alternatively, you could make your donation via bank transfer. The parish account is on our website.

**WRCDT CHARITY NO: 233699**

***Thank you for your Generosity***

WRCDT Charity No: 233699

Right To Life UK has launched a tool that enables members of the public to easily contact their MPs to ask them to oppose the two extreme abortion up to birth amendments and sign Early Day Motion 131, which calls on the Government to reinstate in-person medical appointments before abortion pills may be prescribed, in order to determine the gestational age of a baby and to ensure women seeking abortion are not facing coercion.

If you could attach the message below in your church newsletter, website or social media pages, that will help us to get the word out on this important issue.

**Stop two extreme abortion amendments**

Pro-abortion MPs, Stella Creasy and Diana Johnson, have tabled two extreme abortion amendments in an attempt to hijack the Criminal Justice Bill.

Right To Life UK has launched a tool on its website that makes it easy for you to email your MP to ask them to oppose the two extreme abortion up to birth amendments and sign Early Day Motion 131 to stop abortion pills being sent out without an in-person medical appointment. Please visit <https://righttolife.org.uk/abortionamendments> to contact your MP now. It only takes 30 seconds

*Today we commemorate the feast of Our Lady of Lourdes and World Day of Prayer for the Sick. Let us especially pray for all those who are nearing the end of their lives, that they may experience God's comfort and peace. We pray too for medical professionals who work in hospice care, that they might continue to safeguard the dignity and wellbeing of all patients who are made in the image and likeness of God. Lord hear us".*

*An Appeal*

*A family in the parish has to vacate their rented property. If you know of any properties in the area for two adults and three children, could you let me know and I can pass it on to them. Thank you, Fr Christopher*