

NEWSLETTER

PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel.

Come, come, let us go up together to the Mount of Olives. Together let us meet Christ, who is returning today from Bethany and going on his own accord to that holy and blessed passion to complete the mystery of our salvation.

And so he comes, willingly taking the road to Jerusalem, he who came down from the heights for us for us, to raise us who lie in the depths to exaltation with him, as the revealing word says, ‘above all authority and rule and power and above every name that is named’.

He comes without display, without boast. ‘He will not contend’, he says, ‘or shout out. And no one will hear his voice.’ He is gentle and lowly, and his entrance is humble.

Come then, let us run with him as he presses on to his passion. Let us imitate those who have gone out to meet him, not scattering olive branches or garments or palms in his path, but spreading ourselves before him as best we can, with humility of soul and upright purpose. So may we welcome the Word as he comes, so may God who cannot be contained within any bounds, be contained within us.

For he is pleased to have shown us the gentleness, he who is gentle and who ‘rides upon the setting sun’, which refers to our extreme lowliness. He is pleased to come and live with us and to raise us up or bring us back to him through his kingship with us.

As the first fruits of the whole batch of man he said to ‘ride upon the heaven of heavens to the rising of the son’, which I interpret as his own glory and divinity. But because of his love for man he will not cease until he has raised man’s nature from the ground, from one degree of glory to another, and has manifested it with himself on high.

So it is ourselves that we must spread under Christ’s feet, not coats or lifeless branches or shoots of trees, matter which wastes away and delights the eye only for a few brief hours. But we have clothed ourselves with Christ’s grace, or with the whole Christ-‘for as many of you as were baptised into Christ have put on Christ’- so let us spread ourselves like coats under his feet.

As those who were formerly scarlet from sin but become white as wool through the purification of saving baptism, let us offer not palm branches but the prices of victory to the conqueror of death.

Today let us too give voice with the children to that sacred chant, as we wave the spiritual branches of our soul: ‘Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, the King of Israel’.

St Andrew of Crete

MASS INTENTIONS

March 23rd, 2024

6pm - Clinton McDowell
(Anniv)

March 24th, 2024

9am— Andrew Hue Lee RIP
11 am - Pro Populo

Mon - 25th March

9.15 am - Ints of Fr Christopher

Wed 'day - 27th March

NO MASS

For Easter timetable see next page

Confession on Saturday between
5.15-5.45 pm
or by appointment.

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— ~Isaiah 50;4-7
Psalm 21: 8-9, 17-20, 23-24
Response v2
2nd Reading - Philippians 2: 6-11
Gospel – Mark 14;1-15:47

1st Reading— Acts 10;34, 37-43
Psalm 117; 1-2, 16-17, 22-23
Response v 24
2nd Reading - Colossians 3;1-4
John 20; 1-9

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.

Our Church

Dear Friends, After a few years of pause in spending money on our premises, the Finance Committee with myself, feel that it is time to address some issues. First, we have started with lights exchange in Sanctuary as they have started to fall off due to their age. We have also replaced majority of bulbs in the church and the hall for more efficient. Secondly, after 24 years of use, we want to refresh our kitchen and toilets. It will come with a cost of eleven thousand of pounds. As usual, I would like to ask you for a specific donations towards our works as if we got money into this category, all your donations will stay with the parish, while when the money goes into general donations - we have to pay 30% of the total to the Diocese. If you are a Gift Aider, you can gift aid the donation and it will add an extra value. Donation envelopes are available on the table in the lobby. You can also chose to donate on our digital plate or by bank transfer but doing it - do not forget to add; donation for electrical works or for decoration. Thank you for your support. Fr Christopher

UPDATE; Dear Friends,

Since I had my Bowel Operation in September last year. I 've had various tests and recently a Pet-Scan, which clearly shows that the Metastases has moved to the liver. Having met with the Oncologist at Bart's, it was agreed that I should have chemo therapy. I shall commence treatment in April, for six months. A review will be held at the end of three months. Please, keep me in your prayers.

Thank you, and May God bless you all. Fr Christopher

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 10 April at 7pm on Zoom.

If you are interested - start the process by emailing the office now.

Fr. Christopher



Easter services AT ST EDMUND'S

MAUNDY THURSDAY - 28th March at 8pm

GOOD FRIDAY - 29th March at 3pm

HOLY SATURDAY - 30th March at 8.30 pm

EASTER SUNDAY—31st March - 11am

No morning Mass during a week commencing on Monday, 1st April,
Since Saturday, 6th April— all Masses as usual.

*BLESSING OF EASTER FOOD
ON SATURDAY,
30th March at 11am*



DEAR FRIENDS

MAY THE BLESSINGS OF EASTER BE UPON YOU, AND YOUR FAMILIES.
A HAPPY EASTER TO ALL OF YOU.

Fr. Christ & Katherine

Our neighbour The SPACE has added us to their Community Seat Fillers list, to let us know by email each time they have free tickets to shows available (as they want to make sure that the quieter shows still have a good audience, and are also aware that plenty of people may not be able to pay for a theatre ticket but would like to attend).

If you would like to be informed personally by email about the opportunity to attend any performance for free, please, email me with The Space in the title.

Katherine

the SPACE
Bethany Sharp
Creative Producer

020 7515 7799 269 Westferry Road
Bethany@space.org.uk London
www.space.org.uk E14 3RS

Free events for you this month!

Music at the Roof Garden

Start spring 2024 with a free outing to one of our events at the Roof Garden at Canary Wharf!

Easter at Dusk - Live Gospel Music Session 29th March, 4pm

Come and sing your heart out to gospel choruses along with us! There will be free face painting for kids, balloons and chocolate eggs (subject to availability).

Book here for free: <https://space.org.uk/event/easter-at-dusk-live-gospel-music-session/>

If you are interested. Please email Parish Office and Katherine will forward it to Space according to the procedure mentioned underneath.

To book tickets, please simply let me know the names of all those who would like to attend. If they would like to be added to our mailing lists (including this one for Community Seat Fillers) please also provide us with their email address and their tickets will be sent to them directly, otherwise will send on their ticket to this email address. **They will only need to give their names at the door to gain admittance.**

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: £257.11 envelopes: £287.00 contactless collection last weekend: £110.00 total: **£654.11**

Standing orders in **in January- £3286, in February - £2589,**

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

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.

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 pray for all considering abortion. We pray that the love and kindness of those around them would support pregnant women everywhere to continue with their pregnancy and find peace and joy in what the future holds. Lord hear us".

Ask your MP to support the abortion time limit reduction amendment

Support an amendment to reduce our abortion time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks. Research indicates that a significant number of babies born at 22 or 23 weeks can now survive outside the womb, leaving a contradiction in our abortion law.

Take action: Collect a postcard today from the back of the church and post it to your MP urgently in support of this amendment!

Dear Friends, You will see on the table in the lobby cards of two children who were born 22 weeks and five days.

You will notice that the current 24 weeks is not in line with the majority of countries in the European Union, where the common time limit for abortion on demand or broad social grounds is 12 weeks gestation.

Majority of the British population support reducing the time limit. Polling has shown that 70% of women favour a reduction in the time limit from 24 weeks to 22 weeks or below. Please speak and vote in support of the amendment to the Criminal Justice Bill to lower the abortion time limit to 22 weeks.

Thank you, Fr Christopher