

NEWSLETTER

**FIFTH SUNDAY
OF EASTER**

Remaining on the Vine

Although we rightly hold that apostolicity is one of the credentials of the true Church, some moderns find no merit in the claim. They rebel against everything that is old. They are caught in the current of a strange relativity which leads them to infer that only that which is new is true.

If the true nature of the apostolic Church is understood, it will be seen that length of years is not discordant with the vitality and the spirit of unspoiled youth. The doctrine preached is called the Gospel, which meant the good news. Wonderment is not only a mark of youth, but also a characteristic of true scholarship. No matter how many times the theological study the teachings of Christ, it is possible to obtain deeper insight into God’s dealing with man, and man’s dealing with God.

Youth, impelled by love of change, should be fascinated by the good news because redemption influence of the Church seeks to change the human race from the bondage of sin to the freedom of sanctification and to elevate souls already sanctified to a higher degree of union with God by grace. Industry, weakened by greed is to be renewed by the application of the principles of justice. Political life that truly fosters the well-being of citizenship with saints. Finally, youth enlightened by revelation seeks not a city in ruins but a new and heavenly Jerusalem.

We who rejoice in the faith should see that spiritual recovery is accelerated by becoming better Catholics ourselves, and by expressing out charity for all in the form of prayer and good words, such as leading souls into the old but ever youthful Church. When a man becomes a Catholic a paradox is involved, because while he becomes two thousand years old, he forthwith also becomes by grace and by adoption what Christ is by nature a child of God, a child of the Blessed Mother Mary. If the human race is to be renewed through a youth movement that is unobstructed by time or space, it must heed the words of him who is *the Way, the Truth and the life*. Christ said, *I tell you solemnly, unless you change and become like little children you will never enter the kingdom of heaven.*

Monsignor Edward Betowski

MASS INTENTIONS

April 27th, 2024

6pm - For Deceased members or Dewi Family

April 28th, 2024

9am— Ints of Kester Don

11 am - Pro Populo

Friday - 3rd May

9.15 am - Fr David

Williamson RIP

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

At present there is only one weekly mass on Friday morning.

Second Collection

As announced, this weekend we have the second collection for Vocations Sunday, which was on the weekend of 20th / 21st. Due to the London Marathon we didn’t have a 11am Mass.

I thank you for your generosity to the Priests Training Fund that goes towards the preparation of those studying for the priesthood, and for the on going clergy formation of priests serving in the Diocese. May God bless you all. Fr Christopher

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— Acts 9;26-31
Psalm 21: 26-28, 30-32 Response v26
2nd Reading - 1 John 3: 18-24

Gospel – John 15;1-8

1st Reading— Acts 10;25-26, 34-35, 44-48
Psalm 97; 1-4, Response v 2
2nd Reading - 1 John 4;7-10

John 15; 9-17

Next Friday evening at Poplar Church, fifteen young people from our Parish will be confirmed by Bishop Nicolas Hudson. Please, pray for them and also for Asha, who has prepared them for this sacrament.

Fr Christopher

CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal

Millions of families in Sudan, forced to flee their homes amid conflict, now face yet another urgent crisis – extreme hunger. Please give to CAFOD's Sudan Crisis Appeal in church or at cafod.org.uk/sudanappeal. Your donation will help CAFOD's partners to support more families with food packages and emergency cash payments as well as rebuilding water pipelines so clean water can reach communities who need it. Thank you for your generosity and prayers.

*You can also text Text **CAFODSUDAN** to **70450** to donate £10.*

*Texts will cost the donation amount plus one standard network rate message, and you'll be opting into hearing more from us. If you would like to donate but don't wish to hear more from us, please text **CAFODSUDANNOINFO** instead.*



Mission Appeal

Dear Friends, We will welcome Fr. Pat O' Beirne of Columbian Fathers, who would be making
a Mission Appeal on 11th & 12th May 2024

Fr. Pat will be Celebrating all Masses, and there will be a Second Collection for the Mission.

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. Secondly, after 24 years of use, we want to refresh our kitchen and toilets. The kitchen has its new image already and you can see it while having your tea or coffee.

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.

It all will come with a cost of eleven thousand pounds. We have collected so far **£2792** towards our works.

Thank you for your support and generosity. Fr Christopher

UPDATE; Dear Friends,

Not long ago I informed you that I was diagnosed with the Metastases in the liver, and advised to have chemo therapy. I have started my treatment already and it will continue for at least three moths. I am feeling good at the moment. Thank you for all your concerns and prayers. May God bless you all. *Fr Christopher*

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

Annual Parish BBQ

Our annual parish BBQ, will be on **9th June 24**, after the 11am Mass. Tickets and other information to follow nearer the time. Please put this date in your diary.

Also, we are looking for volunteers to tidy the garden and yard in preparation for the BBQ on the Saturday **11 May from 10 am onwards..** If you are able to help, do give your name and details to the parish office. Remember, many hands make light work. Thank you, Fr Christopher



Congratulations to our RCIA

candidates who were received and confirmed at the Easter Vigil.

At the same time we thank Asha & Andrew for preparing them for their reception into the Church.



**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: £216.00 envelopes: £128.00 contactless collection last weekend: £345.00 total: **£689.**

Standing orders in **in January- £3286, in February - £2589, in March - £2715,**

HOLY PLACES COLLECTION - 215.92

CHURCH PROJECT (electrical works and refurbishment of the kitchen and toilets) - £2792

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

Evangelisation and Faith

CAFOD Pilgrimage

CAFOD is organising a pilgrimage for young adults aged between 18- 40 from **Friday 12th – Sunday 14th July**, in a special way in this year of prayer and lead up to the year of Jubilee. Re-connecting with their faith through worship, prayer and journeying as a pilgrim together. The pilgrimage will include a two-night residential stay at the Frontier Centre, Irthlingborough, NN9 5UH. On the Saturday we will then be walking from Our Lady Help of Christians & St Lawrence, Olney to The Church of the Holy Child in Bedford, a distance of approximately 13.5 miles.

For more information: [Young Adults Residential Pilgrimage \(cafod.org.uk\)](https://www.cafod.org.uk)

Sign-up link: [Young Adults Pilgrimage July 24 - Formstack](https://www.cafod.org.uk)

CAFOD A Year of Encounter

With a UK general election due sometime this year, politicians will be looking for our votes. We have a responsibility as Catholics to make sure that parties commit to tackling issues such as poverty and injustice. Raising our voices and contacting parliamentary candidates as a parish community will send a strong signal to those standing for election in our local constituencies. A *Year of Encounter* is a joint initiative between CAFOD and St Vincent de Paul Society (SVP), equipping Catholics to ask key questions of local candidates at the key moments. Please see [cafod.org.uk/encounter](https://www.cafod.org.uk/encounter) for more information, including online sessions on Thursday 25th April and Saturday 4th May to learn more.