

NEWSLETTER

**THIRTY FIRST
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

On fostering peace

Peace is not merely the absence of war. Nor can it be reduced solely to the maintenance of a belief of power between opposing forces. Nor can it arise out of governance by tyranny. Instead it is rightly and properly called the effect of justice. Peace is the fruit of the harmony built into human society by its divine founder; and is brought about by men as they strive to attain an even more perfect justice.

The common good of men is in its base sense determined by the eternal law, but the concrete demands of this common good are constantly changing as time goes on. Hence peace is not something that can ever be attained once and for all, but something that must be constantly built up. Furthermore, because the human will is unstable and enfeebled by sin, peace will only be safeguarded by the discipline that each individual that each individual constantly exercise over himself and by the vigilance of lawful authority.

Even this is not enough. A peace of this kind cannot be obtained on earth unless the welfare of individuals persons is carefully protected and unless men are prepared freely and trustingly to share with each other the riches of their own minds as well as their talents. A firm determination to respect the dignity of other men and other peoples, as well as a deliverance practice of fraternal love, are absolutely essential if peace is ever to be achieved. Hence peace is also the fruit of love, because love goes beyond what justice can provide.

Peace on earth, which arises from love of ones neighbour, symbolises and derives from the peace of Christ, who proceeds from God the Father. By his cross the incarnate Son, the Prince of Peace, reconciled all men with God. In this way he restored the unity of all men in one people and one body; he abolished hatred by his own death and, when he has been lifted on high in the resurrection, he poured the Spirit of love into the hearts of men.

This is the reason all Christians are urgently summoned to practice the truth in love and to join with all true peacemakers in appealing for peace and working to achieve it. In the spirit, we cannot fail to express our admiration for those who renounce the use of violence to vindicate their right and who resort to those means of defence which are also available to weaker parties, and duties of others or of the community itself..

Constitution of Second Vatican Council on the Church in the Modern World.

MASS INTENTIONS

November 2nd, 2024

10.30am - All Faithful
Departed

6pm - Pro Populo

November 3rd, 2024

9am— All Souls

11 am - All Souls

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.

**No Morning Mass
on Wednesday,
6th November**

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come, O Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love.

Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created, and you shall renew the face of the earth.

O God, to whom every heart is open, every desire known and from whom no secrets are hidden; cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the help of your Holy Spirit, that we may faithfully serve you, perfectly love you, and worthily praise your Holy Name. We ask this through Christ Our Lord. Amen

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— Deuteronomy 6;2-6,
Psalm 17;2-4, 47, 51 Response v 2
2nd Reading - Hebrew 7: 23-28

Gospel – Mark 12; 28-34

1st Reading— Kings 17; 10-16,
Psalm 145;7-10 Response v 2
2nd Reading - Hebrew 9;24-28

Gospel - Mark 12; 38-44

The Catechetical Program 2024

(Application Forms now available on the table in the lobby - cannot be emailed)

Confirmation:

If you are in year 9, and wish to make your Confirmation, the course will be held at 4pm- every Saturday. The start date will be announced shortly. **Deadline for applications - Monday 4. November 2024.**

RCIA (The Rite of Christian initiation of adults) the course will start in October, and will be held every Tuesday evening. If you are interested to learn more about the Catholic Faith, fill out the form and then hand in your details to the parish office ASAP or to Fr Christopher after Mass. **Deadline for applications - Monday 4. November 2024**

First Holy Communions:

Should you wish to have your child make their First Holy Communion (from your 3 onwards), please take a form, fill it in and hand one part into the parish office. The part with information for parents should be cut off by you and read properly as contains important information about the course. The dates of the course will be announced shortly. **Deadline for applications - Monday 4. November 2024**

Dates for First Holy Communion:

Parents Meeting:

Wednesday 4th December 2024 6pm.

Sessions:

1. 12. January 2025.	Reconciliation: Saturday 8th March 2025.	1. 9. March 2025	First Holy Communion: Saturday 24. May 2025.
2. 19. January 2025.		2. 16. March 2025	
3. 26. January 2025.		3. 23. March 2025	
4. 2. February 2025		4. 30. March 2025	
5. 9. February 2025		5. 27. April 2025	
6. 2. March 2025		6. 18. May 2025	

SCHOOL APPLICATIONS

We are approaching that time of the year when parents request a priest's reference. Usually, it's the Catholic Practice form. Catholic Practice means regular attendance at Mass. It is a requirement that all Catholics attend Mass on Sundays and on holidays of obligation. While there may be genuine reasons for the occasional absences from Mass. It has been made clear that fortnightly or monthly attendance does not constitute the practice required by Church Law.

Since I've been here I have urged parents to come and see me to establish two things:

Any problems they might have in meeting the requirement to attend Mass every week and How we might establish proof as to what their attendance has been.

Most parents, don't think of the lead times that are involved. If you want your child to enter a new school in September 2025, the applications have to be in, depending on the school, somewhere between March and October 2024. Don't wait until then to speak to me about your problems or to discuss how to get evidence to support your request for weekly Mass attendance. You need to come to me a year prior to that.

Recently a problem has emerged: where families who, because of their situation, think they will not need a reference and so take no action to establish a basis; then circumstances change-they want to change school, and now they find themselves exposed, unable to get a reference that they need. It does not cost you to put a basis for a reference in place: please be prudent.

Thank you,

Fr Christopher

Parish Pilgrimage 2025

The Year 2025, has been designated as a year of prayer by the Holy Father Pope Francis. Northern Star Travel Ltd. is organising the Parish Pilgrimage to San Giovanni, Rome & Assisi from the 14-23 February 25. If you are interested to join the parish group then see the Itinerary on the Parish website in our previous Newsletter. To pay the deposit contact Adrian Duffy on 01617732115 and should we have insufficient numbers to go on Pilgrimage, the money would be refunded. You can now take a booking form from a table in the church's lobby.

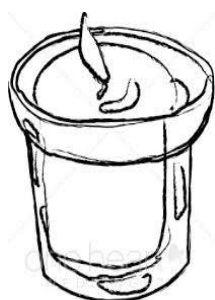
Thank you. *Fr Christopher*

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

It is a tradition in the Church that November should be a time when we pray particularly for the souls of the faithful departed.

One of the ways we pray for the dead is to prepare a list of all the people special to us who have died and put that list in to the parish, asking everyone to pray for them. The result is that we are all praying for each other's dead friends and relatives.

If you wish to put forward a list of people you would like the community to pray for, write out the list (using, if you wish, the special lavender coloured paper provided) and put it in one of the Holy Souls envelopes



you will find in the lobby of the church. If you wish to make an offering, put the money also in the envelope; this money will be used to fund Mass intentions for Holy Souls during the coming year. Either hand the envelope to me, or to our Sacristans, or into the collection basket at Mass.

From the 1st November we will put a special basket in front of the Altar. *Fr Christopher*

PARISH MISSION 'A Celebration of our Faith'

Our Mission is from 2nd -6th December 24 led by Fr. Peter Morris & Fr. Royston Price.

Please remember the Parish Mission in your prayers and if you know of anyone who would benefit from the Mission then encourage them to come along with you. Thank you, *Fr Christopher*

Neighbours in Poplar

Sr Christine, has asked me to put a plea for help. Many of you know her, since she runs a charitable venture that supports elderly by providing hot meals on Wednesdays and Sunday's. the reach of the venture has now speared across Tower Hamlets.

Sr. Christine, is looking for drivers in E1, E2, E3 to help deliver hot meals to the elderly. Since before the Pandemic Tower Hamlets stopped meals on wheels, and the driver is the only friendly face they see. If you can help Sr. Christine in her work, then do get in touch with Neighbours in Poplar. Thank so much, and God bless you.

Dear Friends, My admission to Royal London Hospital on Monday 28th October 24 was cancelled and a new date was given to remove the stent that was inserted in May 23 to protect the kidney. The operation is going to happen on Wednesday, 13 November with assessment on Wednesday, 6 November. There will be no morning mass on both Wednesdays.

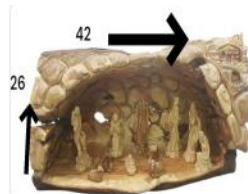
Thanks for your understanding. Do remember me in your prayers. God bless you all, *Fr Christopher*.

The Holy Land

Those of us who went on the Parish Pilgrimage to the Holy Land, visited Remon Kando & Sons Store in Bethlehem, in the West Bank. Ramon' sister Lara contacted me if I could help the Christians in the Holy Land by promoting their products. They have sent a few photos of Items carved from olive wood (but the stock is much bigger) if you are interested then contact them directly via email: r-kando@hotmail.com

Alternatively by What's app number +972 59818484001

Please take a look at the display of the items or contact them to find what you are interested in. This way you will be helping our Christian brothers & Sisters in Holy Land. The money raised from your purchase of the items goes directly to help



Counting of the Collection

Dear Friends, To comply with guide lines set by the Diocese, they require us to create a Rota of Counters to Count the collection. Therefore we are appealing for volunteers who would be willing to count the collection after the 11 am Mass on a Sunday or on an alternative date.

You need to count in pairs, with another member of our community. It will take probably half an hour, once a month if we have enough volunteers to cover each week. We also ask students of six forms to step forward. **If you are interested, please give your details into the Parish Office.**

**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

Mr Tomasz Daszkiewicz - Data Protection

Parish Officer

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

loose: £279.00 envelopes: £363.00 contactless collection last weekend: £245.00 total: **£887.00**

Standing orders in **in January- £3286, in February - £2589, in March - £2715, in April - 3769, in May - 2152, in June - 3800, in July - 2565, in August - 2416, in September- 4660,**

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.

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 refreshed our kitchen and toilets.

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 **£6935** towards our works so far. Thank you for your support and generosity. Fr Christopher

Altar Servers

If our young people, have made their First Holy Communion, and would like to become an Altar Server. Please give your details to the Parish Office by email or to me just after Mass. Joseph Adesete our MC would be carrying out the training after the 11 am Mass.

Thank you, Fr Christopher

