

NEWSLETTER

**THIRTY THIRD
SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

How to Prepare to Meet Christ

You must believe in mercy to the point of believing that you are joy for Jesus. I return to the thought which I have already touched upon for it is essential. The life of the Christian is a life of love. Can people love one another without knowing that they are a joy for each other? Ask yourself, 'How does Jesus see me?' He sees me as his child since my baptism. He sees me, since my Confirmation, filled with superabundance of the gifts of his Spirit, marked with the indelible character of a soldier of his kingdom. He sees married people bathed in the grace of the sacrament of marriage. And looking at husband and wife, he thinks of his union with the Church. He sees me as his lamb which has so often let itself be led back to the fold in his arms, purified by absolution. He sees my soul transformed into himself by Mass and Communion-my soul, where his Father and he have made their dwelling place because, *if anyone loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come to him and make our abode with him.* These are the actual realities of the sacraments of graces! How many causes of joy for him there in us!

What man does he see? All you have done for him your prayers, your good impulses, all the acts which in the course of your life, have been determined by your faith, your hope, and your love; your acts of generosity, your acts of charity, especially which you have forgotten in part but which Jesus has not forgotten, because they are engraved in his Heart. On the day of judgement, with what happiness and what approval he will remind you of all that, in detail, for his own glory, since he is the author of all that is good, but for yours, also, because you will have believed in his love. And in addition to all that, you give him your many miseries with great humility, but also with great confidence, then you give him his great joy-his joy of being Saviour. Every soul in a state of grace is for him a heaven which only that soul could give him.

Here is a good resolution to take from this retreat 'I promise you, Jesus, to worry about nothing consciously, voluntarily, deliberately. As soon as I notice myself worrying, I shall listen to your gentle voice saying to me, 'Let me do it. Am I not here with you, in you? And I shall say unconditionally, 'O Jesus, I thank you for everything.

Fr. Jean Du Caur De Jesus D' Elbee

MASS INTENTIONS

November 16th, 2024

6pm - All Souls

November 17th, 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.

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

Parish Mission Prayer

Remember, O most gracious Virgin Mary, that never was it known that anyone who fled to your protection, implored your help, or sought your intercession, was left unaided. Inspired by this confidence, I fly to you, O Virgin of virgins, my Mother. To you do I come, before you I stand, sinful and sorrowful. O Mother of the Word Incarnate, despise not my petitions, but in your mercy, hear and answer me. 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— Daniel 12;1-13,
Psalm 15;5,8-11 Response v 1
2nd Reading - Hebrew 10: 11-14, 18

Gospel – Mark 13; 24-32

1st Reading— Daniel 7; 13-14,
Psalm 92;1-2, 5 Response v 1
2nd Reading - Apocalypse 1;5-8

Gospel - ~John 18; 33-37

SECOND COLLECTION - SICK & RETIRED PRIESTS' FUND

Today's second collection is for the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund. Please give generously and help ensure our sick and older priests are financially supported, having given us a lifetime of dedicated service. They have baptised us, welcomed us into the church, and offered comfort and prayer at times of sorrow. Now we have a chance to give back and ensure they have peace of mind during their senior years, when they may be facing failing health and declining mobility.

Please give generously using the envelopes in the church. You can make a one-off donation or set up a regular donation and become a **Patron** by completing section 4 on the envelope form. You can also donate online at www.rcdow.org.uk/donations - the envelopes and posters feature a 'QR Code' that you can scan with a phone camera to give online.

The Assisted Suicide Bill.

The proposed Bill is calling for a change in the law to permit assisted suicide. No doubt it would contain safe guards, that supporters of the bill would say are included. Having seen other nations who legislated for Assisted Suicide has moved away from the original guide lines has widened making assisted suicide medical killing or euthanasia.

For all people of faith life is a gift of God the creator, our life flows from God and will find its fulfilment in God the Father. 'The Lord giveth, and the Lord taketh away; blessed be the name of the Lord', (Job 1: 21).

I would encourage you to get involved in the consultation, and write to your local MP. You can attend the discussion on this Proposed Bill on Sunday 24th November 2024, 3-5pm at Farm Street Church, 114 Mount Street, W1K 3AH

Livestreaming available by visiting www.farmstreet.org.uk/livestream

For more details please contact info@catholicunion.org.uk

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

The Catechetical Program 2024

Application time for first communion & confirmation course is now over

Confirmation:

The first session of Confirmation Course will happen on 23rd November.

The whole programme will be emailed to participants.

First Holy Communions:

Parents Meeting with book purchasing (£20 per book) every child will need two.

Wednesday 4th December 2024 6pm.

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/cash). 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 Canon 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.

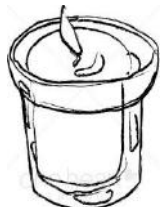
The next Baptismal Course for parents who want to baptised the child will be on Thursday, 28 November at 7pm on Zoom. If you are interested - start the process by emailing the office asap. *Fr. Christopher*

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*

A Day With Mary is taking place at St George's Cathedral, Southwark on Saturday 14 December (10.15am to 5.15pm). Mass will be celebrated by the Archbishop of Southwark Diocese, John Wilson. Further information is available at <https://www adaywithmary.org/> or <https://eventcatholic.com/>

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. *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*

Bring and Share.

Dear Friends, To celebrate, the end of our Parish Mission from 2nd -5th December. Our Social Committee has suggested a Bring & Share of food on Sunday 8th December 24, after the 11 am Mass. It is indeed an excellent opportunity for us to meet one another and catch up with those we know. Please, put this date in your diary. I look forward to welcoming you on the day. God bless you all.

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: £229.00 envelopes: £224.00 contactless collection last weekend: £417.00 total: **£870.00**

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, in October - £2349,

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 has come with a cost of over eleven thousand pounds.

Thanks to a very generous donation from a couple of our parishioners who donated £4665 towards our refurbishment project, we have collected now **£11,095** towards our works. 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

