

NEWSLETTER

**FIRST
SUNDAY
OF LENT**

Repent Let us fix our thoughts on the blood of Christ; and reflect how precious that blood is in God's eyes, inasmuch as its outpouring for our salvation has opened the grace of repentance to all mankind. For we have only to survey the generations of the past to see that in every one of them the Lord has offered the chance of repentance to any who were willing to turn to him. When Noah preached repentance, those who gave heed to him were saved. When, after Jonah had proclaimed destruction to the people of Niniveh, they repented of their sins and made atonement to God with prayers and supplications, they obtained their salvation, notwithstanding that they were strangers and aliens to him.

All those who were ministers of grace of God have spoken, through the Holy Spirit, of repentance. The very Lord of all himself has spoken of it, and even with an oath: By my life, the Lord declares, it is not the sinner's death that I desire, so much as his repentance; and he adds this gracious pronouncement, Repent, O house of Israel, and turn from you wickedness. Say to the children of my people, Though your sins may stretch from earth to heaven, and though they may be redder than scarlet and blacker than sackcloth, yet if you turn wholeheartedly to me and say 'Father', I will listen to you as I would to a people that was holy.

Thus, by his own almighty will, he has confirmed his desire that repentance should be open to every one of his beloved.

Let us bow, then, to that sovereign and glorious will. Let us entreat his mercy and goodness, casting ourselves upon his compassion and wasting no more energy in quarrels and a rivalry which only ends in death.

My brothers, do let us have a little humility; let us forget our self-assertion and braggadocio and stupid quarrelling, and do what the Bible tells us instead. The Holy Spirit says, The wise man is not to brag of his wisdom, nor the strong man of his strength, nor the rich man of his wealth; if a man must boast, he should boast of the Lord, seeking him out and acting with justice and uprightness. More particularly, let us remember what the Lord Jesus Christ said in one of his lessons on mildness and forbearance. Be merciful he told us, that you may obtain mercy; forgive, that you may be forgiven. What you do yourself, will be done to you; what you give, will be given to you; as you judge, so you will be judged; as you show kindness, so will it be shown to you. May this precept, and these commands, strengthen our resolve to live in obedience to his sacred words, and in humility of mind; for the holy word says, Whom shall I look upon, but him that is gentle and peaceable, and trembles at my sayings?

Thus there exists a vast heritage of glorious achievements for us to share in. Let us then make haste and get back to the state of tranquillity which was set before us in the beginning as the mark for us to aim at. Let us turn our eyes to the Father and Creator of the universe, and when we consider how precious and peerless are his gifts of peace, let us embrace them eagerly for ourselves.

Pope St. Clement I

"In this season of Lent, we offer up the merits of our daily sacrifices to the needs of the most vulnerable in society. We offer them especially for the poor, the terminally ill, the lonely, the homeless and the unborn, that the Lord would see their needs and pour out his love and blessing upon them. Lord hear us".

MASS INTENTIONS

Feb 21st, 2026

6pm - For Rt Rev
Richard Moth

Feb 22nd, 2026

9 am — Pro Populo
11 am - For Sick & Retired
Priests

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.

**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— Genesis 2:7-9;
3; 1-7

Psalms 51;3-4. 12-17

2nd Reading -

Romans 5; 12-19

Gospel – Mathew 4; 1-11,

1st Reading– Genesis 12:1-4;

Psalms 33; 4-5, 18-22, R 22

2nd Reading -

2 Timothy 1;8-10

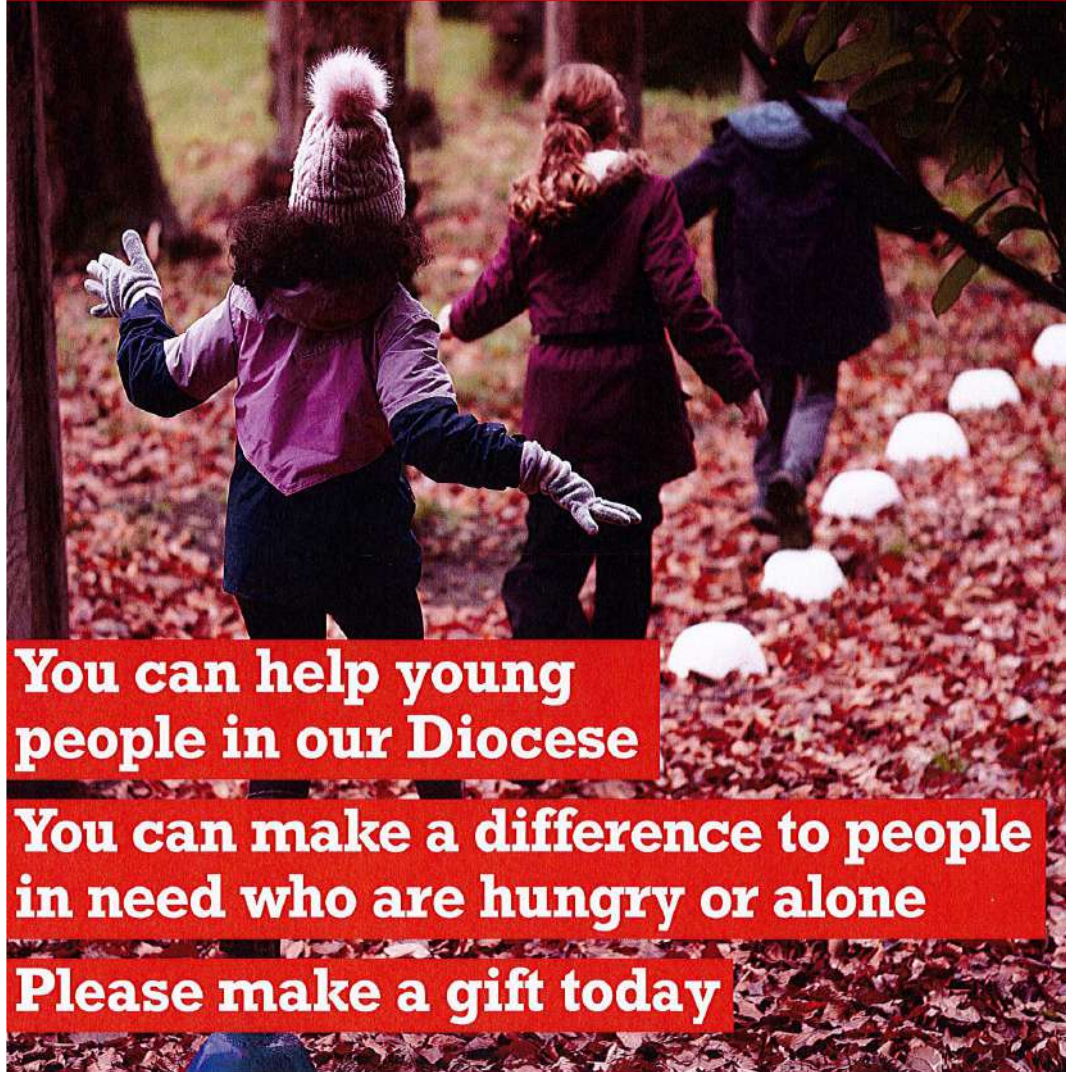
Gospel - Mathew 17; 1-9

Lenten Appeal: "Because we are formed in faith, we are sent in love."

Our annual Lenten Appeal across the Diocese supports one shared mission: helping people encounter Christ and live that faith in love and service. Through **Education, Youth & Evangelisation**, and **Marriage & Family Life**, the diocese forms hearts, nurtures faith, and strengthens families within our parishes. Through **Social Action**, that formed faith reaches outward, ensuring that no one in our communities faces life's hardest moments alone.

Your generous support this Lent will enable the Church to continue walking with people at every stage of life and be a visible sign of Christ's love, both within our parishes and among our neighbours. To donate today please visit www.rcdow.org.uk/LentenAppeal. Alternatively, envelopes are available in church. Thank you for your support and for helping our diocesan family to continue this vital work.

Please support the Lenten Appeal 2026



You can help young people in our Diocese

You can make a difference to people in need who are hungry or alone

Please make a gift today

To donate now, scan the QR code or visit rcdow.org.uk/LentenAppeal



Diocese of Westminster

Reg. Charity No.: 233699



Scan Me



Stations Of The Cross

From Friday 20th and throughout Lent we shall Stations of the Cross at 7pm. Should you wish to lead the Stations, then let the Parish Office know and indicate which Friday you wish to lead.

Holy Hour

From 21st Saturday we shall have Holy Hour commencing at 5pm.



Stop the decriminalisation.

On 2nd February, peers in the House of Lords debated abortion amendments to the Crime and Policing Bill at Committee stage. While there were no votes, many peers spoke against the inclusion of the abortion decriminalisation clause (Clause 191) in the Bill. Almost 20 peers spoke against the clause, with many others expressing serious concerns. A number of other important amendments were also debated, Baroness Foster of Aghadrumsee led efforts to end the pills by post policy, exposing how abortion providers are calling for decriminalisation to shield themselves from the serious consequences of that policy. Lord Bailey also tabled an amendment to introduce a mandatory safeguarding investigation whenever an abortion is performed on a young girl under the age of 18.

All these amendments will go back to Report Stage of the Bill. **This is the last chance for the Lords to make changes before it is sent back to the House of Commons.**

The Report Stage of the Bill commences on Wednesday 25th February. The debate on abortion(now **Clause 208 of the bill**) will likely take place on either **Wednesday 11 March, or Tuesday 17th March**).

Please write to the peers to defeat this horrific proposal. Do write an encourage members of your family, and friends to lobby peers too.

On Assisted Suicide the 'procedural obstacles' in question are the fearless pro-life Peers who, putting everything they have on this issue to stop this Bill. Should this Bill become Law, it would change medicine this in country forever.

Doctors will become killers, and the bond of trust with patients will be broken. Vulnerable people will feel they are a 'burden' and unscrupulous relatives will be empowered by the law to coerce innocents into choosing death. This is already happening now in Canada and other countries.

Should this Bill become law, more radical laws would follow. The pro lobby is already planning to extend the killing. Their goal is that everyone will be able to choose death at any time, and for any reason.

More and more peers are recognising the truth of arguments like this, that pro-assisted suicide politicians fear that pro-life Peers will be able to stop the Bill coming to a vote in this parliamentary session.

Since Leadbeater' Bill is a Private Members' Bill, rather than a Government Bill, this means it would fail completely. Right now Pro-assisted suicide MP'-including Leadbeater herself-are negotiating with Sir Keir Stammer's Government to use the Parliament Act.

Please Continue to writ to Peers and MPs to defeat these bills and in Scotland MSPs in Holyrood to defeat the McArthur' Bill.
Thank you, and God bless.

Meeting Archbishop Rt. Rev Richard Moth

Archbishop, has put forward, a programme of gatherings has been planned, each following format of a meeting with headteachers, then clergy, followed by the celebration of Mass and then a short meeting with deans. Here are the dates: Wednesday 25th February-Kingsland (for Central and Eastern Area deaneries); Thursday 26th February- Ealing Abbey (For Western Area deaneries);

Tuesday 3rd March-Garston (for St Albans and Watford deaneries), Wednesday 4th March-Wood Green (for Haringey, Enfield, and Barnet deaneries)

Tuesday 10th March-Wembley 1, St Joseph (for Brent and Harrow deaneries) Wednesday 11th March-Welwyn Garden City East (for Stevenage and Lea Valley deaneries) ; The Time table for each of the gatherings:

4.30pm- meeting with headteachers 5.30pm-meeting with priests /deacons 6.30pm-Mass After Mass-meeting with deans

Parishioners are most welcome to attend any of the Mass.es. Archbishop Richard Moth will remain at the back of the church to greet as

The following message came to our email box last week. Please, read and help if you can.

Dear Fr I hope this message finds you well.

My name is Amadi A Nigerian international student at York St John University London Campus. As a Catholic student, I am currently facing serious accommodation challenges which are affecting my ability to attend school consistently.

I humbly write to seek your kind assistance in securing temporary accommodation for a short period, so I may continue my studies without disruption. I would deeply appreciate any support or guidance you can offer.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration. I look forward to your response.

If you need any further clarification please do not hesitate to contact me. Kind regards, Amadi

Phone number: 07350162964

Email address: amadinoelx@gmail.com

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: £179.00 envelopes: £65.00 contactless collection last weekend: £360.00

Special Donation for Utility Bills: £400.00 total: **£1004.00**

Standing orders in 2025: January- £3982, in February- £1883, in March - £2576
in April - £2638, in May- £2394, in June- £2085, in July- £2956, in August—£2016,
in September—£2730, in October—£1996, in November—£1906, in December—£2390,

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

We have created a specified fund for utility bills & building maintenance and we encourage you to give specified donations towards one of the funds. As we need to share our general donation with the diocese, we find it difficult to meet our parish needs. Your donations towards a specified fund let us keep 100% of the money in our parish. If you give by a card, just chose: utility bills or building maintenance on the screen, if you transfer by bank: type 'utility bills' or "building maintenance" in description, or you can give money in a prepared envelope that can be found on the table in the church's lobby.

A recliner armchair is looking for a new home.

The armchair is like new and is free. If you would like to have it, you need to organise the collection.

Please, contact Parish Office for more information.

Configura
by Acacia

Comfort 1 and Lite 2

INSTRUCTIONS FOR USE



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.**

Hope we will hear from you, *Fr Christopher with Parish Finance Committee Members.*