

# NEWSLETTER

**SECOND  
SUNDAY  
OF LENT**

**Fraternal charity based on the example of Christ**

The highest type of brotherly love is to love our enemies and there is no greater encouragement to do this than the remembrance of the wondrous patience exercised by him who, fairest of the sons of men, offered his gracious face to be spat upon by his enemies. All creation is ruled by a glance from his eyes and yet he allowed them to be blindfolded by wicked men. His body he exposed to scourging and, although his head strikes fear in the principalities and powers, he bowed it to the pain of the crown of thorns. He submitted himself to insults and finally gave us an example by enduring in peace with gentleness, patience and meekness, the cross, the nails, the lance, the vinegar and gall. Then as a sheep he was led to the slaughter and, like a lamb before his shearer, he remained silent and did not open his mouth.

Hearing that wondrous voice, full of gentleness and love, saying, ‘Father, forgive them’, who would not immediately embrace his enemies? Father, forgive them; can any greater degree of gentleness and love be added to this prayer? However, he did add something. To pray for them was too little, he wished also to make excuses for them. He said: Father, forgive them for they know not what they do. They are great sinners but with little understanding; and so he said: Father, forgive them. They are crucifying without knowing who it is that they crucifying, for, if they had known, they would never have crucified the Lord of glory,, and so he said: Father forgive them.

They think of him as a law-breaker, as one who falsely claims to be God, and as a seducer of the people. I have hidden my face from them, says the Lord, and they have not recognised my majesty, and so: Father, forgive them for they know not what they do.

It follows that, if a man would really love himself, he should avoid any corrupt love of the flesh. Not to be overcome by fleshly concupiscence, he should turn all his love to the sweetness of the flesh of our Lord. To love his brethren even more perfectly, he should open his arms to embrace even his enemies. In case this divine fire should grow cold by injuries done to him, a man should gaze constantly in his mind on the tranquil patience of his Lord and Saviour.

Jesus said, Father, forgive them; they do not know what they are doing. He bore the faults of many while praying for sinners.

*St Aelred*

*The Mirror of Charity*

***“Let us pray for new parents and grandparents, that they may manifest the love and mercy of God to their children and grandchildren. Lord hear us”.***

**MASS INTENTIONS**

**Feb 28th, 2026**

6pm - Pro Populo

**March 1st, 2026**

9 am — For First

Communion Children

11 am - For Cardinal

Vincent Nicols

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 12:1-4;

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

2nd Reading -

2 Timothy 1;8-10

Gospel - Mathew 17; 1-9

1st Reading— Exodus 17:3-7;

Psalm 95; 2-9. R.7

2nd Reading -

Romans 5; 1-2, 5-8

Gospel – John 4; 5-42,

**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](http://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](http://rcdow.org.uk/LentenAppeal)



### Stations Of The Cross

From Friday 20<sup>th</sup> and throughout Lent we shall have 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.

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### Holy Hour

From 21<sup>st</sup> Saturday we shall have Holy Hour commencing at 5pm.



Diocese of Westminster

Reg. Charity No.: 233699



Scan Me

## 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

## IF YOU WISH TO DONATE FOR FAMILY FAST DAY— CAFOD,

Take a donation envelope that is available on the table and leave it in our main collection basket or in our Sacristy.

ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE,  
WESTMINSTER, LONDON, SW1P 1QJ

24 February 2026

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

May I take this opportunity to thank you all: Lay Faithful, Religious, Deacons and Priests for the very warm welcome that you have given to me on my arrival in the Diocese.

The Installation Liturgies were deeply moving and it was wonderful to see our Cathedral filled with everyone gathered in faith and prayer.

My thanks go to all those who were involved in the arrangements for these two days of celebration. I know you would all wish to join with me in thanking them for their hard work, dedication and attention to detail – enabling us all to enter more fully into the mystery of the Liturgy.

It will take time to get to know everyone and I look forward to the Masses that will be celebrated around the deaneries in the coming weeks. Please keep me in your prayers as I embark upon my service for you and with you in the years ahead.

At this time, when we are seeing so many 'green shoots' of renewed openness to the Gospel, let us join together in the work the Lord has given us to do, that our witness will continue to call the world to the wonder of the Gospel, to relationship with Christ and to his gift of Peace.

With every blessing,



✠ Archbishop Richard Moth  
Archbishop of Westminster

## STABAT MATER CONCERT

As part of a Lenten devotion, on **Wednesday 18 March at 6.45pm in Westminster Cathedral**, the Cathedral Choir and the Britten Sinfonia will perform a concert of reflection on the ancient Marian hymn, contemplating the sorrow of the Blessed Virgin Mary at the foot of the Cross: **MacMillan's *Stabat Mater***, and Vaughan Williams' *Fantasia on a Theme by Thomas Tallis*. As a way of encouraging parishes across the diocese to benefit from this spiritual preparation to the Holy Week, the Cathedral offers an opportunity to buy tickets at a discount of **50%**. Discounted tickets are available in Sections A, B and N at the following link: <https://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/event/1F00638BCD835BA6?did=50off> Password: **WCSBDO**. The performance will begin with Sir James MacMillan in conversation with Fr Patrick van der Vorst, our Precentor and Founder of [Christian Art](http://ChristianArt.org) website.

With thanks, **Fr Slawomir Witon** | Cathedral Dean

**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: £211.00 envelopes: £171.00 contactless collection last weekend: £441.00  
total: **£823.00**

Standing orders in 2026: January- £2436,

All donations of unwanted foreign currency for Mary's Meals has been counted and valued at **£407.00**

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 Access

**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.*