

NEWSLETTER

**SECOND
SUNDAY OF
EASTER**

The Imitation of Christ

In the same way, wives should be obedient to their husbands. Then, if there are some husbands who have not yet obeyed the word, they may find themselves won over, without a word spoken, by the way their wives behave, when they see how faithful and conscientious they are. Do not dress up for show: doing up your hair, wearing gold bracelets and fine clothes; all this should be inside, in a person's heart, imperishable: the ornaments of a sweet and gentle disposition-this was how the holy women of the past dressed themselves attractively-they hoped in God and were tender and obedient to their husbands; like Sarah, who was obedient to Abraham, and called him her lord. You are now her children, as long as you live good lives and do not give way to fear or worry.

In the same way, husbands must always treat their wives with consideration in their life together, respecting a woman as one who, though she may be the weaker partner, is equally an heir to the life of grace. This will stop anything from coming in the way of your prayers.

Finally: you should all agree among yourselves and be sympathetic; love the brothers, have compassion and be self-effacing. Never pay back one wrong with another, or an angry word with another one; instead, pay back with a blessing. That is what you are called to do, so that you inherit a blessing yourself. Remember: 'Anyone who wants to have a happy life and to enjoy prosperity must banish malice from his tongue, deceitful conversation from his lips; he must never yield to evil but must practise good; he must seek peace and pursue it. Because the face of the Lord frowns on evil men, but the eyes of the Lord are turned towards the virtuous.

No one can hurt you if you are determined to do only what is right; if you do have to suffer for being good, you will count it a blessing. There is no need to be afraid or to worry about them. Simply reverence the Lord Christ in your hearts, and always have your answer ready for people who ask you the reason for the hope that you all have. But give it with courtesy and respect and with a clear conscience, so that those who slander you are living a good life in Christ may be proved wrong in the accusations that they bring. And if it is the will of God that you should suffer, it is better to suffer for doing right than for doing wrong.

Happy are you when men hate you and say that you are evil, because of the Son of Man. Rejoice when that day comes and dance for joy, for then your reward will be great in heaven, alleluia. *St Peter*

Dear Friends, It is with much sadness, you and I, have to say a fond fair well, to **Katherine Woznicka**. Who has served the Parish of St Edmund of Abingdon for twenty years. I was introduced to her by late Fr John Elliot, in the kitchen where he had his desk. It's then that, I learnt Pawel and Katherine were living at Limehouse. Though she was the Parish Administrator, we were friends and got on extremely well together. How can I forget, her support for me when I encountered some difficulty, coming through COVID, bowel operation, and chemotherapy. There's no day, she asks after my sugar, 'How is your sugar today father' and restricting me to what I could have or if I ask her to get some fruits, invariably, not what I would like. In December of last year, Katherine came to me to say that she would be relocating back Poland after Easter. I didn't believe her, I thought it was a joke, until John came to me to say, 'father, do you know Katherine will be leaving us, to go back to Poland. How do I feel about it, I am disappointed, as I recall when I came here, in a conversation she and I were to retire together. Sadly, it's not to be and I thank Pawel too, for all the work he has carried out around the parish. From my perspective, I am sorry to see them go but I do understand, I do wish them every joy and happiness in all their undertakings. **Thank you, Pawel and Katherine; May God bless you both.**

MASS INTENTIONS

April 11th, 2026

6pm - Dennis Hayes RIP

April 12th, 2026

9 am — For Sr Briega McKenna

11 am - Pro Populo

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— Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 118(117):2-4. 13-15b. 22-24. R. 1

2nd Reading -
1 Peter 1 :3-9
Gospel John 20:19-31

1st Reading— Acts 2: 14, 22-33
Psalm 16 (15):1-2a, 5. 7-8. 9-10. 11. R. 11a

2nd Reading -
1 Peter 1 : 17-21
Gospel Luke 24 : 13-55

VOCATIONS NEWS 08.04.2026

New Seminarians

As you will have heard Archbishop Richard announce at the Chrism Mass, we are pleased to report that **three new seminarians** have been accepted for the propaedeutic year at Valladolid in September: Daniel O'Brien (Somers Town), David Reynolds (Shepherds Bush), and Jake Scicinski (Sudbury). Please keep them in your prayers. That brings us to a total of twenty seminarians for Westminster, including from the Neocatechumenal Way.

Vocations Sunday

As you know, the Fourth Sunday of Easter on April 26th will mark the annual Day of Prayer for Vocations to the Priesthood.

There will be a suggested theme for each week: for an openness to God's call, for those already discerning their vocation, for seminarians in formation, and for all our parish priests and all clergy serving in the Diocese. It is hoped, too, that **every parish will be able to make a Holy Hour each week** in the company of the Lord in the Blessed Sacrament for each of these intentions until Pentecost.

We pray in hope that this time together will help to strengthen those already in discernment, formation and ministry, and encourage that openness to the Holy Spirit that may bring forward more labourers to the harvest. Personal invitation and accompaniment are common features in the vocation stories of our seminarians. So, of course, if you know a man who might make a good priest please suggest it to him, to begin that conversation. God's grace may bring that seed you plant to bear fruit.

With our thanks

The Vocations Team

SECOND COLLECTION ON 11/12 APRIL FOR BETHLEHEM UNIVERSITY

Grace and peace to you.

I write to you from Bethlehem with a heavy heart, yet also with deep faith and hope, as our University community continues to endure the painful effects of the ongoing war and the worsening conditions in Bethlehem and throughout the region.

In these difficult days, our first concern remains the safety and well-being of our students, faculty, and staff. Because of the surrounding dangers, all academic instruction is being conducted online so that our students may continue their studies in safety. Even amid fear, uncertainty, and emotional strain, they and their faculty are persevering with courage. Their determination is a powerful witness to hope - and a testimony to the sacred mission of education entrusted to us by the Church. Our administrative and support staff, too, have shown extraordinary dedication. Many continue to report to campus on staggered schedules in order to sustain the essential operations of the University. Others, because of military blockades and severe additional restrictions on movement, have been unable to reach campus and are carrying out their responsibilities remotely whenever possible.

Yes, the burden we as a University now face is grave. The deepening economic crisis is making what has been difficult, now far more serious, if not impossible, for many of our students and their families - that is, to meet tuition obligations. As a result, Bethlehem University may soon face worsening difficulty in meeting salary commitments and maintaining essential operations in the weeks ahead. **This is not simply a financial challenge. It is a human one.** Behind these numbers are students striving to complete their education, families already carrying immense burdens, and faculty and staff who continue to serve faithfully under extraordinarily difficult conditions. In a time of war, Bethlehem University remains a sign of hope, a place of learning, and a vital Christian presence of hope in the Holy Land serving our Muslim and Christian communities in Palestine. We know that we do this not alone - and we are most grateful for your prayers and support.

I therefore ask for your help, and I ask with urgency. Your gift at this critical moment will help Bethlehem University sustain its academic mission, support its dedicated faculty and staff, and remain a source of stability and hope for young people whose lives are being deeply shaken by conflict. Please keep Bethlehem University and all the people of the Holy Land in your prayers. And if you are able, please consider making a special gift today.

https://www.bethlehem.edu/aboutbu/admin-offices/advancement-office/ways-to-give/?blm_aid=232506

With gratitude for your compassion, solidarity, and steadfast support, I remain,
Br. Herman Santos, FSC, PhD - Vice Chancellor

Our Contact Information

Bethlehem University

Bethlehem, Palestine

+972-22741241

<http://www.bethlehem.edu>

An Act of Hope in your Parish

Dear Friends, During Lent we are invited not only to pray, but to act. As Holy Week approaches, I ask you to build a bridge between your church and our fellow Christians suffering in the land where Jesus walked to his crucifixion, death and resurrection, the cornerstone of our hope. [...] I thank you and your parish for standing in prayer with so many individual Christians during this Lenten season. I know they greatly appreciate your prayers and solidarity.

Today, I want to be very candid with you: alongside prayer, they urgently need practical support. Life remains fragile. The ceasefire has not restored stability. Families are still living without steady income, restricted movement, mounting medical care costs and deep uncertainty about the future. Families just like those in your parish. *The generosity of your parish always makes a tangible difference. I ask you to make an intentional fundraising ask in your church through Holy Week.* [...]

These are not abstract needs. They are the basic human rights. When travel permits are cancelled, when checkpoints delay workers for hours, when harassment destroys livelihoods, the resilience of Christian families is diminished. Without intervention, more will feel forced to leave. Hope is not abstract. Faith must be called upon and relied on, time and time again, when we are faced with real hardship. We can all be thankful that we do not have to endure the daily hardships that war brings. This privilege equips us to stand with those who do. *This Easter, I ask you and your parish to consider making a special gift to offer your practical support to these communities in need of hope for the future.* Khader, a father of five from Beit Sahour, was given a life changing opportunity through our job creation project. [...] Before this, Khader had struggled to provide the basics for his family. Stable

employment and renewed hope have brought meaningful change to their daily lives.



Thank you for taking the time to read my update. **I would ask you to respond urgently by signing up here so we can send you our materials to help with your fundraising:**
www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk/forms/lent-26.

St Benedict's School Scholarship

Humanities Bursary St Benedict's School, Ealing is pleased to introduce the **Exceptional Talent Humanities Pathway Scholarship** for Sixth Form entry in September 2026.

This new scholarship is designed for academically ambitious students currently attending maintained schools who are predicted to achieve the highest GCSE grades (typically 8–9). It offers the opportunity to join our high-achieving Catholic Sixth Form and pursue a programme of Humanities A levels supported by structured academic enrichment and preparation for university study. The Pathway is available to students wishing to study one or more of the following A level subjects: Philosophy, Ethics and Religion; English Literature; Medieval and Early Modern History; Classical Civilisation; Latin; French, Spanish or German; and Music. Means-tested bursaries will be available for families who qualify.

Families interested in learning more about the Exceptional Talent Humanities Pathway Scholarship are warmly invited to contact Mrs Helen Ridard, Head of Admissions at St Benedict's School, at admissions@stbenedicts.org.uk for further information about the application process.

Dear Friends from St Edmund's. There are many chapters in life and I am now finishing one and going to start a new. I came to this parish 20 years ago. It seems long when I count years and when I look around to see children I knew as babies and they are now young adults. But for me it has been an amazing time for embracing new challenges, meeting new people and to understand what they were saying in that language that was not my native. So, I assume that due to that intense time I have gone through – it feels that I have been here just a short time. I worked with three priests. I am thankful to Fr Peter who offered me that position, to Fr John who was always warm and cared a lot about this parish and everyone around here, and to Fr Chris with whom I have spent exactly nine years working together going through up and downs of our lives and live of this Parish. I will never forget this part of my life as lived, I will take you all on my journey back to my country of origin, Poland, where I am heading soon. If anyone wants to pop in to say "hi" or needs a local guide, please, contact me and I will be happy to see you around. I will be far away but always curious what is happening here. Thank you to you all for having me here. I wish you all the best .

From now when you contact the office, you will speak to Ferial.

Katherine

**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,

Ms. Fériel Guebli

Parish Administrator

The office may be contacted by phone

Monday to Thursday 9am-4pm

Closed on Bank Holidays

Mrs Diane Winship - Safeguarding Representative

Mr Tomasz Daszkiewicz - Data Protection

Parish Officer

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

loose: £618.47 envelopes: £172.50 contactless collection last weekend: £568.00
total: **£1358.97**

Standing orders in 2026: January- £2436, February- £2941

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

On Sunday 26th April, no 11am Mass due to London Marathon.

**NEW DONATION BOXES FOR A TAX YEAR 2026/2027
ARE NOW AVAILABLE FROM OUR SACRISTY**

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.

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**

Are you a young man aged 18–35 who enjoys a good game of football with fellow faith-filled friends? Join the Youth Ministry's Annual Men's Football Tournament for the John Paul II Cup on 6 June 2026! For more information email youth@rcdow.org.uk or visit:

<https://youth.rcdow.org.uk/events/jp2-cup-2026>