

NEWSLETTER

**THIRD
SUNDAY OF
EASTER**

The sacrament of unity and love

The spiritual building-up of the body of Christ is brought about by love; for, as Saint Peter said, 'living stones are built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ'. It is never carried on more purposefully than when the Church (which is itself Christ's body) offers his body and blood under the signs of bread and wine: 'For the cup which we drink is a participation in the blood of Christ, and the bread which we break is a participation in the Lord's body. Because there is one bread, we who are many are one body, and we all partake of the one bread'.

And so we pray that, by the same grace which made the Church Christ's body, all the members of the Church may remain firm in the unity of the body through the abiding link which joins them.

We do right to pray that this may come about in us by the gift of the Spirit, the one Spirit of the Father and the Son. For the holy Trinity, which is the one and only true God, is of its nature unity and equality and love, and by its concord it sanctifies whom it adopts.

That is why scripture says that the love of God is poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For the Holy Spirit, the one Spirit of the Father and the Son, produces the same effect in those to whom he has granted the grace of divine adoption, as he also produced among those who in the Acts of the Apostles can be seen to have received the same Spirit. Concerning them it says that the multitude of those who believed were one heart and soul; for the one Spirit of the Father and the Son, who is one God with the Father and the Son, had created a single heart and soul in the multitude of those who believed in God.

This is why Saint Paul, in his words of advice to the Ephesians, says that the spiritual unity in the bond of peace should be eagerly preserved: 'I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, beg to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all lowliness and meekness, with patience, forbearing one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit'.

For while God preserves in the Church his love, which is poured out through the Holy Spirit, he makes the Church a sacrifice pleasing to himself, so that she may always be able to receive the grace of spiritual love and so continuously offer herself as a living and holy sacrifice which wins God's favour.

You have sent me into the world, and I have sent them into the world, that they should all be one as we are one, alleluia.

St Fulgentius of Ruspe

Confirmation candidates April 2026

Our confirmation candidates for April 2026 are : Alice, Asia, Gaia, Giorgia, James, Liam, Luca and Maximus.

Please keep them in your prayers.

MASS INTENTIONS

April 18th, 2026

6pm - For the intention of Andrew

April 19th, 2026

9 am - Charles Starkie RIP
11 am - Frances and Eric Samuels RIP

For weekday mass intentions please, see the notice board on the left hand side of the main door of the church.

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: 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

1st Reading– Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalm 23 (22):1-3a, 3b-4, 5, 6, R. 1

2nd Reading -

1 Peter 2:20b-25

Gospel John 10:1-10

Katherine's farewell party last Sunday

Thank you to all the people who were here to wish a bon voyage to Katherine and Pawel Woznicki!

This picture is a souvenir of when Father Christopher first arrived at St Edmund's, Katherine and Pawel welcomed him warmly.



Please support the Priest Training Fund today



Your gift now will help the priests of tomorrow

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



Diocese of Westminster
PRIEST TRAINING FUND
Registered charity no. 233699



Priest Training Fund 2026

Next weekend is Good Shepherd Sunday, 25 /26th April. Due to London Marathon, we wouldn't be able to have a Second Collection. **Therefore our Second Collection will on the weekend of 2nd / 3rd of May, instead.**

St Edmund of Abingdon, Isle of Dogs, has been highly supportive to the Priest Training Fund. The Good Shepherd, continues to call us in our parish community, and discerning takes time and each vocation is a sign of hope.

Discernment does not happen in isolation, formation takes years of study, spiritual direction, and pastoral experience, which requires the support of our faith community.

Currently we have 20 seminarians in formation for the Priesthood for the Diocese of Westminster choosing to dedicate their lives to Christ and His people.

Supporting priestly formation is a shared investment in the sacraments, in parish life, and in the presence of Christ among us. Every baptism, every confession, every Mass we receive is made possible through the ministry of a priest formed and supported by the faithful.

It is why the Priest Training Fund matters. If you are able, please give generously to the second collection, on 2nd / 3rd of May.

Please continue to pray-for those in formation, and pray for the clergy, and for me a sinful, unworthy priest. May God bless you all.

Thank you

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.

With gratitude and hope, Brendan Metcalfe, CEO



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.

Bethlehem University collection

Last week was the second collection for Bethlehem University, **we have collected £292.**

Thank you for your generosity, and for helping the 'students striving to complete their education, families already carrying immense burdens, and faculty and staff who continue to serve faithfully under extraordinarily difficult conditions'.

Get cards and other items for yourself or to offer

This Sunday opens the repository at St Edmund's. You will be able to find various themed cards and other items such as bookmarks, rosary bracelets, Bible Verse in Jar, candle holders, children prayer books and more.

The selling point will be at the entrance of the Church. All **payments need to be made by card** via the Dona machine inside of the church ; please select the fund named 'Repository'.

We are looking forward to seeing you there!

Diocese of Westminster
Roman Catholic Parish of St Edmund of Abingdon, Millwall
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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: £273.24 envelopes: £193 contactless collection last weekend: £420
total: **£886.24**

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>