

NEWSLETTER

**FOURTH
SUNDAY OF
EASTER**

The bath of rebirth

I shall describe now the way in which we have consecrated ourselves to God and are made new through Christ. Those who have been convinced and who believe that what I have been explaining to you is true and promise to live their lives accordingly, are told, while fasting, to pray and beseech God that their sins may be forgiven, and we join them in fasting and prayer.

Then we lead them to the water, and they are reborn by the same process by which we have been reborn. That is, they are bathed in the water in the name of God, the Father and Lord of all things, of Jesus Christ our Saviour and of the Holy Spirit.

For Christ said: 'Unless you are born again, you shall not enter the kingdom of heaven.' Now it is clear to all that those who have once been born cannot go back into the womb of the mothers who bore them.

As I have already said, the prophet Isaiah explained how sinners who repent can escape from their sins: 'Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; remove the evil from your souls, learn to do good; give judgment for the orphan and justice to the widow. 'Come now, let us reason together'. Says the Lord. ' Though your sins be like scarlet, I shall make them white as wool; though they be red like crimson, I shall make them white as snow. But if you do not obey me, you shall be devoured by the sword. The mouth of the Lord has spoken these things'.

The apostles have taught us the same lesson. With regard to our first birth we were begotten without our knowledge or consent, by the moist seed when our parents came together; we were born into evil ways and bad habits. But to make us children of choice and understanding instead of compulsion and ignorance, and to obtain for us in the water forgiveness of our former sins, over anyone who chooses to be born again and who repents of his sins the name of God the Father and Lord of all is pronounced; and when we lead him to the font to be baptised we pronounce over him no other name. For no one can give a name to God, who is too great for words; if anyone dares to say that it is possible to do so, he must be suffering from an incurable madness.

This bath is called 'the enlightening', because the minds of those who receive this teaching become enlightened. The candidates for illumination is also baptised in the name of Jesus Christ, who was crucified under Pontius Pilate, and in the name of the Holy Spirit, who through the prophets foretold everything concerning Jesus.

Flesh can give birth only to flesh; it is spirit that gives birth to spirit: Unless a man is born through water and the Holy Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God, alleluia.

St Justin Martyr *In defence of the Christians*

Baptism course for parents

The next baptism course for parents will take place on the Friday 1st of May 2026 at 19:00 BST on Zoom.

Please contact millwall@rcdow.org.uk if you are interested in joining.

MASS INTENTIONS

April 25th, 2026

6pm - For Mr Jaya Naidu
RIP

April 26th, 2026

9 am - For those preparing
1st Holy Communion
11 am - NO MASS

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 2:14a, 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

1st Reading– Acts 6:1-7

Psalm 33 (32):1-2. 4-5. 18-19. R. 22

2nd Reading -

1 Peter 2:4-9

Gospel John 14:1-12

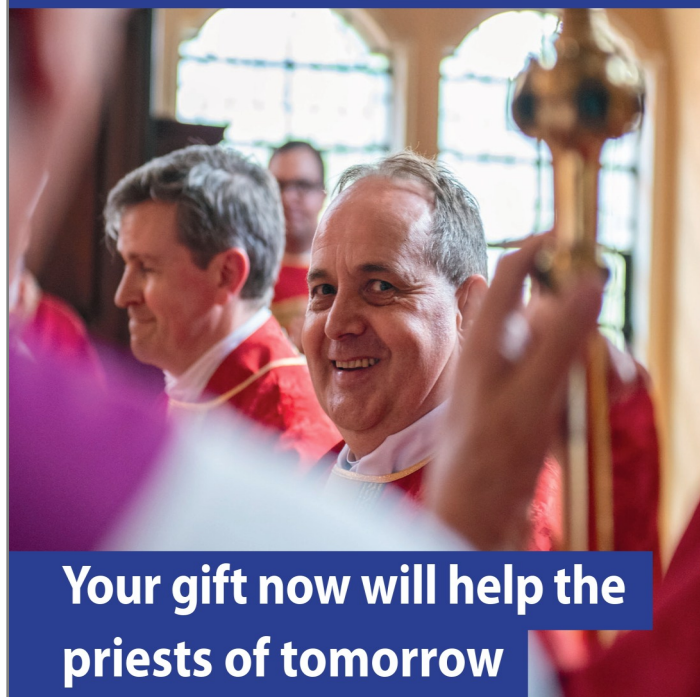
Farewell Katherine

I am sharing some pictures of Katherine's farewell party and on this occasion thank her again for all the good she did in this parish.

Thanks to Deirdre for the pictures.



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

This 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

Classical music concert 30/04/2026

Next Thursday 30 April at 6.30 pm in Westminster Cathedral Hall The Friends of Westminster Cathedral welcome Orion Symphony Orchestra who will play Mozart Clarinet Quintet & Schubert Quartettsatz. Tickets are £12 including refreshments afterwards book online <https://tinyurl.com/FriendsConcert30042026> or email friends@rcdow.org.uk Please book and bring your friends.

Fr Andrew Hollingsworth - Chairman - Society of Friends of Westminster Cathedral

Dear parishioners,

I am delighted to introduce myself as Katherine's successor as the parish administrator for St Edmund's.

My name is Fériel. I am originally from France and have been living in the UK for almost two years. After completing my master's degree at the London School of Economics in the Anthropology of Religion, I sought an environment where I could make the most of my interests and be genuinely helpful to real people.

Having been in this role for a month already, I can confidently say that I am exactly where I am meant to be. I am happy to assist you with your everyday enquiries, as well as with important moments in your lives, such as your child's baptism or your wedding. I am deeply grateful to those I have already met, who have welcomed me warmly and with kindness, and I look forward to meeting the rest of you. Thank you to Father Christopher for trusting me and supporting me.

With my very best intentions, Fériel

**Diocese of Westminster
Roman Catholic Parish of St Edmund of Abingdon, Millwall**

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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: £338.27 envelopes: £119 contactless collection last weekend: £441.55
total: **£898.82**

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>