CATHOLIC PARISH OF MILLWALL

08 November 2026

NEWSLETTER

THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIMES

Christ willed to save those who were about to perish

Brethen, we must always remember that Jesus Christ is God, the judge of the living and the dead, and we must not underestimate the significance of our salvation, because this would be to circumscribe our hope of glory. It is a sin to regard the message of salvation as trivial and we too share this guilt whenever we do not realise whence we were called and who called us and to what place he called us and what patience and endurance Jesus Christ showed in saving us.

What recompense then can we make to him or what worthy return for all he has given us? What debt of service do we not owe him? He gave us the true light, he addressed us as sons, he saved us from death. How can we adequately praise him or make any adequate response to his generosity? We were like mentally-handicapped people as we worshipped sticks and stones, gold and silver and bronze, the work of men's hands, and our whole life was one long death. But he rescued us from the darkness and blindness which enveloped us and thanks to him we recovered our sight. For he pitied us as he watched us stumbling to our death with no hope of safety other than himself and he led us back to the right path of salvation. He called us when we were nothing and from nothing made us what we are.

'Rejoice, O barren one who do not bear; break forth and shout, you who are not in travail; for the deserted wife has more children than she who has husband.' When Isaiah says, 'Rejoice, O barren one who do not bear,' he is referring to us, the Church, because the Church was barren until God gave her children. When he says, 'shout, you who are not in travail', he tells us not to grow weary like woman in labour but to pray to God with all our heart. When he says, 'for the deserted wife has more children than she who has a husband', he reminds us that our people once seemed deserted by God but now they have come to believe and they outnumber the nations who thought they had God on their side.

Another sentence from scripture says, 'I did not come to call the virtuous but sinners', that is, it is his task to save those about to perish. It is a marvellous thing for anyone to support not those who are on their feet but those already falling to their destruction. Christ did this when he showed himself ready to save those on the point of perishing, and did in fact save many when he came and called us back from death.

He has delivered us from the dominion of darkness and given us a place in the kingdom of his beloved Son, so that we might live for him.

From a homily of a second-century author

Baptism course for parents

The next baptism course for parents will take place on the Friday 27 November at 19:00hrs GMT on Zoom.

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

MASS INTENTIONS

November 7th, 2026

6pm - Pro Populo

November 8th, 2026

9 am - Tower Hamlets Deanery

11 am - Tower Hamlets Deanery

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

Holy Hours and confession on Saturday between 4.30-5.30 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– Wisdom 6:12-16	1st Reading– Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31
Psalm 63(62):2. 3-4. 5-6. 7-8. R. 2b	Psalm 128(127):1-2. 3. 4-5. R. 1a
2nd Reading - 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18	2nd Reading - 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6
Gospel Matthew 25:1-13	Gospel Matthew 25:14-30



Church Floor Renovation

Dear Friends,

As you know, we are planning to renovate the church floor. The estimate for the project is £21, 852.33 and, thanks to your generosity and support, we have now raised £ 11,939.40, bringing close to the target. The anonymous donor has offered to match it. This means we have in total £23,878.80.

I thank all of you, for your generosity, I shall be speaking with the Diocese to see when the works could commence. Once again thank you and may God bless you all.

Dear Friends,

At the weekend of 14th & 15th November a Second Collection will be taken for the sick and retired priests of our Diocese. Most priests offer their resigna many continue to serve in our schools, hospitals, hospices and parishes. Caring for our brother priests in their senior years, or at a time of illness, is pa sion of the Diocese. Your generosity towards the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund, you help cover essential costs and give them peace of mind that in the emergency, their needs would be met.

You will find donation envelopes on the table or will be given out by one the ushers. Please take one home, and bring it back next weekend with you You could make a one-off donation, alternatively, you can set up a regular gift and become a Patron by completing section 4 on the envelope form. Yo on line at redow.org.uk/SRP or scan the QR code with your phone camera to give on line. Please continue to pray for me and for the wellbeing of al active, retired and ill. Thank you and may God bless you all.

Foodbank Collection Appeal

We are pleased to begin supporting the **Docklands Settlements Foodbank** and invite parishioners to help by donating **non-perishable food items** for local families and individuals in need.

Please note that **only food donations can be accepted at this time**. Unfortunately, clothing and other items cannot be received.

2026 Sick & Retired Priests' Fund

Dear Friends,

Next Weekend 14th & 15th November a Second Collection will be taken for the sick and retired priests of our Diocese. Most priests offer their resignation at 75, but many continue to serve in our schools, hospitals, hospices and parishes. Caring for our brother priests in their senior years, or at a time of illness, is part of the mission of the Diocese. Your generosity towards the Sick & Retired Priests' Fund, you help cover essential costs and give them peace of mind that in the event of an emergency, their needs would be met.

You will find donation envelopes on the table or will be given out by one the ushers. Please take one home, and bring it back next weekend with your donation. You could make a one off donation, alternatively, you can set up a regular gift and become a Patron by completing section 4 on the envelope form. You can donate on line at rcdow.org.uk/ SRP-or scan the QR code with your phone camera to give on line. Please continue to pray for me and for the wellbeing of all our priests: active , retired and ill. Thank you and may God bless you all.

20 26

CHRISTIAN ART CONFERENCE

14 NOVEMBER 2026 | QEII CENTRE

ENCOUNTERING THE SACRED THROUGH BEAUTY



A one-day gathering of artists, theologians and cultural leaders exploring the relationship between Beauty and Faith.

Featuring Fr Patrick van der Vorst, Cardinal Timothy Radcliffe, Professor Sheila Baroness Hollins, Sir Gabriele Finaldi, Neil MacGregor, anMari, and leading voices from across faith, culture and the arts.

KEYNOTES · PANELS · BREAKOUT SESSIONS · EXHIBITORS · BOOK SIGNING

Book now → christian.art/conference2026

Any questions? Email events@christian.art

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
Mr Miklos Jambrich - Safeguarding Representative
Mr Tomasz Daszkiewicz - Data Protection
Parish Officer

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTIONS:

loose: £254.37 envelopes: £54 contactless collection last weekend: £771
total: £1079.37

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 & church floor. 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, building maintenance or church floor on the screen, if you transfer by bank: type 'utility bills', 'building maintenance' or 'church floor' in description, or you can give money in a prepared envelope that can be found on the table in the church's lobby.

If you pay taxes, please, fill out the Gift Aid form (do not hesitate to ask any question you have). Thank you.

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**

Prayer to Saint Michael the Archangel

Dear Saint Michael, I thank you for your unending protection in my life and the Immense love you have shown me. Keep me always connected to the divine currents that flow only from our Saviour Jesus Christ.

Light up my life and dispel the darkness that threatens to consume us. Today I declare that I am a child of God and I will call upon his name. I acknowledge Christ as the true sauce of all power and happiness in my life. I call upon the Holy Spirit to fill me with fire and purpose, that I may spread His love and deeds to those that I encounter. I pray that you may help me put energy into my work and appreciate that work is worship to God. May I never be in the dark but always rely on God as my protector, saviour and guide. Saint Michael the Archangel, pray for us. Amen.

Saint Benedict