



CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL
Newsletter

Twenty First Sunday of the Year Sunday 27th August 2017

Mass Book: Page 120

A New Term Approaches

As the new academic year begins I would like to invite parishioners to some meetings by way of a follow-up to the “Big Conversation” that took place last term. The idea is to remind ourselves of what we are about as a parish and to look at how we might develop different areas of parish life. Rather than have one big meeting covering everything, I am proposing a series of smaller ones focusing on specific topics. The meetings are, of course, open to anyone regularly attending Mass here at St Elizabeth’s but I am especially keen to meet and hear from people who would be willing to get involved and make things happen.

The four areas are:

1). Community.

Tuesday 5th September at 8.00pm

Among other things, we need to look at how we integrate newcomers into the life of the parish; how we might develop social events with an emphasis on people mixing; how we care for those in need; and how we might develop our hospitality at Sunday Mass. How can we in Richmond reach out specifically to those who no longer practise their Catholic faith?

2). Youth Provision.

Friday 8th September at 7.00pm

We will be looking at how we can move away from the notion of “sacramental preparation” to a more effective model of youth evangelisation and what our provision needs to be for our young people in Year 6 and above.

3). Premises.

Monday 11th September at 8.00pm

Looking round the building you will see that the church is very much in need of repair. We need parishioners with experience to help us move forward on this based on our recent survey. Please let us know if you intend to come to this meeting and also your area of expertise. We send you the survey beforehand.

4). “The Sunday Experience”.

Monday 18th September at 8.00pm

What is it like for someone coming to Mass here for the first time and how might we improve that experience? It is important that people attending this meeting recognise that it is about “where you may be willing to help out” rather than “what someone else should do”!

One of the requests in the “Big Conversation” was for an **evening**

A New Term... (continued)

Mass at least once during the week. I am considering moving the Thursday morning Mass to the evening. This would have the added advantage that if, for example, I want to visit my elderly parents (who live nearly three hours away) I could leave on Wednesday evening, stay overnight and return in good time for the evening Mass. The question is what would be the best time for a Thursday evening Mass 7.00pm, 7.30pm or 8.00pm? Please let me have your thoughts/preferences.

Parish Office: Please be aware that the parish office now has a new email address:

office@stelizabethschurch.org.uk

You will almost certainly get a reply more quickly by emailing this address than by emailing me directly!

Parish Surgery: We have found the parish surgery to be a good way of helping parishioners with enquiries that don't need the formality of a meeting booked for a specific time. This term the Parish Surgery will take place on Monday evenings so that I can be free to attend the Tuesday Alpha sessions. The Parish Surgery is from 6.30pm until 8.00pm and is also advertised in ChurchSuite.

September Retreat for Clergy: From the 24th until 29th September I will be in Ars-sur-Formans (the home parish of St John Vianney) preaching a retreat to a group of diocesan priests. Please keep me in your prayers as I prepare the talks and also bear in mind that I shall be away that week.

Catholic Alpha

Since its beginnings in an Anglican parish in central London, Alpha has helped millions of people all over the world come to an awakening of Christian faith. In recent years it has also been adopted by Catholic parishes as a way of unlocking the beauty of the call to a relationship with Jesus Christ who promises: "Come to me all you who labour and are over-burdened and I will give you rest".

How alive is your faith? How real is your relationship with Jesus who came that you "may have life and have it more abundantly"?

We would like to invite you and your friends to join us for Alpha in the parish this term. We begin a new season of Catholic Alpha on Tuesday 19th September. You can already sign up for the course through My ChurchSuite or by texting "QN8F3 Alpha" to 60777 (n.b. you need to include the quotation marks).

Why not give it a go? You have nothing to lose - and everything to gain...

Parish Life & News

ChurchSuite

Did you get an email from me before the summer inviting you to update your entry on ChurchSuite?

If you have an email address but did not receive a message from me it means that you are not registered as a parishioner at St Elizabeth's. If you do want to be registered you need to activate your ChurchSuite account.

Refugee Family

A refugee family from Syria have recently moved into the parish. Shoresh is a journalist and her husband, Hassan, is a lawyer. They have a seven month son. The family have been granted political asylum but as yet they have not been given National Insurance numbers and so are unable to apply for jobs. Shoresh hopes to work for the BBC Arabic service. Shoresh and Hassan would love to make English friends and it struck me that some parishioners might be willing to meet with them or invite them for a meal with their family. I recently took them shopping so that they would have fresh food for themselves and their baby. Perhaps there are parishioners who would also be willing to buy them their shopping. They expect to be here about three months and it would be great if we could get twelve people to cover one week's shopping for that period. If you would like to help please email the parish office:

office@stelizabethschurch.org.uk

Thank you.

Parish Lunch Club

Tuesday 5th September is the first Tuesday of the month and we will have our usual parish lunch club at 12.30pm that day. Everyone is welcome to join us after Mass (at midday) for a delicious home-cooked lunch in the crypt - a wonderful meal for less than £10! Bring your friends!

Homeless Lunch

Our next lunch for the homeless will be on Sunday 10th September. Please make a note of the date especially if you would be willing to help!

Macmillan Coffee Morning

There will be another Coffee Morning to raise money for the work of Macmillan nurses on Sunday the 24th September 2017 from 10.15 until midday in the Crypt. Volunteers and cake donations would be gladly appreciated. Please contact Filomena Goncalves on 07507619591 or filomenafg@outlook.com

Natural Fertility Matters

Finding it hard to conceive naturally? Natural Fertility Matters uses the Creighton Model, a university-developed scientific framework for managing a couple's fertility, diagnosing and treating infertility. For more information please visit www.naturalfertilitymatters.com

or call Freda McMahon on 07887 676 923 for a free and confidential consultation.

Thank You

The weekly collections over the summer were:

23rd July	£865.86
30th July	£577.13
6th August	£489.62
13th August	£773.13
20th August	£520.89

Those figures are for our weekly collection and do **not** include standing orders which came to approximately £1,438 a week last year.

Last year it cost us £2,259.05 per week to run the parish. It greatly helps our parish finances if you take part in our planned giving scheme. For more information please email:

giftaid@stelizabethschurch.org.uk

Last week's collection for the missions came to: **£795.54**.

Social Media



stelizabethschurch.org.uk



StLizRichmond/



@StLizRichmond

Mass Intentions this Week

This Week Saturday

5.30pm

Twenty-First Sunday

Kate Gajda's Intentions

Sunday

9.30am

Arthur Halstead

11.00am

5.30pm

Pro Populo

Monday

10.00am

St Augustine

Int Frank Comerford

Tuesday

9.00am

Beheading of John the Baptist

Donor's Intention

Wednesday

9.00am

St Margaret Clitherow

Fr Stephen's Intention

Thursday

9.00am

St Aidan

Donor's Intention

Friday

10.00am

Feria

Special Intention

Saturday

5.30pm

St Martha

Pro Populo

Sunday

9.30am

Twenty-Second Sunday

11.00am

Bill Hiorns

5.30pm

Maureen Royal RIP

Please Pray For:

Philomena Dunne, Kenneth Alps, Jules & Gaye Delanghe, Raymond and Marie Toal, Ben Horgan, Ella Dale, Stella Richards, Anne Wilkinson.

Parish Contact Details:

St Elizabeth of Portugal

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Email Addresses:

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Planned Giving

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