



CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL
Newsletter

Twenty Fourth Sunday
of the Year

Sunday 17th
September 2017

Mass Book: Page 128

Thank You

I would like to offer a word of thanks to all those who have come to our parish meetings so far. It has been very helpful to have people share their insights regarding different areas of parish life and we have been given a lot of ideas and things to work on. The last meeting in the series will be on Monday evening at 8.00pm in the crypt when we will be considering how we might improve “the Sunday Experience” for people visiting our parish.

In the Letter of St James we read, “*Be ye doers of the word and not hearers only*”. In other words we have to put what is said into action but for that to happen people need to get involved. In many parishes volunteering is problematic either because everything is

done by a small number of overstretched individuals, or because power bases have developed and are jealousy defended against all newcomers.

The ideal must surely be not some people doing everything but everyone doing something. We all have different interests, talents, and gifts and when we use those gifts to build up the life of the parish we will make a difference and know a special joy.

I recognise a common problem in parishes is that sometimes people volunteer but never hear back. The problem is that there is often no one to coordinate volunteers and no way of integrating people into existing systems. Often some necessary induction process isn't in place or things get stalled until safe-

guarding interviews and checks are completed. We are as guilty of that here in St Elizabeth's as any other place. The truth is that when there is no infrastructure the urgent will always squeeze out the important. So perhaps we have parishioners who are good at organising people and putting structures into place, or supporting and training volunteers. If you have time to help us get things going in the parish we would love to hear from you.

When it comes to any activity the question is always how it will help us achieve our purpose which is “to raise up intentional disciples who joyfully live out the mission of Jesus Christ”. Everything you can do to help us achieve our parish purpose is something we need to help with!

The Sunday Experience

The last in our current series of parish meetings will take place on Monday 18th September at 8.00pm. We will be considering "The Sunday Experience":

What is it like for someone coming to Mass here for the first time and how might we improve that experience? All welcome but don't forget: "Be ye doers of the Word and not hearers only"!

Catholic Alpha

Please find enclosed with today's newsletter a flyer for Catholic Alpha which we will be running here in the parish this term. Spare flyers are available at the back of the Church. There will be a taster session on Tuesday 19th September at 7.00pm. The evening begins with a meal followed by a short presentation which is then discussed in small groups. The flyers are both for you and also your friends and family members.



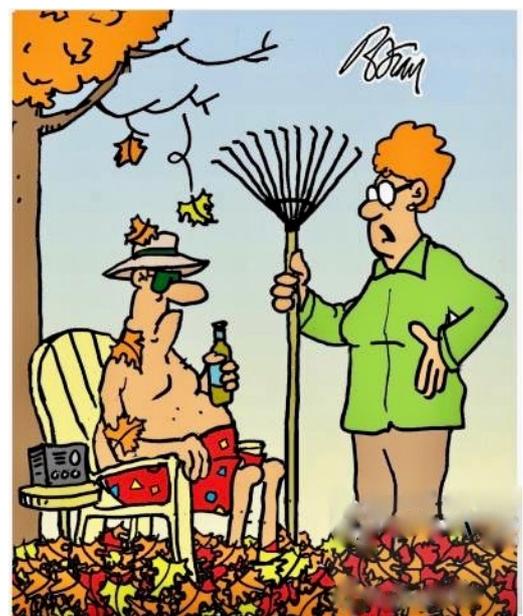
You can return the flyer to us with your details or sign up for the course through My ChurchSuite or by texting "QN8F3 Alpha" to 60777 (n.b. you need to include the quotation marks). You can also sign up by clicking the event on the calendar which is on the parish website: www.stelizabethschurch.org.uk

St Elizabeth's Grand Farewell to Summer Party!

We invite all our parishioners to join us in the crypt and garden on Friday 22nd September for a late summer party from 7.00pm. We will supply drinks and canapés* and invite you to bring along bite sized desserts.

Everyone is welcome and we would love to see you there.

*For catering purposes please let us know if you are coming either by replying to the email we sent or by going to the calendar on the parish website, double clicking the event and following the instructions.



"SUMMER IS OVER, RICHARD, SO DEAL WITH IT AND START RAKING!"

Parish Life & News

School References

Please don't forget to fill out an attendance form on Sundays if you need a reference for a Catholic school any time over the next three years. This week I will be available to sign references on Monday evening from 6.30pm until 7.00pm and on Wednesday evening from 6.30pm until 8.00pm. Please note that I am NOT here at all the following week as I shall be preaching a retreat for priests in France.

Catholic Women's League

The Catholic Women's League will have their monthly meeting in the crypt at 19.30, on Thursday, September, September 21st. We aim to nurture a sense of community and fellowship among our members and beyond. Visitors welcome.

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

Evening Mass & Parish Holy Hour

After consulting within the parish, and in response to requests in the "Big Conversation" we will be introducing an evening Mass once a week. It will be on Thursday evenings at 7.00pm. After the Mass we will have a period of

Eucharistic Adoration (Holy Hour) to pray for our parish and its members. The evening Mass will start in October. It means that there won't be a morning Mass on Thursdays.

Refugee Family

A family of refugees from Syria recently moved into our parish. They have been granted refugee status but cannot work until they receive their National Insurance numbers which may take up to three months. The mother is a journalist and the father a lawyer. They have a seven month baby. Without money they are dependent on food banks and cannot buy fresh food for their baby. Some of our parishioners have offered to help by doing a week's shopping for them. If this is something you would like to do to help a family in need please contact Scott in the parish office: office@stelizabethschurch.org.uk.

Learning Support Assistant

St Elizabeth's School has a vacancy for a learning support assistant. Please contact the school office for more information: tel 020 8940 3015. Closing date for applications is Friday 22nd September.

Confirmation Certificates

The certificates for the last confirmations here in the parish can be collected weekdays (except Fridays) from the parish office: regular office hours except that we kindly ask you to avoid Mass and meal times when we won't be able to attend to you.

Thank You

Thank you for your offering last week which came to:

| | |
|---------------------|---------|
| Gift Aid | £217.50 |
| Not Gift Aid | £583.02 |
| Total | £800.52 |

Last year it cost us £2,259.05 per week to run the parish.

To avoid seasonal fluctuations and to help us budget it greatly helps our parish finances if you take part in our **Planned Giving** scheme. For more information please email:

giftaid@stelizabethschurch.org.uk

We invite new parishioners to fill out a welcome card so that we can invite you to a special celebration. You can then decide whether you wish to register as parishioners of St Elizabeth's using our ChurchSuite system.

Social Media



stelizabethschurch.org.uk



StLizRichmond/



@StLizRichmond

Mass Intentions this Week

This Week Saturday

5.30pm

Sunday

9.30am

11.00am

5.30pm

Monday

9.00am

Tuesday

9.00am

Wednesday

9.00am

Thursday

9.00am

Friday

10.00am

Saturday

5.30pm

Sunday

9.30am

11.00am

5.30pm

Twenty-Fourth Sunday

Pro Populo

Niran Farage's Intentions

Donal O'Hanlon

Feria

Feria

**SS. Andrew Kim Tae-gon
and companions, Martyrs**

St. Matthew, Apostle

Feria

St. Pio of Pietrelcina

Twenty-Fifth Sunday

David Kearns RIP

Pro Populo

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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Tel. 020 8940 2439

Email Addresses:

Parish Office:

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Planned Giving

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