



CATHOLIC PARISH OF  
**ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL**  
*Newsletter*

Twenty Second Sunday of the  
Year

Sunday 3rd  
September 2017

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Mass Book: Page 122

## Our Parish Purpose

As the new academic year begins I thought it would be useful to remind ourselves of the purpose of our parish which is “to raise up intentional disciples who joyfully live out the mission of Jesus Christ”. Our parish purpose is the summary of why we exist and what we are trying to achieve as a parish. It is the standard by which we measure everything else and the benchmark we apply to all our activities. Before agreeing to a new initiative we want to know how it will help us achieve our parish purpose.

If our parish purpose expresses what we are trying to achieve, our methodology explains how we aim to achieve it. We can summarise our methodology with the triptych “Win - Build - Send”. We are trying to **win** souls for Christ by

reaching out to practising Catholics, the lapsed and non-Christians alike in order to enable them to have a life-changing encounter with the Risen Lord. Hence *evangelisation* is key to all we do.

Once someone has made a commitment to Christ in baptism, reception into the Church or a return to confession, we recognise that they are beginning disciples need to be **built** up as Christians. They need our support and fellowship as well as formation in the faith and sacramental grace. In time they become more rooted in Christ. They are now growing disciples and are able to begin to help with, and eventually take on, leadership roles within the parish because they experience a growing

urge to share their faith with others. In that way we help a growing disciple to become a **missionary disciple**, eager and equipped to be **sent out** to begin the “win-build-send” process with friends and colleagues.

After the “Big Conversation” last term, our parish-wide consultation, we have adopted the following “vision statement” as a summary of our parish purpose and methodology:

*“We are striving to become a joyful, invitational community where people: can encounter and entrust themselves to Jesus Christ; grow through formation and the grace of the Holy Spirit; and find new ways of witnessing to God’s love in the world”.*

Fr Stephen

## An Open Invitation to Get Involved...

Bearing in mind our parish purpose, I'd like to invite parishioners to one or more meetings at the start of this term to look at how we might build up various aspects of parish life. The format for the meetings will be a short presentation followed by discussion of topics in smaller groups before a plenary feedback session.

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.**

#### **Sunday 10th September at 6.30pm - *please note the change in date & time.***

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 can 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”!

*Let's make these meetings as positive and constructive as possible.*

### **Parish Office**

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

**[office@stelizabethchurch.org.uk](mailto:office@stelizabethchurch.org.uk)**

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

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## *Parish Life & News*

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### **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".

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).

### **Busy Lizzies**

"We enjoyed attending Mass without distractions." "I liked the warm welcome and care given to our child."  
"Lovely mix of activities and learning"

These are just some of the comments submitted in our Summer survey by parents of children who attended Busy Lizzies last term.

We look forward to welcoming your children again in the crèche from Sunday 10 September at the 9:30 Mass. If your child has turned 2 since July or if you are new to the parish and have a child aged 2-5, we would love to hear from you. We would also love to hear from any potential new volunteers as we look to expand our team by a few members for the Autumn term so do get in touch if you would like to have a chat about the role. Christine Byrne:

[children@stelizabethschurch.org.uk](mailto:children@stelizabethschurch.org.uk).

### **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](mailto:filomenafg@outlook.com)

### **Evening Mass**

We are consulting about the best time for a weekly evening Mass (requested in the "Big Conversation"). The preferred option seems to be 7.00pm on Thursday evenings. Any thoughts?

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## Thank You

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The weekly collections over the summer were:

<b>23rd July</b>	£865.86
<b>30th July</b>	£577.13
<b>6th August</b>	£489.62
<b>13th August</b>	£773.13
<b>20th August</b>	£520.89
<b>27th August</b>	£589.48

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](mailto:giftaid@stelizabethschurch.org.uk)

## Social Media

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[stelizabethschurch.org.uk](http://stelizabethschurch.org.uk)



StLizRichmond/



@StLizRichmond

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## Mass Intentions this Week

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### This Week Saturday

5.30pm

### Twenty-Second Sunday

The Knowles Family Int.

### Sunday

9.30am

Bill Hiorns

11.00am

Maureen Rayal RIP

5.30pm

Pro Populo

### Monday

10.00am

**Feria**

Kate Gajda's Intentions

### Tuesday

12.00 noon

**Feria**

CWL Intentions

### Wednesday

9.00am

**Feria**

Monica Comerford

### Thursday

9.00am

**Feria**

Canon Bill Clements RIP

### Friday

10.00am

**Nativity of the BVM**

Count Louis Philippe RIP

### Saturday

5.30pm

**Feria**

Fr Leo Targett RIP

### Sunday

9.30am

### Twenty-Third Sunday

11.00am

Fr John Lavery RIP

5.30pm

*Pro Populo*

## Please Pray For:

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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

The Vineyard,

Richmond,

TW10 6AQ

Tel. 020 8940 2439

### Email Addresses:

#### Parish Office:

[office@stelizabethschurch.org.uk](mailto:office@stelizabethschurch.org.uk)

#### Planned Giving

[giftaid@stelizabethschurch.org.uk](mailto:giftaid@stelizabethschurch.org.uk)