



CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL
Newsletter

Thirtieth Sunday
of the Year

Sunday 29th
October 2017

Mass Book: Page 146

Sacraments

In St Matthew's Gospel, our Lord's parting command to the nascent Church is literally, "Going forth, make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to observe all I have commanded". This is sometimes called "The Great Commission" and it is the reason Pope Paul VI declared "the Church exists to evangelise" and Pope Benedict established a Pontifical Council for the New Evangelisation.

"Evangelisation" is one English translation of the Greek word "eu-angelion" which means "Good News". The Church exists to share the Good News of God's saving love. In English we also translate "eu-angelion" with the word "Gospel" which is a

contraction of the old English "Gud Spell" or Good News.

Going back to the Great Commission, the Church exists to make disciples and she does that by proclaiming the Gospel, in other words by evangelising. When somebody receives the Gospel and responds with a desire to live in a relationship with Jesus they become disciples and are to be baptised and taught. We see this very clearly in the early Church when the baptism of adults was still the norm. An adult would hear the essentials of the faith, the "kerygma", which would lead to a desire to embrace Christ and his Church. This led to a conversion of life and a spiritual preparation for baptism. It was only after baptism that they received a more detailed explanation of

the content of the Church's faith in the form of an ongoing catechetical instruction.

So the original order was: hearing the Good News and embracing it (evangelisation), then baptism and ongoing instruction in the Church's teaching. In other words, the Sacraments followed conversion and discipleship. That is why the Catechism of the Catholic Church tells us that for the Church's liturgical (sacramental) life to be fruitful, "it must be preceded by evangelisation, faith and conversion" (par.1072).

So the sacraments are to be administered to people who have faith because they have been evangelised, in other words to disciples. If you think about it, that is probably the single biggest challenge facing the Church today!

LifeTeen

Do you remember the news story from some years back about a vicar who, to get rid of bats, played Des O'Connor records in his Church? At the time some suggested it would be more efficient just to get the bishop to come and confirm them since that seemed a pretty effective way of emptying parishes of teenagers!

Confirmation should not be the sacrament of exodus from the Church for our teenagers. So how can we change things? How can we move beyond those dinner table bargains with our teenagers: "You agree to get confirmed and I won't make you go to Mass any more"?

One way is to change the goal-posts. What if we offered teenagers a chance to meet together and hang-out with friends in a context where it's ok to ask questions and where they will be mentored by adults who take a real interest in them? What would happen if, instead of relying on the accident of a date of birth, confirmation was offered to those young people who had come to desire it?

We will soon be launching **LifeTeen** here in the parish. Through it we hope to provide an environment and a fellowship where young people can really feel at home and where their faith can be helped by the witness of people they can both relate and look up to.

We will start **LifeTeen** with a Birth-Day Party in the crypt from 4.00 until 5.30pm on Sunday 12th November. We are really keen to invite all the teenagers in our parish and have already emailed all the parents who have teenagers registered on ChurchSuite. If you've not yet received yours - this is it! We would really love to see all our teenagers there.

Please Consider Planned Giving

I'd like to thank all those who responded to our Finance Committee's appeal for planned giving and Gift Aid last week.

Planned Giving is when we think ahead about how we support our parish financially rather than relying on whatever spare change we happen to have in our pockets when the collection is taken up at Mass.

An efficient way of planned giving is by standing order from one's own bank to the parish bank account - it avoids us having to count large sums of money each week, and ensures we don't lose out when parishioners are away at holiday times.

It's not too late to return the forms.

ChurchSuite

Have you checked or updated your information on ChurchSuite recently?

Just log on to your account and make sure all the information we have for you and your family is correct and up to date. Contact the office if you need help.

Parish Life & News

All Saints Day

All Saints Day is on Wednesday this week and is a Holy Day of Obligation. In addition to the many Masses in central London, we will have two Masses here in the Church: at 9.00am and at 7.00pm.

Altar Servers' Practice

There will be a practice for all current altar servers on All Saints Day, Wednesday 1st November at 6pm. (N.b. this is a Holy Day of Obligation and Mass will follow at 7pm.)

Alpha Weekend

Please pray for the twenty or so people from the Alpha course who are on retreat at Aylesford Priory this weekend.

St Elizabeth's Choir

Singers wanted to join the parish choir. No experience necessary. We rehearse for half an hour before and after the 11:00am Mass. Talk to Stephen Bick after Mass at the back of the church if interested, or email bickstephen@gmail.com

Parish Surgery

Parish Surgery will be on Monday evening this week. You can check

dates of future parish surgeries on ChurchSuite or on the calendar section of the parish website.

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.

COURSE FOR MARRIED COUPLES 11/11/2017!

We have 14 couples registered for the course but there's room for more. The course combines fun with thought-provoking scenarios and dilemmas on work-life balance, communication and strengthening the relationship. Non-prescriptive and pragmatic approach, based on over 60 years of experience, created by couples for couples. Plus a good excuse for a date! For more information or to register, please visit: <http://familydevelopment.org.uk/courses> or phone 07840182866.

Praying for the Dead in November

November is the month we dedicate to praying for the Holy Souls and especially for our family members, friends and benefactors. At the back of the Church we have November List envelopes for you to write down the names of those you would like remembered at our Masses during November. Any donations you leave in the envelopes will be used to have Masses said for the Holy Souls in the course of the year. You can leave completed envelopes in the sacristy or in the letterbox by the door to the parish office.

Thank You

Thank you for your offering last week which came to:

Gift Aid	£210.20
Not Gift Aid	£303.71
Total	£513.91

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

Mass Attendance Last Week:

Sat. 5.30pm	97
Sun. 9.30am	153
Sun. 11.00am	106
Sun. 5.30pm	86
Total:	442

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

7.00pm

Thursday

7.00pm

Friday

10.00am

Saturday

5.30pm

Sunday

9.30am

11.00am

5.30pm

Thirtieth Sunday

Caridade de Souza RIP

pro populo

Paivi Gallagher RIP

Drummond Family's Intentions

Feria

Canon John Bagshawe RIP

Feria

Holy Souls

All Saints' Day - Holy Day of Obligation

Holy Souls

All Souls' Day

Holy Souls

Feria

Elizabeth Doughty RIP

St Charles Borromeo

George Kirch RIP

Thirty-First Sunday

Holy Souls

Pro Populo

Please Pray For:

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

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Planned Giving

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