



CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL
Newsletter

Christ the King

Sunday 26th
November 2017

Mass Book: Page 158

National Youth Sunday

Over the last few Sundays we have been reflecting on the role of the Sacraments in Christian life with a view to understanding what expectations we should have of someone requesting a sacrament and to considering how we might best respond to those whose request for a sacrament doesn't come from a context of Christian faith and discipleship.

We read in the Gospels that Jesus often addressed "the people and his disciples". What distinguished the "disciples" was that their encounter with Jesus had a profound effect on their lives and as a consequence they were willing to make any sacrifice to follow him. The "people" may have been mildly curious to see Jesus and hear what he had to say, if it happened to be

convenient because he was passing by, but they made no effort to follow him.

At the heart of the Great Commission, Jesus' final instruction to his followers, is the command to "make disciples". This is why the Popes can say that "the Church exists to evangelise". The sacraments were instituted by Jesus Christ to strengthen us in our discipleship. In other words, they are for those who have already chosen to follow the Lord and for whom that choice impacts on the way they live their lives.

Today is **National Youth Sunday**. If we are honest the Church in England has been particularly poor at retaining its young people. Despite our network of Catholic schools, our First Communion preparation

and our Confirmation courses, the majority of young people stop going to Church in their teenage years and were probably already lapsed in mind and heart for some years before that. They are left with an impression of the Church as rules, roles and rites, none of which they find attractive.

We have failed dramatically to introduce our young people to a relationship with Jesus and to help them grow as disciples. That must change. And it must change even if it means shaking up our approach to the sacraments.

For the present we have started LifeTeen as an activity for teenagers in our parish. I would like to start a similar project for our children at primary school but I need at least six volunteers to run it...

Parish Life & News

Catholic Schools

Last year the Government promised to lift the 50% cap on faith admissions for new religious schools. This policy had proved to be an effective ban on any new Catholic schools as our Bishops ruled that opening a Catholic school that turned away Catholic students because they were Catholic was against Canon Law. The 50% cap was a policy that specifically targeted Catholics as Catholic schools are popular with parents of all faiths and none. Last September the Government acknowledged the cap was unfair to the Catholic community and pledged to scrap it. The Conservatives even included a commitment to remove it in their manifesto.

Unfortunately, the Secretary of State for Education is thinking about renegeing on this and breaking the Government's promise to Catholics. The Catholic community now needs to make its collective voice heard and tell the Secretary of State that this level of discrimination against Catholic schools, parents and children is unacceptable. As such the Bishops are urging all Catholics to write to the Secretary of State and their MP expressing their concern that this promise to our community could be broken. These letters can be easily sent by following this link, <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> inserting your details and clicking 'send'.

St Patrick's Night Dinner

One of our parishioners has provisionally booked London Welsh RFC to revive the local celebration of St Patrick's night with a dinner on 16th March next year. Before confirming the booking and also the of an excellent Irish Music group, he would like to know whether there would be any take up from the parish. To register your interest or for more information please contact Oliver Kehoe on:

okehoe@aol.com, or
katelmartin@hotmail.com
phone number 07990562018

Congratulations to St Elizabeth's School

On behalf of the parish I would like to extend our warmest congratulations to Mrs Hines and all the staff and children at St Elizabeth's School. The school was recently ranked 19th in the Sunday Times list of the top 250 primary schools in England.

Special Christmas Services

Next week we will be advertising some special Christmas events to which you can invite your friends and family. This year in addition to the festive celebration of carols that proved so popular last Advent, closer to Christmas we will also have a more reflective variation of the traditional Nine Lessons and Carols.

Parish Life & News

Homeless Winter Shelter

We need a team of volunteers to welcome and cater for the guests who will sleep in the crypt on Monday nights between January and April. Please contact the office if you would be willing to help join a rota with a commitment of just two hours.

Homeless Lunch

Our next lunch for the homeless will be on Sunday 17th December. Offers of savoury or sweet and help on the day are very welcome. Contact Angela Smith: 07583212406 or angosmith@hotmail.co.uk

Faure's Requiem

St Elizabeth's will be hosting a performance of Faure's Requiem Mass at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 12 December. The Strawberry Hill House Choir will be joined by professional baritone and soprano soloists and conducted by Michael McLaughlin, with Jon Booth at the organ. Tickets are free, with a retiring collection.

Christmas Carolling 3rd December 2017, 12 - 4pm

After the success of our Christmas Concert last year we want to spread some festive cheer at Richmond station and invite people to our Christmas Concert this year, which is on Sunday 17th December. We would love a full choir and volunteers to help invite people to our Christmas concert. Everyone is welcome to join us next Saturday anytime from 12 - 4pm just outside Richmond Station.

Parish Surgery

There will be an extended parish surgery this week on Monday evening from 6.30pm until 9.00pm. As advertised for several weeks, this is the time to get **school references** signed. There may not be another opportunity before the closing date.

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.

Children's Christmas Concert

The concert will take place on **Saturday 9th December** at 2.30 pm in our church. Please, put this date in your diary and join us to support our children. If your child plays a recorder, piano, violin or any other musical instrument or sings, then please email Filip on filip.kucera@email.cz for more details.

Jules DeLanghe RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Jules DeLanghe who died this week. Jules was a parishioner at St Elizabeth's all his life until moving into a home some years ago. He was over 90 years old.

Thank You

Thank you for your offering last week which came to:

Gift Aid	£249.50
Not Gift Aid	£502.69
Total	£752.19

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	83
Sun. 9.30am	204
Sun. 11.00am	132
Sun. 5.30pm	142
Total:	561

Social Media



stelizabethschurch.org.uk



StLizRichmond/



@StLizRichmond

Mass Intentions this Week

This Week

Saturday

5.30pm

Christ the King

Patrick Diskin RIP

Sunday

9.30am

Emma van Driel RIP

11.00am

Yousif and Evelyn Farage RIP

5.30pm

Pro Populo

Monday

9.00am

Feria

Sylvester Ryan RIP

Tuesday

9.00am

Feria

Orlando Bentley Bridgeman RIP

Wednesday

9.00am

Feria

Closure of Twickenham
Abortion Centre

Thursday

7.00pm

St Andrew

Leonard Glynn Sewell

Friday

10.00am

Feria

Elizabeth Doughty RIP

Saturday

5.30pm

Our Lady

Nora Walsh RIP

Sunday

9.30am

First Sunday of Advent

Donor's Intention

11.00am

Kathleen Woplin RIP

5.30pm

Pro Populo

Please Pray For:

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

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Planned Giving

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