



CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL
Newsletter

Fifth Sunday of the Year

Sunday 4th
February 2018

Mass Book: Page 134

Restoring the Church

This week we have some emergency consolidation work carried out on the wall paintings which represent the Stations of the Cross and scenes from the life of Our Lady. A scientific analysis of the paintings revealed some interesting details and I wonder if any of our parishioners can shed any light on them. The paintings appear to have been re-touched at various stages and, in the case of the first Station, to have been repainted altogether over a modern plaster.

The work carried out so far has been to limit further deterioration by fixing any flaking paint, and to re-attach sections of the underlying plaster that were coming away from the wall and in danger of falling off. In time the company will provide us

with a detailed analysis of the paintings and their recommendations for further restoration.

We have a lot of work to do on the church itself and slowly all the necessary surveys are being carried out to determine the exact extent of the external repairs. Dealing with a church our age there are many hoops that we have to jump through to get permission for work to be done. I have appointed a firm of architects to help and advise me with this. The same architects were responsible for the magnificent restoration of St Patrick's, Soho Square, and I recommend you look at some of the photos on the internet to get an impression of the quality of their work.

In addition to the external repairs, I have asked them to come up

with a scheme for the internal restoration of the Church. This would include a new colour scheme to unite the two different sections of the Church, and a new sanctuary keeping the existing High Altar but replacing the wooden Altar with a marble one proportionate to the overall dimensions of the sanctuary. We would also look at lighting, sound and the provision of underfloor heating and a working lift.

At the moment we are very much at the initial phase. As things progress I will have drawings to show you and eventually some costings as well.

We have some money available to begin the process but, in order to ensure we can do everything to the best specification, it would be prudent to establish a building fund as well.

Parish Life & News

Parish Surgery

The next parish surgery will be this Monday 5th February from 6.30pm until 7.45pm. The parish surgery is the time to make initial enquiries about baptisms and weddings.

Please note that the diocese requires not less than six months notice of an intended wedding.

Baptism is a sacrament of faith and requires at least one parent to be a believing and practising member of the Church.

Bible Weekend

The Bible Weekend runs from the evening of Friday 16th until lunch on Sunday 18th March.

This weekend will give us an introduction to the Bible, helping us navigate it and understand how we can use it to deepen our prayer life. This one-off course is a must for all our parishioners! We need you to register for the Bible Weekend as places are limited. You can do so on ChurchSuite or by texting "QN8F3 Bible" to 60777. (It is important to include the quotation marks).

Next week we plan to publish the timetable for this weekend which we highly recommend to all our parishioners.

Gallup Survey

We are asking all our parishioners aged sixteen and over to help us plan for the future by completing the Gallup "Membership Engagement" Survey (ME25). You can complete a paper version or access it online (but please do not use a mobile device as all the options will not be available).

The online version is available here:

my.gallupfaith.com/elizabeththames_TW106AQ

You will need the following (case sensitive) access code: DCA0616.

Because the survey was originally devised in the United States, some unpacking is required. Questions D1 and D7 are financial questions. If you fill the document in online simply ignore the dollar sign (\$) and imagine it were a pound sign (£) instead. Question D6 asks about educational back-ground. For "high school graduate" read "A-Levels" and for "college" read "university".

Last time we carried out the survey some people asked the relevance of these questions. They are important because they enable Gallup weight the results so that we are compared with parishes of a similar socio-economic make up rather than one which is very different.

Parish Life & News

A Note to our Readers at Mass

We are very grateful to everyone who helps proclaim God's Word at Mass. The role of a reader is an important one in the life of the Church. It is more than simply being able to read in an audible and intelligible manner which is why Readers need to undergo a specific liturgical formation. In the parish we are working towards offering that formation "in house" to make it as accessible as possible.

The readings at Mass must be proclaimed in the way the Church intends. The faithful have a right to this, including the way they are introduced. We do NOT use expressions such as "our reading today is...", or "The first/second reading...", or "The response to the psalm is..." etc. We SIMPLY use the formula given in the Lectionary: "A Reading from..." (e.g. "A Reading from the Book of Genesis" or "A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah"). If in doubt please check with the priest before Mass.

Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals wants your unwanted clothing and bedding (no duvets or pillows, please) and will be at our Church on Sunday 18th February until no later than 11am to collect them. Put your clothing/ bedding into tied sacks and bring them to Mass for collection. Amazingly 4 full black sacks of good quality clothing will feed a child one good nutritious meal every school day for a year. Mary's Meals feeds children where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education.

Natural Fertility

Natural fertility: An introduction. Friday 23rd February, 7.30pm, at St John the Baptist Church Hall, Purley. 48 Dale Road Purley, CR8 2EF. A free evening for anyone interested in finding out more about what natural fertility awareness is, how it fits into everyday life, and its potential to change an individual and a marriage. With separate presentations from a Billings-trained and NAPRO-trained practitioner. For couples, parents, grandparents, priests, single people: come and build up your knowledge. Contact learnbillings@gmail.com for more information.

Confirmation

We invite any young person in Year 8 and above who attends Mass regularly at St Elizabeth's to apply for this year's confirmation course. This is only open to young people already attending Mass at St Elizabeth's. Other young people will be invited to join the new system when it begins. Please note the deadline for applications is looming.

Saturday Evening Mass

Just a reminder to those attending the Saturday evening Mass to join in with the entrance and communion antiphons. These are found in the parish Mass book.

Safeguarding Team

We need to develop a "whole parish" approach to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.. If you would be willing to serve on such a team please contact me.

Thank You

Thank you for your offering last week which came to:

Gift Aid	£281.50
Not Gift Aid	£715.92
Total	£997.42

Second Collection: next Sunday 11th February there is a collection for poor parishes.

Mass Attendance Last Week:

Sat. 5.30pm	84
Sun. 9.30am	161
Sun. 11.00am	111
Sun. 5.30pm	135
Total:	491

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

12 Noon

Wednesday

9.00am

Thursday

7.00pm

Friday

10.00am

Saturday

5.30pm

Sunday

9.30am

11.00am

5.30pm

Fifth Sunday

Mrs Jenny King

Pro Populo

Peter John Doyle RIP

Rita Lyons

St Agatha

Thomas Nelighan

St Paul Miki and Companions

Mrs Donnelly

Feria

Bernie Ross

St Josephine Bakhita

Tom, Tommy, & Kitty

Feria

Bernard Ross and Family

St Scholastica

Bronislaw, Leokadia, & Hanna
Krepczynska RIP

Sixth Sunday

Eileen O'Hara RIP

Georg & Hermine Maris RIP

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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