



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

PENTECOST

Sunday 20th

May 2018

---

Mass Book: Page 285 (Vigil); Page 286 (Sunday)

## A New Pentecost for our Parish

I am sure you will want to join me in congratulating Scott Coleman who has been accepted to start studying for the priesthood and will be joining the new students at the Royal English College in Valladolid, Spain, this summer.

Scott has spent the last year living in the presbytery and gaining experience of a Catholic parish. He has been invaluable both in taking care of the office and also in managing all the other activities that have begun to develop at St Elizabeth's.

People often tell me that since I arrived they have noticed a real transformation in our parish. Certainly our Mass attendance is up by 25% and the recent Gallup survey suggests our parishioners now feel much more engaged than they did

two years ago. More than a hundred people have done Alpha and a huge number of people have taken advantage of the various means of formation we now offer in the parish. The winter night shelter was also a massive undertaking that was a concrete manifestation of our commitment to the poor in our locality.

We have done a lot - and yet at the same time we have only just scratched the surface but we are now faced with a stark choice. Do we continue to build on what we have achieved, continuing to form intentional disciples who joyfully live out the mission of Jesus Christ, or do we revert to where we were before and become just another run of the mill parish?

The issue is that I cannot do it by myself. If we are to continue to

grow I cannot rely solely on volunteers. Two key volunteers, Scott and Nazar Alsamarai will leave the parish this year.

Relying on volunteers worked at the beginning but it is unsustainable in the long term. I need a stable team who will work with me to take things forward. It is also important that they understand what we are trying to achieve.

In particular I need help in two areas: the day to day operational side of things, and also the pastoral development as we grow and reach out to more people.

I am convinced the Lord wants us to continue to grow and to become a sign of hope for others to see but for that we will need to employ two members of staff: a part-time operations manager and a full time Director of Pastoral

---

## *Parish Life & News*

---

Ministries - but there's good news and bad news. The good news is that our parish has the money to employ two people. The bad news is that it is in **your** pocket not mine!

Today I am stepping out in faith that the Lord will provide what we need for our parish and I am advertising the two posts. How will we pay for them? I invite you to consider this. Some of our parishioners have already made a commitment for the next three years. If a sufficient number did the same we

would have no issues with funding the two roles. So today I am asking you to consider whether you would be willing to put your trust in me and invest in our future by making a commitment of £5,000 per year (or more if you can afford it) for the next three years?

Please consider this prayerfully. With God's grace and your help we can really make a difference.

You can contact me directly by email:

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

### **"Understanding Sex and Gender"**

*A Conference for Catholic Educators*

**13-14 July 2018, St. Mary's Twickenham**

Catholic educators know firsthand the difficult task of teaching in the midst of a growing trend of confusion surrounding personal identity, particularly sex and gender. Many feel ill-prepared to address these challenging issues, especially in a faith school setting.

In order to support those in Catholic education and formation, St. Patrick's Soho is partnering with the **Humanum Institute** to offer a two-day, multi-disciplinary conference for Catholic educators on the topic of sex and gender. We will have experts from the fields of philosophy, psychology, spirituality, law, and others to help us gain insight into the Catholic perspective on this challenging topic.

The conference is open to teachers, clergy, chaplains, parents, catechists, and anyone in a formation role who is interested in learning more. Educators in Catholic schools will especially benefit from a 90 minute workshop with specialist lawyers who will explain the current legal landscape surrounding these issues, as well as answer questions about specific situations for faith schools.

Friday's Keynote Address, "Sexuality, Discipleship, and Evangelisation: Humanae Vitae 50 Years Later" is free and open to the public. Speaker Fr. Anthony Doe, is a well-respected and experienced psychotherapist and priest.

**RSVP at [www.sexandgender2018.com](http://www.sexandgender2018.com)**

---

## *Parish Life & News*

---

### **Fr Stephen Away**

I didn't get a break after Easter and have been looking forward to a trip to the Outer Hebrides. I will be away until Saturday 2nd June.

### **Confirmations**

We welcome Bishop Paul Hendricks to our Sunday evening Mass when he will confirm twenty three of our young parishioners.

### **Reframe**

On Wednesday this week at 8.00pm in the crypt we have our final Catholic Voices talk in the Reframe series. This week's topic is: Being a Catholic Voice in the 21st Century. All welcome.

May 16th

### **St Thomas More Walk**

On Monday 21st May, Scott will be leading a Catholic History Walk around Chelsea, starting 6pm. Details from the office: all are very welcome.

### **Operations Manager**

St Elizabeth's is looking to employ a part time Operations Manager to take care of all aspects of the practical and administrative side of running the

parish. The job requires flexibility with regard to working hours, organisation skills and a robust disposition. To apply please email Fr Stephen.

### **Director of Pastoral Ministries**

St Elizabeth's is looking to employ a Director of Pastoral Ministries to work closely with the parish priest in furthering the parish vision. An experience of evangelisation and discipleship formation and the ability to work as part of a team are essential to this role. To apply please email Fr Stephen.

### **LifeTeen**

LifeTeen is our ministry towards teenagers. We meet on the crypt on Sunday afternoons at 4.00pm. All welcome!

### **Natural Fertility Matters**

For more information about natural ways to achieve or space out pregnancy please visit [www.naturalfertilitymatters.com](http://www.naturalfertilitymatters.com) or call Freda McMahon on 07887 676 923 for a free and confidential consultation.

## **Living Word Weekend**

**29th June - 1st July**

St Elizabeth's warmly invites you to join us for our Living Word Weekend. The weekend will deepen your understanding of the Bible's relevance to everyday life, and connect you with new people in the parish community.

You can join us for the just one session or for the whole weekend!

Book your place today at:

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

## Thank You

Thank you for your offering last week which came to:

<b>Gift Aid</b>	£264.70
<b>Not Gift Aid</b>	£1,008.09
<b>Total</b>	£1,272.79

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)

### Mass Attendance Last Week:

Sat. 5.30pm	61
Sun. 9.30am	116
Sun. 11.00am	297
Sun. 5.30pm	112
<b>Total:</b>	<b>586</b>

## Social Media



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



StLizRichmond/



@StLizRichmond

## Mass Intentions this Week

### This Week

#### Saturday

5.30pm

#### PENTECOST

Marie Toal RIP

#### Sunday

9.30am

*Pro Populo*

11.00am

Christine Lassow RIP

5.30pm

Maier & Hagmann

#### Monday

9.00am

#### Our Lady, Mother of the Church

GCSE & 'A' Level Candidates

#### Tuesday

9.00am

#### St Rita of Cascia

#### Wednesday

9.00am

#### *Feria*

#### Thursday

7.00pm

#### Our Lord Jesus Christ, Eternal High Priest

#### Friday

10.00am

#### St. Bede the Venerable

Daniel Oosthuizen

#### Saturday

5.30pm

#### St. Philip Neri

Marie Toal RIP

#### Sunday

9.30am

#### THE MOST HOLY TRINITY

*Pro Populo*

11.00am

Christine Lassow RIP

5.30pm

### Please Pray For:

Fr Philip Matthias, Christopher Browne, Philomena Dunne, Gaye Delanghe, Ben Horgan, Ella Dale, Stella Richards, Anne Wilkinson, Peter Connor.

### 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)