



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

Twenty-Eighth Sunday  
in Ordinary Time

Sunday 14th  
October 2018

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Mass Book: Page 143

## Helping Out

Last weekend we began an appeal for people to help out on Sundays. We begin with Sundays because they are in many ways our 'shop window' and it is important to get it right if we want people to come back again. You only have one opportunity to make a first impression. I am really grateful to everyone who has volunteered. It has been great to see families and people of all ages think about how they could help out in the parish. We have had people volunteering for most of the tasks but we still need plenty more. This is partly because we have four Masses to cover and partly because we plan to establish rotas so that people do not need to serve every week.

I think it is also important that we try to get as many people as

possible helping out in the parish. Rather than have some people doing everything, I would much rather we had everyone doing something. Helping out in these various roles makes a real difference to people's experience of St Elizabeth's. Being willing to help is also a real support to me personally: it is impossible for a priest to take a parish forward unless he has the help of parishioners who are willing to serve. Helping out is also a way of expressing gratitude to God and to the parish for the blessings we receive here.

Currently we are only looking at our Sunday needs. Last week we included a leaflet listing the sorts of things where we need your help. If you have forgotten to bring it back or lost it, there are more

copies available on the welcome desk at the back of the church.

I really hope that everyone will take seriously this appeal to serve. Sometimes we forget that God has given each one of us special charisms for the building up of the Church. One of the ways we can activate those charisms is when we begin to serve. You each have something unique to contribute so please volunteer if you can. I know that volunteering can sometimes seem a bit daunting. Feel free to offer to help out as a group of friends. Service, in fact, should be just that: friends coming together to work for the good of others.

I won't be able to reply until I get back from convalescence but I look forward to the help you will give.

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## *Parish Life & News*

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### **Just so that you know...**

On Monday 15th October I have to go into hospital for an operation requiring a general anaesthetic. I know how tedious it can be when some people go on about their ailments so all I will say is that it is nothing cancerous or life-threatening! The surgeon has asked that I take two weeks off to convalesce. For the first few days I shall be here in the parish but unavailable to people and then I shall go to stay with some friends. Weekend Masses will continue as usual but there will be no weekday Masses in the parish during that period.

### **New Parishioners Party**

I would like to invite all our new parishioners to a special reception at 8.00pm on Monday 29th October. At St Elizabeth's getting to know our new parishioners and putting people in contact with each other is an important part of our parish life because for us hospitality is a core value.

If you have not yet attended a New Parishioners Party please join us for the next one. It really is a great introduction to the parish. As always, you can let us know that you are coming by clicking the link on the parish calendar which is to be found on our website: [www.stelizabethschurch.org.uk](http://www.stelizabethschurch.org.uk).

### **Mass Attendance**

For the last two Sundays we have had at least 500 people attend Mass here at St Elizabeth's. That is an enormous increase. When I arrived we were averaging about 380 each weekend.

As the parish grows we are presented with real opportunities to think again about how we care for people and maintain a personal, friendly and welcoming community. In a sense, the bigger we get the smaller we have to become. We see this principle to a certain extent in the Catholic Women's League or the Catenians, two organisations that have a number of our parishioners as members. By being members of these groups everyone is known by name and cared for. We see it also in the fellowship that forms as a natural part of the Alpha experience, in the groups that join together in the parish for prayer and fellowship. And we see it also in the teams that come together to look after different areas of parish life.

As our parish grows, let's be intentional about finding ways to ensure that in this place everyone is known, loved, and feels at home.

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## *Parish Life & News*

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### **Parish Surgery**

There is no parish surgery this week or next.

### **Mission Sunday**

At every Mass on Mission Sunday (October 20th/21st), Aline, your local MISSIO secretary will offer Red Boxes to Parishioners who wish to support missions across the world on a regular basis, collect any Red Box which has not been emptied since January and give out any autumn magazine which has not yet been distributed to members.

### **Winter Night Shelter**

On Monday November 5th we will open our doors to the homeless of Richmond to provide them with a hot meal and a place to sleep. This project is being run in cooperation with other local Christian communities to provide overnight accommodation throughout the winter months. It is being overseen by a charity called Glassdoor who carry out a pre-assessment of the guests and provide security in each venue overnight. Glassdoor are also equipped to work with the homeless in order to find pathways back into society. I am grateful to all our parishioners who have volunteered to help with this venture.

### **TB Screening**

I have invited the NHS mobile TB screening unit to the parish on Wednesday 21st November. The unit will set up in the space next to the Church and will be available until midday to screen the homeless who wish to have that service.

### **October Rosary**

Pope Francis has encouraged all Catholics to pray the Rosary daily during October along with the *Sub tuum praesidium* prayer and the prayer to St Michael. He asks that we pray these for the Church.

### **Mass Intentions**

Please use the printed envelopes to request as Mass to be said for a specific intention. Please make sure that the details are legible. As someone blessed with illegible handwriting myself, I know that requires an effort, but it is important if you want the intention to be published correctly!

### **Catholic Women's League**

The Catholic Women's League will have their monthly meeting on Thursday, October 18th, 19.30 to 21.30. The meeting will start with the Holy Rosary for the welfare of the whole Church. Visitors 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.

### **Remembrance Sunday**

On Remembrance Sunday at the 11.00am Mass our local branch of the Catholic Women's League will lay a special centenary wreath in the Lady Chapel which is our parish war memorial.

## Thank You

Thank you for your offering last week which came to:

<b>Gift Aid</b>	£207.00
<b>Not Gift Aid</b>	£882.67
<b>Total</b>	£1,089.67

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	96
Sun. 9.30am	182
Sun. 11.00am	100
Sun. 5.30pm	129
<b>Total:</b>	<b>507</b>

## Social Media



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



StLizRichmond/



@StLizRichmond

## Mass Intentions this Week

### This Week

<b>Saturday</b> 5.30pm	<b>Twenty-Eighth Sunday</b> Holy Souls
<b>Sunday</b> 9.30am 11.00am 5.30pm	<i>Pro Populo</i> Agostinho Goncalves RIP Kathryn Lartigue RIP
<b>Monday</b>	<b>St. Teresa of Avila</b> No Mass Here Today*
<b>Tuesday</b>	<i>Feria</i> No Mass Here Today*
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>St. Ignatius of Antioch</b> No Mass Here Today*
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>St. Luke</b> No Mass Here Today*
<b>Friday</b>	<i>Feria</i> No Mass Here Today*
<b>Saturday</b> 5.30pm	<b>Twenty-Ninth Sunday</b> Julie Lambert RIP
<b>Sunday</b> 9.30am 11.00am 5.30pm	<i>Pro Populo</i> Margaret & Chris Larkin Fr. Phillip Mathias

\* Fr Stephen will be undergoing surgery this week and there will be no public Masses on weekdays.

### Please Pray For:

Juliana Ditsche, Ava Borsley, Christopher Browne, 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)