



CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL
Newsletter

Second Sunday of Easter Sunday 28th April 2019

Mass Book page 262

Happy Easter!

A warm welcome back to the parish to all our parishioners who were away for Easter. We missed you! We had a wonderful Triduum thanks to the hard work of our choir, altar servers and all those who looked after and decorated the church.

Numbers were up: a total of 679 people came to the Easter Masses compared to 620 last year. We also had two adults join the church which means that so far this year six people have been received into the church in our parish.

Today we welcome some members of the *Divine Renovation* team from Halifax Nova Scotia who are doing some filming and interviews in our parish. We also have some exciting news that we want to share with you. In June we will be hosting an "open day"

here at St Elizabeth's for anyone who wants to learn more about parish renewal and growth. It will be very similar to the open days held in *Divine Renovation* parishes across the world and is an opportunity for us to share with other parishes what we have learned here at St Elizabeth's where our weekly Mass attendance has grown over the last three years from 380 to over 550.

I am often asked to speak on the principles of parish renewal. In May I am leading a study day for the Comboni Fathers (a missionary order), I've also been asked to address the clergy of Down & Conor in Belfast, and at the end of the month I've been asked by the Bishop of Gibraltar to do some work with his priests and lay people. It is great to be able to help the wider

church in that way but our hope is that the open day we host here will be an encouragement to parishes closer to home.

There is never a need for despondency. The truth is that parish renewal is possible because it depends upon God who can do anything. But for it to become a reality God has chosen to depend upon us: we have to want it and be willing to work for it. In other words we have to be willing to let God change us. The problem is that while lots of people clamour for change in the church, very few are willing to let themselves be changed by God's grace.

Please pray for our "*DR Open House*" as the open days are being called. It will be on Saturday 22nd June and we will need your help to make it a success.

Booking a Mass

Mass Intentions

Currently it is possible to request a Mass to be said for a particular intention. If we are to continue to offer this as a possibility, it needs to be done in a way which is manageable. We ask you to observe the following simple procedures.

Use the Mass Intention Envelopes

- We provide envelopes for you to use. These ask for the details we need to be able to record the intention. Mass intentions cannot be accepted unless you use an envelope.

Requesting a Specific Date

- **Foundation Masses:** There are a large number of Masses we are required to celebrate on the same date each year. These take priority over all other intentions.
- **Funeral Masses:** sometimes funerals come in after a Mass has been booked. Funerals take precedence. The intention will be transferred to the nearest available date.
- **Book in Advance:** If you require a specific date you need to let us have at least **three weeks** notice. This gives us time to get back to you and arrange an alternative if the requested date is unavailable.

Mass Cards

- Mass cards are available from the repository which is open in the crypt on Sunday mornings during coffee after the 9.30am Mass.
- Mass cards are also available from the CTS and St Paul's bookshops.

Leave a Donation

- Unlike most parishes we do not have a set charge for Masses to be said. This is to avoid the idea that you are 'buying a Mass'. It is usual, however, to leave a donation. The amount you leave is up to you.

Publicising the Intention

- The Mass intentions are announced in the newsletter or equivalent bulletin.
- The celebrant will usually announce the intention at the beginning of the Mass.

Parish Life & News

Fr Stephen Away

Fr Stephen will be away for a short break this week and apart from Monday morning there will not be a weekday Mass here in the church. Please pray for vocations to the priesthood.

Easter Newsletter

If you didn't get a copy of the special colour edition of our newsletter please pick one up today. It has lots of lovely insights into the life of our parish.

Waitrose

Thank you to everyone who supported our charity box at Waitrose during March. We have received £578 towards our Night Shelter and are grateful to Waitrose for their support.

Parish Lunch Club

The Parish Lunch Club will meet at 12.30pm on Tuesday 7th May. Invite your friends for a wonderful three-course lunch for only £7.50. All proceeds go to the work of SPEAR, a local homeless charity.

Arranging a Funeral

From time to time we have had undertakers arrange funerals without first checking the availability of the church. (It happened again this week). It is very upsetting for a family to be told a funeral has been arranged only later to discover the church is not available. If you have to arrange a funeral please

ask the undertakers to check with the parish first..

Reserved Parking

Some of our less mobile parishioners much appreciate a lift to church. So to make it easier for those who kindly offer lifts to others, **one space in the car park will regularly be marked with a "No Parking" sign.** A "helper-driver" can ask for it to be kept for their car so that they can also go to Mass. Please let us know by each Friday morning.

CWL

The Catholic Women's League will have a stall at the May Fair (on the Richmond Green) on Saturday, May 11th: stall 99, near Duke Street. We shall raise funds for Aid to the Church in Need and the running of our section. We shall greatly appreciate your custom on the day, and, if you can, donations of home-made cakes and preserves to sell on the day. Contact: Aline Cook on alinejcook@hotmail.com

Natural Fertility Matters

For more information about natural ways to achieve or space out pregnancy please visit: www.naturalfertilitymatters.com or call Freda McMahan on 07887 676 923 for a free and confidential consultation. Natural Family Planning can also help women prone to miscarriages.

Making An Appointment with Fr Stephen

The process is simple: just visit the website:

<https://calendly.com/frstephenlangridge>

There you will be able to see his availability up to twenty one days in advance and book either a fifteen or thirty minute appointment. There is also the option of booking an appointment to discuss a wedding.

Please Support Us

During the school holiday seasons we notice a big drop in our Sunday collection. One way to avoid this is by supporting the parish with a Standing Order (known in some countries as "Pre-authorised Giving"). To set one up you can use the parish form, or do it yourself using the following details:

Account Name: **RCAS St Elizabeth, Richmond,**

Sort Code: **60 17 31**

Account No. **27031527**

Mass Attendance Last Week:

Easter Vigil	121
Sun. 9.30am	264
Sun. 11.00am	201
Sun. 5.30pm	93
Total:	679

Social Media



stelizabethschurch.org.uk



StLizRichmond/



@StLizRichmond

Mass Intentions this Week

Saturday

5.30pm

Feria

Michael O'Brien's intentions

Sunday

9.30am

Second Sunday of Easter

Pro Populo

11.00am

Deceased Members of the O'Brien Family

5.30pm

Holy Souls

Monday

9.00am

St. Catherine of Siena

Holy Souls

Tuesday

St. George, Martyr

NO MASS HERE TODAY

Wednesday

St. Joseph the Worker

NO MASS HERE TODAY

Thursday

St. Athanasius

NO MASS HERE TODAY

Friday

Sts. Philip & James, Apostles

NO MASS HERE TODAY

Saturday

5.30pm

The English Martyrs

Tom and Joan Bryan RIP

Sunday

9.30am

Third Sunday of Easter

Elizabeth Doughty RIP

11.00am

Pro Populo

5.30pm

Thanksgiving to the Blessed Virgin Mary

Please Pray For:

Judiel Valdez, Juliana Ditsche, Ava Borsley, Christopher Browne, Gaye Delanghe, Ben Horgan, Ella Dale, Stella Richards, Anne Wilkinson, Peter Connor.

Parish Contact Details:

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Email Address:

Parish Office:

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Confessions: After each weekday Mass and Saturdays 4.45pm-5.15pm.