



CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL
Newsletter

Corpus Christi

Sunday 23rd June 2019

Mass Book page 83

A Great Big Thank You!

This week, as most of you know, we welcomed to St Elizabeth's Bishop Paul Hendricks and delegates from as far away as Broken Bay, Australia, for our DR Open House. I'd like to take this opportunity to acknowledge the hard work and dedication of an amazing group of volunteers from the parish who did so much to ensure the experience was as good as we could make it for all our guests. Many thanks to the volunteers who form a special music ministry for the event. Apart from being available to lead us in prayer and song throughout the day, they dedicated an enormous amount of time to practising, preparing and setting up. I'd like also to thank the members of the hospitality team who were on hand to welcome our guests and make them feel at home. Hospitality is a really

important ministry because it responds so directly to Jesus' words, "*I was a stranger and you made me welcome*". Special thanks to Jeannie who put in many hours preparing all those little details that make such a difference from flowers to table displays. I'd also like to thank Naz and his team in the kitchen. Thank you too to all our parishioners who kindly agreed to speak at the day and bear witness to what has happened in our parish over the last few years and the way those changes have had an impact on their own life of faith and relationship with God. A special word of thanks also to David, Rosie and Lissette, for coordinating the event, as well as to Jo and Charmaine who were our MCs for the day.

A few year ago it might

have been hard to imagine that so many people would take such immense pride in their parish that they wanted and felt empowered to share insights into parish renewal with other people who also dream of renewal in their own parish life.

DR stands for "Divine Renovation". We hosted the DR Open House because we are part of the Divine Renovation network applying some simple principles to move parishes away from a mentality of *maintenance* to one of *mission*. Our parish purpose is to *form intentional disciples who joyfully live out the mission of Jesus Christ*. Last week we announced that we are to get a new Archbishop and it is great to know that forming *missionary disciples* close to his heart. We pray for him.

Corpus Christi

Today is the Feast of Corpus Christi or, the *Solemnity of the Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ* to give it its proper title. The feast highlights an important truth of our faith which is that when we receive Holy Communion it really and truly is Jesus whom we receive.

When the priest holds up the Sacred Host and says 'The Body of Christ', the person receiving Holy Communion responds, "Amen!" That 'Amen' is an act of faith: 'Yes, I believe' 'Indeed it is so!' One of the reasons we do not invite non-Catholics to receive Communion at Mass is that we do not expect them to share our faith and publicly give their assent to it by saying 'Amen' at communion time.

It can be hard to be fully conscious of the great gift we receive in Holy Communion. To help us, the Church has a simple little requirement which is that we are to abstain from all food and drink (except water) for ONE HOUR before communion time. It is good to

remind our children from time to time of this 'Eucharistic Fast' as it is called. It is also important to show them how to genuflect in adoration before Jesus.

Catholics are not obliged to receive Communion every time they attend Mass. If we attend a second Mass on the same day we can receive Communion twice but not three times even if we are at a third Mass.

Sometimes our sins set us apart from the Body of Christ. If we are conscious of having done something seriously wrong by the standards of the Church's teaching (not relying on our own all too fallible feelings) we need to seek reconciliation in confession first.

Occasionally you may hear the expression, 'Easter Duties'. That refers to the obligation we have to go to confession and receive Holy Communion at least once every year 'at Easter or thereabouts'. In practice this means from the beginning of Lent until Trinity Sunday.

To err is human... but to really foul things up you need a computer!

We don't yet know why, but on Wednesday this week a gremlin at the level of the server managed to wipe clean the inbox of the old parish email (which many of you are still using). So if you were one of the three hundred or so emails waiting for me to get back to them - don't hold your breath.

If it was **really** important please email me again but use the new diocesan email address: richmond@rcaos.org.uk. I apologise for the inconvenience.

It would be a good idea for everyone to update the email address they have for the parish. The new email address is the only one approved by the diocese.

Parish Life & News

Parish Feast Day

Thursday 4th July is the Feast of St Elizabeth of Portugal and once again, to mark our parish feast day, we invite you to join us for a special Mass here in the church at 7.00pm followed by a party in the parish garden. It has always been a great occasion and we look forward to seeing you there.

First Holy Communion

If you have a child going in to year TWO or above and would like that child to be prepared for First Holy Communion please let us know as soon as possible. You can email us at: richmond@rcaos.org.uk. We are introducing Family Based Catechesis to the parish and are moving away from the idea that a child must make his or her first Communion in year 3. Instead the focus going forward will be on when the child is ready. The deadline is 15th July.

Pre-Confirmation Course

To ensure our young people are better prepared for confirmation we require them to take part in a pre-confirmation course after which they will be invited to renew their baptismal commitment and enrol if they wish for confirmation preparation. We will take applications for the pre-confirmation course from anyone going in to years 8, 9, or 10.

Please email us to enrol: richmond@rcaos.org.uk. The deadline is 15th July.

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 be kept for their car so that they can also go to Mass. Please let us know by each Friday morning.

Natural Fertility Matters

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

School Librarian

St Elizabeth's School is seeking to appoint a part-time librarian to work throughout KS1 and KS2. For further information please contact the school office on 0208 940 3015 or email:

admin@st-elizabeths.richmond.sch.uk

Closing date for applications: Monday 8th July.

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.

Thank You

Thank you for your offering last week which came to:

Gift Aid	£296.00
Non-Gift Aid	£79341
Total:	£1,089.41

Second Collection

Next Sunday there is the annual national Peter's Pence collection.

Mass Attendance Last Week:

Sat. 5:30pm	109
Sun. 9.30am	122
Sun. 11.00am	139
Sun. 5.30pm	117
Total:	487

Social Media



stelizabethschurch.org.uk

StLizRichmond/

@StLizRichmond

Mass Intentions this Week

Saturday

5:30pm

Corpus Christi

Int. Rita Naughton

Sunday

9:30am

Pro Populo

11:00am

Herbert Fuchs RIP

5:30pm

Michael O'Brien RIP

Monday

9.00am

Birth of St John the Baptist

Int Goodhart Family

Tuesday

9.00am

Feria

Alberta O'Brien RIP

Wednesday

9.00am

Feria

Int. Francella

Thursday

7.00pm

St Cyril of Alexandria

Michael O'Brien RIP

Friday

10:00am

Feast of the Sacred Heart

Deceased members of Dunne & O'Mahony Families

Saturday

5:30pm

Saints Peter & Paul

Nellie Diskin - in Thanksgiving

Sunday

9:30am

Deceased of O'Brien Family

11:00am

Peter & Kathleen Woplin RIP

5:30pm

Pro Populo

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:

St Elizabeth of Portugal
The Vineyard,
Richmond,
TW10 6AQ

Tel. 020 8940 2439

Parish Email:

richmond@rcaos.org.uk

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