



CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL
Newsletter

Fourteenth Week

Sunday 7th July 2019

Mass Book page 105

St Elizabeth's Feast Day

A heartfelt thank you to our parish social committee who provided and served the refreshments at our garden party on Thursday night. A word of thanks also to all those who joined us for the Mass to celebrate our parish feast day and who stayed for the party afterwards. It was a beautiful evening.

I am conscious that the holiday season is already upon us and that term ended at some of the local schools this week. During the summer months our Mass attendance declines dramatically. This is especially obvious in August. It is good that this year we will have a second set of data for summer Mass attendance. This will help us make a decision about August Mass provision in future years. It does not seem

sensible to have four Masses for fewer than three hundred people and it may make sense to introduce a summer timetable. As always, it is important that decisions such as these be evidence based which is why it is so important that we keep a record of numbers at each Mass.

We look forward to welcoming everyone back by the start of September. Great things have happened in our parish in recent years and we are praying for even more blessings in the new term.

One of the big issues we face is parish finances. I noticed a number of parishioners have increased the amount of their monthly standing orders and I am very grateful to you for that. We are faced with a restoration bill which is much bigger than I had

anticipated and we will need to do some serious fund-raising. If any parishioners have experience of grant applications and would be willing to help us *pro bono* I would love to have a conversation with them. Currently we are putting together a team of people to oversee various aspects of a daunting but also exciting project.

One element of the work we need to do is to improve access to the crypt particularly for people with mobility issues. We also need to make disability access to the crypt independent of the church so that it can be used when the church is closed. The other big thing we need to tackle is the question of escape routes in the case of fire which will mean a certain reordering of the sacristy and office areas.

Open House Feedback

We recently hosted an Open House event for people from other parishes to visit St Elizabeth's and to hear something of what we are trying to achieve here as we seek to form intentional disciples who joyfully live out the mission of Jesus Christ.

I am so grateful to all our parishioners who worked to make the day a success and wanted to share with you all some of the feedback we have received from those who took part in the day:

"Enjoyed the humour, honesty and humility". "Content and style absolutely spot on. No triumphalism, lecturing or preaching - instead every sentence perfectly weighed. Thank you!" "It was good hearing from lay people". "The idea of a leadership team was particularly useful to encourage shared/distributed leadership in a parish context". "Lissette's talk was inspiring and her practical advice was really useful. Christopher's talk about the foundations was very helpful too". "The

leadership talk was inspiring and challenging. The range of voices was brilliant, as was the focus on young adults and lay involvement". "It became clear that great progress can be made with some straightforward steps". "The basic premise of Family of Faith - that parents should be central to passing their faith on to their children - was like a breath of fresh air". "Thank you to everyone involved with the DR Open Day at St Elizabeth's in Richmond. The welcome and hospitality were second to none". "You are an inspiring bunch! Thank you for all your input and for making the day so worthwhile". "I found it incredibly exciting and motivating! It provided a non-daunting way to change for the better. Met the most wonderful, helpful people. Thank you." "Thank you for an enjoyable and beneficial day. The welcome was incredible".

Isn't it good that our parish is growing and even better that we are a source of inspiration for others?

St Elizabeth's Farewell to Summer Boat Trip

Saturday 28th September from 7.00pm

In September our annual Farewell to Summer party will take place on the river in the form of a boat trip down the Thames. Tickets will cost £35 per person which includes a welcome drink and onboard BBQ. We are hoping that local we will receive some sponsorship to help defray costs and we encourage you to approach local businesses. All our sponsors can be acknowledged on the event programme.

We are also inviting donations for an onboard raffle.

Most of all we encourage you to invite your family and friends for a spectacular and enjoyable evening.

Parish Life & News

No Mass here on Tuesday

There will be no public Mass here on Tuesday this week as I shall be in Aylesford leading a day on parish renewal for the clergy of this diocese.

Welcome

In Friday we welcome back to the parish Fr Jonathon Flood who will be looking after the parish while I am away for the second half of July.

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	£359.50
Non-Gift Aid	£475.02
Total:	£834.52

Second Collection

Next Sunday we have the annual Sea Sunday collection to provide port chaplains and practical support to seafarers and those working on boats.

Mass Attendance Last Week:

Sat. 5:30pm	70
Sun. 9.30am	154
Sun. 11.00am	79
Sun. 5.30pm	145
Total:	448

Social Media



stelizabethschurch.org.uk



StLizRichmond/



@StLizRichmond

Mass Intentions this Week

Saturday

5:30pm

Fifteenth Sunday of the Year

In Thanksgiving: Nicholas Cobbon

Sunday

9:30am

Dora Gill RIP

11:00am

Pro Populo

5:30pm

Monday

9.00am

Feria

Fr Martin O'Brien RIP

Tuesday

9.00am

Feria

NO MASS HERE TODAY

Wednesday

9.00am

Feria

Alberta O'Brien RIP

Thursday

7.00pm

St Benedict

Wellbeing of Pretty Sajeev

Friday

10:00am

Feria

Rev Martin O'Brien RIP

Saturday

5:30pm

Fifteenth Sunday of the Year

Intention of Naughtons Family

Sunday

9:30am

Pro Populo

11:00am

5:30pm

Alex Pietrzak RIP

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.