



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

**Eighteenth Week**

**Sunday 4th August 2019**

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Mass Book page 117

## **Christian Discipleship**

I'd like to thank Lissette Jeannet for the short course on prayer that she ran on Thursday evenings and Friday mornings here in the parish. As Catholic Christians we should never underestimate the importance of short refresher courses. I have just come back from a ten day 'in-service' style course for priests in Spain. It wasn't particularly onerous. We had five classes a day with plenty of time for personal study as well as rest, sport and cultural activities. While I was there it struck me just how important it is to be continually reminding ourselves of the basics and how a proper understanding of the faith can help us interpret and challenge some of the more confused and conflicted assumptions of modern society.

By coincidence one of the topics we covered on my course this year was "teaching people how to pray". Growing in the faith is not just knowing better what we believe, more fundamentally it is knowing God better. To get to know someone we have to spend time with them and speak to them. That is precisely what happens in prayer. In the Gospels, the disciples observe Jesus in prayer and they go to him with a very simple request: "*Lord, teach us how to pray*". Have you ever been taught how to pray (as opposed to recite prayers)?

Here at St Elizabeth's our stated purpose is to form intentional disciples who joyfully live out the mission of Jesus Christ. Reflecting this, many of our activities can be categorised under three headings: win, build, and

send. We make no bones about the fact that we are called to *win* souls for Christ, to introduce people to God's love. It is integral to our Christian identity that we fulfil Christ's command to "go, make disciples". The most effective tool we have been using to introduce people to Christ is Alpha. Once people choose to become disciples of Christ they need to grow in that discipleship. They need a maturing understanding of the faith, a personal relationship with God in prayer, Christian fellowship, and sacramental grace. In other words they need to be *built* up as disciples. As they grow they also begin to realise that "God has created me for some definite purpose" and that they are *sent* and need to be equipped to make a difference in the world.



## **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. We have booked the Queen Elizabeth for the occasion.

Tickets will cost £35 per person which includes a welcome drink and onboard BBQ.

### **Why a Boat Trip?**

Why not? It'll be fun! More seriously, in recent years we have tried to ensure all our social events have been as inclusive as possible and the parish has always met the costs. However, we now have to accept the fact that we will soon be facing enormous bills for the restoration of the church and that we therefore have some serious fundraising to do. Apart from substantial external repairs, we need to provide proper disabled access to the crypt, and we also want to take the opportunity to give the church itself a facelift in preparation for its bicentenary. Our Farewell to Summer Boat Trip is a way of showing that fund-raising can be fun! It is also a great way of (re-)introducing people to the life of the parish.

### **How Can You Help?**

- First of all, we encourage you to invite your family and friends for a spectacular and enjoyable evening.
- Secondly, we are inviting donations for a small onboard raffle (it is not an Auction of Promises - so drinks, chocolate and that sort of thing rather than a holiday in France!).
- Thirdly, we hope some of you will approach local businesses (or your own companies) to provide sponsorship. A donation of £50 gets a line in the event programme and £250 buys an advertisement slot. There is a bottle of champagne for the parishioner who raises most by way of sponsorships!

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## *Parish Life & News*

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### **Thank You**

May thanks for all the cards, good will messages and gifts as I celebrated the thirtieth anniversary of ordination last month. I continue to give God thanks for thirty wonderful years of priestly ministry.

### **Fr Jonathon Flood**

We are grateful to Fr Jonathon Flood who covered for me while I was away last month. It was Fr Jonathon's third consecutive year in the parish and he very much enjoyed meeting old friends. He will be spending the next couple of weeks helping out at a parish in central London.

### **Welcome**

This week we welcome Pete Coppola to the parish. Pete is studying at the North American College (NAC) in Rome and is a seminarian for the diocese of Atlanta. We also welcome back to the parish Fr Damian Saez who will be staying with us for a few weeks of rest and relaxation. I am sure you will make them both feel very welcome.

### **Baptisms**

We have had a lot of enquiries recently about using our church for baptismal ceremonies. Baptism is the sacrament by which we enter the Body of Christ which is the Christian community. It brings with it responsibilities and

obligations - including the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. We do not offer private baptism ceremonies or hire out the church for them. When there is no Christian practice in the family we will do everything we can to help parents understand and respond to the commitment involved with baptism. However we do not discuss dates until after parents show some willingness to live the commitment they are making.

### **New to the Parish?**

Are you new to St Elizabeth's and planning to make this your home? We would love to get to meet you and have a chance to welcome you more formally. We invite all our new parishioners to complete one of the Welcome cards available from the back of the church and to give it to one of the hospitality team or leave it at the parish office.

### **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. 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.

## Thank You

Thank you for your offering last week which came to:

Gift Aid	£285.00
Non-Gift Aid	£761.07
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£1,046.07</b>

## Second Collection

Today 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	61
Sun. 9.30am	88
Sun. 11.00am	82
Sun. 5.30pm	109
<b>Total:</b>	<b>340</b>

## Social Media



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

StLizRichmond/

@StLizRichmond

## Mass Intentions this Week

<b>Saturday</b> 5:30pm	<b>Eighteenth Sunday of the Year</b> Liam Gallagher
<b>Sunday</b> 9:30am 11:00am 5:30pm	Elizabeth Doughty RIP Pro Populo Pope Francis
<b>Monday</b> 9.00am	<b>Basilica of St Mary Major</b> Fr Martin Joseph O'Brien RIP
<b>Tuesday</b> 9.00am	<b>Transfiguration of the Lord</b> Alberta O'Brien
<b>Wednesday</b> 9.00am	<b>St Cajetan</b> John O'Sullivan RIP
<b>Thursday</b> 7.00pm	<b>St Dominic</b> SP Intentions
<b>Friday</b> 10:00am	<b>St Teresa Benedicta of the Cross</b> Alberta O'Brien RIP
<b>Saturday</b> 5:30pm	<b>Nineteenth Sunday of the Year</b> SP Intentions
<b>Sunday</b> 9:30am 11:00am 5:30pm	Pro Populo Catholics of Richmond Deceased Members of O'Brien Family

### Please Pray for:

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

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

### Parish Contact Details:

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Tel. **020 8940 2439**

### Email Addresses

**Parish:** richmond@rcaos.org.uk

**Gift Aid:** richmondgac1@rcaos.org.uk

**Safeguarding Team:**

richmondsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk