



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

Nineteenth Week

Sunday 11th August 2019

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Mass Book page 121

## The Assumption

Thursday this week is the Feast of the Assumption which is a Holy Day of Obligation in England and Wales. There will be two Masses here in the parish: one in the morning at 9.00am and the other in the evening at 7.00pm. Additionally, of course, there are Masses at other times in local Catholic churches as well as many extra Masses in central London for those who work there.

Nobody likes being told what to do and we often see people rebel against being bossed about. This takes the form of anything from low-level murmuring at the office water-cooler to full-blown demonstrations on the streets. Office gossip can be very destructive of the workplace environment. Nor are all rebellions good. In the scriptures

the first uprising is led by Satan who responds to God with 'Non serviam' - "*I will not obey!*"

Of course, blind obedience is not a good thing. The moral weight of what we are asked to do may not always be as clear as the commands given to those in charge of Nazi gas chambers. I once knew an freelance accountant, employed by a well-known firm, who was being pressurised by her bosses into falsifying an audit for a big multi-national company. Non-compliance meant losing her job and also much hope of finding a similar post elsewhere.

When asked to do something it helps to understand why and, if we are tempted to rebel against it, to examine our own motives. This applies also to the so-called precepts, or laws, of the Church.

One of those laws is that we are to attend Mass every Sunday and Holy Day of Obligation. The reason we have this precept is that many things crowd into our life and, like a mother who insists the family have a meal together at least once a week, the Church wants us see that our relationship with God and with our fellow Christians must be a priority.

She also accepts of course that sometimes it is not possible to get to Mass: perhaps because we are sick or looking after someone who is sick or because the church has burned down. But it is never right to miss Mass on a whim. To do so is to rebel in a way that affects all of us and as a consequence we need to go to confession before receiving Holy Communion again.



## **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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### **Holy Day of Obligation**

Thursday is the Feast of the Assumption. There will be two Masses here in the parish: at 9.00am and at 7.00pm.

### **Welcome**

We welcome back to the parish Fr Damian Saez from the diocese of Zaragoza in Spain. Many of you will remember him from his previous visits to St Elizabeth's. Fr Damian is here for a short break and very much appreciates the opportunity to escape the Spanish sun.

### **Pete Coppola**

Last week we welcomed Pete Coppola to the parish. Pete is a seminarian at the North American College (NAC) in Rome and is with us here for three weeks but this Sunday he will be with Fr Valentine Erhahon visiting the prison where Fr Valentine is chaplain.

### **Mission Appeal**

Each year the diocese appoints a missionary order to make an appeal for the foreign missions in the parishes of our diocese. Next Sunday the White Fathers will be making an appeal here at St Elizabeth's.

### **Weddings**

People sometimes book a local venue for a wedding reception and then

contact us because we are the nearest Catholic church expecting to be able to have the ceremony here. No matter how gently we try to explain that it doesn't work like that, people - especially non-church goers - inevitably get upset and complain to anyone who can be bothered to listen. It good to let people know the church has her own protocols regarding marriage and that at St Elizabeth's we are unable to accommodate tourist weddings.

### **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 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.

## Thank You

Thank you for your offering last week which came to:

Gift Aid	£485.00
Non-Gift Aid	£553.40
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£1,038.40</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	66
Sun. 9.30am	74
Sun. 11.00am	55
Sun. 5.30pm	100
<b>Total:</b>	<b>295</b>

## Social Media



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

StLizRichmond/

@StLizRichmond

## Mass Intentions this Week

### Saturday

5:30pm

### Nineteenth Sunday of the Year

SP Intention

### Sunday

9:30am

Pro Populo

11:00am

Catholics of Richmond

5:30pm

Dec'd Memers of O'Brien Family

### Monday

9.00am

### St Jane Francis de Chantal

Sha Smith

### Tuesday

9.00am

### St Hippolytus of Rome

Canon Richard Meyer RIP

### Wednesday

9.00am

### St Maximillian Kolbe

Fr Martin Joseph O'Brien RIP

### Thursday

9.00am

### Assn. of Blessed Virgin Mary

Mary Tennent

7.00pm

Pro Populo

### Friday

10:00am

### St Stephen of Hungary

Fr Seamus Hetherington RIP

### Saturday

5:30pm

### Twentieth Sunday of the Year

Kristina & Kasha Wilde & Lara Thompson

### Sunday

9:30am

Fr Michael Purbrick

11:00am

Pro Populo

5:30pm

Madeleine & Sheila Elizabeth

## 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.

## Parish Contact Details:

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## Email Addresses

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