



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

Thirty-Second Sunday

10th November 2019

Mass Book page 160

## Grumpy is as Grumpy Does!

In the Gospels Jesus says that he came to save the lost. That is the reason why our parishes need to be more focused on the outsider than on those who come each week. We need to be intentional about reaching out to the stranger. Inside almost every church, however, there's a gravitational pull to sacrifice the church's mission by catering to the church's members. Obviously parishes can't ignore the needs of their members but the best way to become mature is to stop focusing on our likes and dislikes and to begin focusing on Christ and other people. Some priests drown in the sink-hole of trying to satisfy the escalating demands of their implacable

parishioners while they watch the real mission go up in flames!

This week I had an email from someone who describes what it was like when he visited a parish where people seemed to think that church existed only for its members and regarded the outsider with suspicion:

"This is a small thing that's actually a big thing. I was at a church last year where no one on the guest services team ushered me and my wife to our seats. We were just handed a bulletin and made our way down.

When I got to a row that looked quite open, I headed in and asked the elderly woman a few seats in whether the empty seats were taken, she said "Not

yet". I had no idea what she meant. So I asked if I could sit a few over from her. She just looked at me, didn't say a word and moved further away by two seats. Welcome to church. Nothing says church is for insiders quite as loudly as 'you can't sit in my seat'!

Interestingly enough, her friends did show up halfway through the service one by one. None of them smiled at us... they just kind of brushed past and sat even further away. No idea what that was about, but I doubt I'd go back if that was my first time.

May I suggest you should train your guest services team to walk people into a seat and let *them* do the work of cheeing off your grumpy parishioners".

# Nine Lessons & Carols

*Friday 13th December*

*7.30pm*

**Please Invite Your Friends**

*From time to time in the parish we try to offer a musical celebration to reflect the liturgical season or time of the year. Our next event will be a celebration of Nine Lessons and Carols on Friday 13th December at 7.30pm.*

*Afterwards we invite you and your guests to join us in the crypt for some festive mulled wine and mince pies.*

## Children's Christmas Concert

Many children in our parish play a musical instrument or sing and would be delighted to perform in front of their families and friends. A Christmas Concert is an ideal opportunity for them to get involved. If your child plays a recorder, piano, violin, any other musical instrument, or sings, then please contact Filip on [filip.kucera@email.cz](mailto:filip.kucera@email.cz) for more details (ideally ASAP to make the Concert program). Each child will have the opportunity to perform a piece of music of choice. There is no age limit.

*The concert will take place on Saturday 14th December at 3 pm in our church.*

*Please, put this date in your diary and join us to support our children.*

### **Bible Study: St Mark**

Every Friday morning between now and 13th December there will be a small group meeting to look at the Gospel of St Mark.

We start at 8.30am and end by 9.30am in good time for the morning Mass (for those who can stay).

Please come along to the parish office. All you need to bring is your bible.

**All welcome.**

### **Supporting Your Parish**

Our income always takes a significant dip during holiday periods including half-terms. One way to avoid this is by taking out a monthly direct debit with your bank.

You will need our Sort Code: 60 17 31 and Account Number: 27031527. The account name is: RCAS St Elizabeth, Richmond.

If you pay UK tax please contact us for a Gift Aid declaration which increases the value of your donation by 25% with no extra cost to you.

---

## *Parish Life & News*

---

### **Welcome**

Today we welcome Dom Luke Bell OSB, a priest from the Benedictine Community at Quarr Abbey on the Isle of Wight. Fr Luke will celebrate and preach at our Remembrance Sunday Mass (the 11.00am Sung Mass).

### **November Masses**

The 5.30pm Mass on **Sunday 10th November** will be for the repose of the souls of priests who have served in the parishes of this deanery. These include Fr Philip Matthias of this parish and Canon Francis Moran of Mortlake, both of whom died this year. The 5.30pm Mass on **Sunday 17th November** will be for the repose of the souls of parishioners of St Elizabeth's who have died in the last twelve months. *You might want to mention these Masses to family members. They would be very welcome to join us.*

### **November List**

A November List is a list of deceased relatives and friends whose names are placed near the altar and whom we remember silently at daily Mass during the month of November. November List envelopes are available at the back of the church. It is traditional (but not obligatory) to leave a donation which in this parish is used to offer Masses

throughout the year for the Holy Souls in purgatory.

### **Next Weekend**

Next weekend I will be helping out at a Divine Renovation study day in Runcorn. The idea is to equip priests and lay people from the local area to move their parishes from maintenance to mission. There is a great thirst for parish renewal in the north of England. Fr Peter Geldard will look after the Masses while I am away.

### **Hospitality Training**

On Saturday 23rd November there will be a special training session for anyone willing to help with hospitality in the parish. This includes those who recently volunteered when we had 'Sign-Up Sunday'. Hospitality is a key value here at St Elizabeth's and there are many ways we can make it even better than it already is.

The training session will begin at 10.00am and end at midday.

Please let us know that you are coming by emailing the parish office at: [richmond@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:richmond@rcaos.org.uk)

We look forward to seeing you there.

### **Making An Appointment with Fr Stephen**

#### ***Calendly - the online Diary***

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	£240.00
Non-Gift Aid	£753.04
<b>Total:</b>	<b>£993.04</b>

Today there will be a diocesan second collection for the

## Archbishop's Administration Fund.

## Mass Attendance Last Week:

Sat. 5:30pm	81
Sun. 9.30am	159
Sun. 11.00am	116
Sun. 5.30pm	129
<b>Total:</b>	<b>485</b>

## Social Media



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

StLizRichmond/

@StLizRichmond

## Mass Intentions this Week

### Saturday

5:30pm

### Thirty-Second Sunday

Pro Populo

### Sunday

9:30am

George Kirch RIP

11:00am

For this who died in the Wars

5:30pm

Deceased Priests of this Deanery

### Monday

9.00am

### St Martin of Tours

Int. Ross & William Sellwood

### Tuesday

9.00am

### St Josaphat

Dec'd members of O'Brien Family

### Wednesday

9.00am

### Feria

Mary Kirch RIP

### Thursday

7.00pm

### Feria

Archbishop Michael Bowen RIP

### Friday

10.00am

### St Albert the Great

Rose Tomasso RIP

### Saturday

5:30pm

### Thirty-Third Sunday

Int. Francella

### Sunday

9:30am

Pro Populo

11:00am

Intentions of CWL

5:30pm

St Elizabeth's Parishioners who died in the last year RIP

### Please Pray for:

Margaret Moore, 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:

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

Tel. 020 8940 2439

### Email Addresses

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

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

**Safeguarding Team:**

richmondsg1@safeguardrcaos.org.uk