



CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL
Newsletter

Second Sunday of
Advent

8th December 2019

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The General Election

The Bishops of England and Wales have asked that this statement be made available to all Catholics:

The Lord Jesus said: 'I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full.' (John 10:10)

This General Election is profoundly important to the United Kingdom. Catholics cannot simply “watch from the balcony.” Conscious of the common good of every person and our society as a whole, we ask everyone to engage with the election and vote.

Honest political activity depends upon integrity. We urge all in public life to recognise that telling the truth, not making vindictive and abusive comments or unattainable promises, are essential.

The question of the United Kingdom's place in Europe continues to dominate political discourse. In whatever way our future relationship with our closest neighbours develops, Britain must be committed to a positive engagement as a key international partner in promoting peace, security and responsible stewardship of the planet. As Pope Francis reminds us, “good politics is at the service of peace.”

Citizens have a duty to emphasise and help shape a politics rooted in the service of human rights and peace.

The test of any policy should be its impact upon human dignity, particularly for the most disadvantaged in our society. In making judgments about how to vote, please consider carefully the following and ask your candidates how they would uphold:

- The innate dignity of every human being; defending both the child in the womb, the good of the mother and an understanding of the immeasurable good of a child not yet born?
- The dignified care for those who are terminally ill and dying while resisting the false compassion of assisted suicide or euthanasia?
- The needs of those who are frequently neglected or discarded by society such as people with disabilities, Travellers, older people, those who are homeless, those in prison and those trapped in modern slavery?
- The process of integration of migrants and refugees who have made their homes here, challenging the global rise of xenophobia and racism that is so radically incompatible with our faith?
- The rights of those in our own communities and overseas who “can see no end to the tunnel of extreme poverty,” providing them with assistance and confronting the structural injustices that compound

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their suffering?

- Care for our common home and tackle the climate emergency which threatens the future of our entire human family and is already having a profound impact upon the world's poorest people?
- Freedom of religion and belief, ensuring that everyone has the right to exercise their conscience and practise their creed freely without fear?
- The cherishing of marriage, recognising the essential place of the family in the service of life and of society?
- The right of parents to educate their children in accordance with their faith

and support the work of Catholic schools in their contribution to society and their promotion of the common good?

Jesus tells us "I have come so that they may have life and have it to the full." Informed by the work of our parishes, schools and charities, we should all approach this election as an opportunity to promote life, dignity and human flourishing for all.

We call on all Catholics to pray for the wellbeing of our society. May the Holy Spirit guide our choice as we seek together, and for all, "life to the full."

We Need Your Help this Christmas...

At Christmas time we will have a large number of visitors to the parish many of whom will be people living locally who do not ordinarily go to church. We only get one chance to make a first impression and we want it to be a great one for everyone who comes here. A welcome can make all the difference as to whether a person will come back again. Could you be part of our hospitality teams for the Christmas Masses? We can show you what needs to be done.

We especially need help on Christmas Day itself. Please email the parish if you can help: richmond@rcaos.org.uk

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.

Parish Life & News

Loretto Praise & Worship Night

This evening after the 5.30pm Mass we have a special **Praise & Worship Night** here at St Elizabeth's. Starting in the crypt at 6.30pm, there will be a time of praise and worship, a period of Eucharistic Adoration, and a talk on "The Power of YES!" *All welcome.*

Christmas Offering

Priests in this diocese do not receive a wage and are dependent on the generosity of their parishioners for their annual income. The largest part of that income comes by way of the Christmas and Easter offerings. Many of our parishioners are away at these times so we make the envelopes available before the school holidays begin. They can be returned any Sunday over the next few weeks and, of course, on Christmas Day itself. Christmas Offering Donations can also be Gift Aided in which case the priest receives the donation and the parish benefits from the extra 25% tax reclaimed.

Children's Christmas Concert

This year's children's Christmas Concert will take place on Saturday 14th December at 3.00pm. We are grateful to Filip Kucera for making this family celebration possible once again.

Bibles for Prisoners

Fr Valentine has 120 Catholic prisoners. To buy each one a bible would cost £2,154.00. Would your family be willing to donate £20 to help us provide prisoners with Catholic Bibles? Today is **Bible Sunday** and we will have a second collection for this project.

Homeless Sunday Lunch

Our next Sunday Lunch for the homeless is on Sunday 22nd December from 12.15pm. Could you help with contributions of food or on the day itself? Please contact Angela Smith on angosmith@hotmail.co.uk. Thank you.

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.

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 baptism or a wedding.

Thank You

Thank you for your offering last week which came to:

Gift Aid	£326.70
Non-Gift Aid	£557.03
Total:	£883.73

Today there is a second collection to buy Catholic Bibles for prisoners.

Mass Attendance Last Week:

Sat. 5:30pm	87
Sun. 9.30am	105
Sun. 11.00am	88
Sun. 5.30pm	113
Total:	393

Social Media



stelizabethschurch.org.uk

StLizRichmond/

@StLizRichmond

Mass Intentions this Week

Saturday

5:30pm

Second Sunday of Advent

Yousif & Evelyn Farage RIP

Sunday

9:30am

Fr Donal O'Brien RIP

11:00am

Pro Populo

5:30pm

Serafina D'Arrigo RIP

Monday

Immaculate Conception

(transferred)

9.00am

Beatrice's Int.

Tuesday

9.00am

Feria

Alberta O'Brien RIP

Wednesday

9.00am

Feria

Deceased members of the O'Brien Family

Thursday

7.00pm

Our Lady of Guadalupe

Fr Martin O'Brien RIP

Friday

10.00am

St Lucy

Edith Cooper RIP

Saturday

5:30pm

Third Sunday of Advent

Monica, James & George Patchett RIP

Sunday

9:30am

Francis O'Shea RIP

11:00am

Fr Thomas Creagh-Fuller RIP

5:30pm

Pro Populo

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:

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