



CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL
Newsletter

Fourth Sunday of Advent

29th December 2019

Mass Book page 106

Feast of the Holy Family



Primary School References

New Year Signing Sessions

The deadline for applications to Reception Class at St Elizabeth's and other primary schools is Wednesday 15th January.

*If you need a reference for the school **and** have been registering your attendance at Mass please come along to one of the **three** sessions when I will be available to sign references.*

*These are: Wednesday **8th** January from 7pm until 9pm; Friday **10th** January from 11am until 1.00pm; and Tuesday **14th** January from 11.00am until 12.30pm.*

*Please do **NOT** use Calendly for school references.*

Why do schools require references? *Catholic schools were built and maintained by the Catholic community to ensure its children could be educated in an environment that extended the religious ethos of the home. This ethos can only be maintained if a majority of families value and are committed to it. One of the ways of measuring this commitment is Mass attendance because the official teaching of the Church is that we have an obligation to go to Mass every Sunday (or Saturday evening) unless impeded through sickness or some other grave reason. A "School Reference" is, therefore, a statement from a priest where the family attends Mass to confirm they do actually attend and with what regularity. It is simply a statement of fact and not a recommendation on the part of the priest.*

*To avoid disappointment please do not request a reference unless you attend weekly Mass on Sundays or Saturday evenings at St Elizabeth's **and** have provided us with the evidence by filling in a Mass attendance slip each week.*

Families should always read carefully the school's Admissions Criteria.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

Many people like to start the New Year well by attending Mass on 1st January, which is the Feast of Mary, Mother of God. There will be two Masses here in the church that day. The first will be at 9.00am and the second will be at midday.

Parish Lunch Club

The next Parish Lunch club will be on Tuesday 7th January. It meets for a three-course lunch in the crypt at 12.30pm. All welcome.

Parish Life & News

Creative Community Group

Save the Date: January 24th 10:30 - 12:30 (after morning Mass)

Please join us in the crypt for our creative group 'taster'! Feel free to bring along any art or craft project you might currently be working on or drop in for a cup of tea, a chat and maybe be inspired to learn something new. Absolutely everyone is welcome.

Interested in Becoming a Catholic or Learning More about the Faith?

In the New Year we could offer an introductory course for those wishing to know more about the Catholic faith. It would also suit anyone who may be thinking about becoming a Catholic. These courses take a while to organise and it would be good to ascertain how much appetite there might be in the parish. If you are interested in such a course please let us know. You can email us at richmond@rcaos.org.uk.

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.

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.

Christmas Mass Attendance

Mass attendance at Christmas was significantly up again this year: 9% on last year and 16% on 2017. For those of you interested in statistics, here's a comparison:

	2017	2018	2019
Vigil Mass (5.30pm)	256	162	230
Night Mass	138	209	196
Dawn Mass (9.30am)	110	194	171
Day Mass (11.00am)	184	164	199
Total:	688	729	796

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:

Total	£927.01
Total:	£927.01

Did you know that if you pay UK tax and use one of our blue Gift Aid envelopes on Sunday your donation is worth an extra 25%? Had all the collection been Gift Aided last week it would have been worth £1,158.76!

Mass Attendance Last Week:

Sat. 5:30pm	69
Sun. 9.30am	143
Sun. 11.00am	93
Sun. 5.30pm	117
Total:	422

Social Media



stelizabethschurch.org.uk

StLizRichmond/

@StLizRichmond

Mass Intentions this Week

Saturday 5:30pm	Feast of the Holy Family Holy Souls
Sunday 9:30am 11:00am 5:30pm	Michael O'Brian's Intentions Pro Populo
Monday 9.00am	Christmas Octave Michael O'Brian RIP
Tuesday 9.00am	Christmas Octave Goodhart Family Intentions
NEW YEAR'S DAY	
9.00am 12.00am	Morning Mass Joshua RIP
Thursday 7.00pm	Sts Basil & Gregory Fr Stephen's Intentions
Friday 10.00am	Most Holy Name of Jesus Goodhart Family Intentions
Saturday 5:30pm	The Epiphany Ruadrhai Boyle
Sunday 9:30am 11:00am 5:30pm	George Williams RIP Gillian Kelly 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
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