



CATHOLIC PARISH OF
ST. ELIZABETH OF PORTUGAL
Newsletter

**The Presentation of the
Lord**

2nd February 2020

Mass Book pp 297–302.

Exciting Times

Today, forty days after Christmas, we celebrate the **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord** in the Temple when Simeon took him into his arms and hailed him as, *“the light to enlighten the pagans and the glory of his people Israel”*. This notion of Christ as the one who gives light is expressed in a special way today when we light candles and process into the church. In English, following an ancient tradition, today’s feast is known as Candlemas. Just as Christmas is the Mass that celebrates Christ’s birth, so Candlemas is the Mass when we hail him as *Light of the World*. So many years after the Protestant Reformation, the deeply Catholic roots of our British culture live on in our language.

Candlemas brings the Christmas season to a close. After today’s feast

we will finally remove the Crib.

If you were about on Friday morning, you may have seen squad cars and police outside our church. They arrived shortly after 9.00am and told us we had to evacuate because there was a **bomb scare**. I am very grateful to Mike, our operations manager who, in addition to those in the church, passed the news to the Mothers’ Prayer group in the crypt and to the Bible Study in the house and ensured a swift, calm and orderly evacuation. Fortunately no bomb was found and we were eventually allowed back into the buildings.

During February we will be carrying out the Gallup **Membership Engagement Survey** which I wrote and spoke about last week. Paper surveys are available at all the Masses today.

There is also a link to an online version of the survey in today’s newsletter.

On Thursday evening this week we had the first of our **At Home** events to present the plans thus far for the restoration of the church and to get your initial feedback. We have two more evenings in February, followed by another series in March. I will be sending out invitations to the March events shortly. It is really important that we have as full a consultation and conversation as possible as we prepare to celebrate our parish bicentenary. I would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all those parishioners who have agreed to host one of these evenings.

Don’t forget our **talks on the faith** in the crypt on Tuesday evenings at 7.30pm. All welcome!

Parish Life & News

Help Needed with our Lent Mission

Once again this year we will have a group of young adults from the Fellowship of Catholic University Students who will help us run a short Lent Mission in the parish. Currently the plan is for there to be sixteen students who will be with us from Sunday 15th until Sunday 21st March. We need help two sorts of help:

| | Needed | Offered | Outstanding |
|---------------|---------|---------|-------------|
| Accommodation | 16 beds | 7 | 9 |
| Lunches | 7 days | 0 | 7 |
| Suppers | 6 days | 1 | 5 |

First of all, accommodation: we would like to accommodate the students in pairs. Could you put up two missionaries for a week?

Secondly, we need to feed them. Could you help prepare simple meals that we could serve them? It would be good to have a rota of people each taking one meal.

Please contact the parish office if you can help: richmond@rcaos.org.uk

Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals is a charity that sets up school feeding programmes in communities where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education. Four full black sacks of good quality clothing will feed a child one good nutritious meal every school day for a whole year! Mary's Meals will be at the parish until 11am on Sunday 23rd February. Please put leave donations of clothing in tied black sacks that morning before 11am or the evening before. Please note: the parish **WILL NOT** accept donations at other times as we are unable to store them.

Nursery Places at St Elizabeth's School

St. Elizabeth's Nursery is able to offer a limited number of 30 hours free childcare spaces from September 2020. Eligibility for 30 hours can be found at <http://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare>. Parents need to register with the government to be issued with a code. **Applications to St. Elizabeth's Nursery should be in by 21st February 2020.** There is a link to St. Elizabeth's Nursery on St Elizabeth's Primary School website where an application form can be downloaded.

Navigating the Mass Book

When we celebrate Mass some people's parts don't change. They are known as the **Ordinary** of the Mass. The parts that do change are called the **Proper**.

In the Mass book the Ordinary begins on page 7. Because of today's Feast, the Proper is more complicated than usual. The first part is on page 297. The rest begins on page 300.

The Greek and Latin texts we use at the 11.00am are also found the Mass book and begin on page 77. Usually at the 11.00am Mass we sing the entrance chant from the Mass book so the first number on the board refers not to a hymn but to the music for the various Greek and Latin chants.

Parish Life & News

Parish Lunch Club

The next parish lunch club will be in the crypt on Tuesday 4th February at 12.30pm. All welcome!

Bible Study

A reminder that we have a group that meets in the presbytery at 8.30am on Friday mornings to study St Mark's gospel.

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 short talk.

Introductory Course on the Catholic Faith

This Tuesday at 7.30pm in the crypt we will continue our introductory course on the Catholic Faith - a sort of *Basic*

Guide to Catholicism. Each session will last about an hour. The course is for anyone wanting to learn more about the faith, to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation, adults wishing to be received into the church, and Catholics who are simply looking for a refresher course. We will run every Tuesday evening until just after Easter. Here are the initial topics:

Tuesday 4th February:

God the Father - Creator of heaven and earth?

Tuesday 11th February:

The Fall and Promise of Redemption

We look forward to seeing you in the crypt on Tuesday evening.

Tuesday 18th February:

God the Son: What does it mean to call Jesus Saviour?

Gallup ME25 Survey

This month Gallup is carrying out a survey of parish engagement. We ask you to complete the survey either online or by completing one of the sheets at Mass. Either way the survey is completely anonymous. The link to the online survey is:

<https://survey.gallup.com/stelizabethportugaluk>

Please note: the demographic question D6 asks about highest level of education. For "High School" please read A levels or equivalent; for "College" please read university.

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 | £269.10 |
| Not Gift Aid | £703.67 |
| Total: | £972.77 |

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 £1,215.96!

Mass Attendance Last Week:

| | |
|---------------|------------|
| Sat. 5:30pm | 96 |
| Sun. 9.30am | 124 |
| Sun. 11.00am | 112 |
| Sun. 5.30pm | 148 |
| Total: | 480 |

Social Media



stelizabethschurch.org.uk

StLizRichmond/

@StLizRichmond

Mass Intentions this Week

Saturday

5:30pm

The Presentation of the Lord

Anne Ellis RIP

Sunday

9:30am

Pro Populo

11:00am

Dainius Juzefa RIP

5:30pm

Beattie Smith RIP

Monday

9.00am

Feria

Elizabeth Doughty RIP

Tuesday

9.00am

Feria

Holy Souls

Wednesday

9.00am

Saint Agatha

Deceased Members of O'Brien family

Thursday

7.00pm

Saint Paul Miki and Companions

Alberto O'Brien RIP

Friday

10.00am

Feria

Erica Dineen

Saturday

5:30pm

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Lani Vera Japlit RIP

Sunday

9:30am

Sonya Birrell RIP

11:00am

Pro Populo

5:30pm

Christine Barnes 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.

Also please pray for all those mentioned in the Parish Prayer Book at the back of the Church.

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

Parish Contact Details:

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Email Addresses

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