

**CATHOLIC CHURCH OF ST. EDMUND OF CANTERBURY**  
**20 Village Way, Beckenham BR3 3NP**

Email [beckenham@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:beckenham@rcaos.org.uk)

Website: [www.saintedmunds.net](http://www.saintedmunds.net)

Parish Office 020 8650 0970

Monday to Friday 9 - 1pm



Fr. Steve Wymer - Parish Priest 020 8650 3390 - [stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:stephenwymer@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr. Ashley Beck - 020 8650 4117 or 020 7998 5949 - [ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:ashleybeck@rcaos.org.uk)

Fr. Simplicio D'Souza - 020 8650 7533 - [simpliciodsouza@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:simpliciodsouza@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Sean Murphy - 020 3490 5693 - [seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:seanmurphy@rcaos.org.uk)

Deacon Duncan Aitkins - 020 8650 5537 - [duncanaitkins@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:duncanaitkins@rcaos.org.uk)

**17 November 2019**  
**33rd Sunday**

**Salesian Sisters**

25 Village Way, BR3 3NA

020 8650 6313

[patdevine13@gmail.com](mailto:patdevine13@gmail.com)

**Missionary Sisters of**

**St. Peter Claver**

89 Shortlands Road BR2 0JL

020 8313 3915

[sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com](mailto:sspc.echo.uk@googlemail.com)

**Next weekend is our collection for refugees and asylum seekers and the second collection is in aid of Catholic Youth Work.**

## TO BE IN THE DIVINE WILL

Recently I spent several days in Walsingham with three friends. Like me they needed time away from work to recharge their batteries. Unlike me they had suffered rejection and disappointment and saw this as an opportunity to seek God's healing and His guidance as to the way forward.

You may think that Walsingham at this time of year, when the crowds of pilgrims have thinned somewhat and the weather become dull and cheerless, is hardly the ideal place to visit when you feel broken inside and need a positive lift. However, because it is the place where the Blessed Virgin Mary instructed Lady Richeldis to build an exact replica of the holy house of Nazareth and over the centuries since then has been a place of prayer and pilgrimage, I would say it is an ideal location to pray, discern and walk closely with God. I was also aware of how Walsingham played a pivotal role in the conversion of England. What were the words of Pope Leo XIII? *"When England goes back to Walsingham, Our Lady will return to England"*. This was indeed a holy place, we were walking on holy ground.

During my stay I came across a gem of a book entitled *The Practice of The Presence of God: Conversations and letters of Brother Lawrence*. Brother Lawrence lived in the 17<sup>th</sup> Century and at the age of eighteen experienced something that would change his life forever. Did he experience a blinding light and fall to the ground, and did he hear the thunderous voice of God as we know Saul did? No, his life changing event was the sight of a dry and leafless tree standing gaunt against a backdrop of snow. As it says in the book, *'Thinking of the changes the coming spring would bring, he felt an overwhelming*

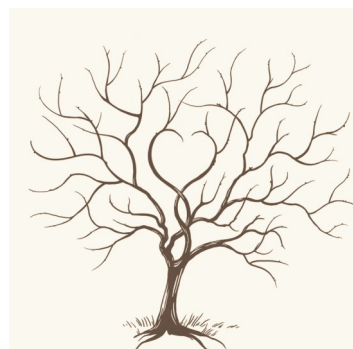
*sense of the knowledge and love of God, and afterwards endeavoured as he put it, 'to walk as in His presence'*

Later I found myself, along with my fellow pilgrims, in the cottage of a Catholic woman by the name of Eileen who was delighted to play hostess to us. We made two visits to Eileen's and on both occasions our conversation slipped quite naturally into moments of prayer, both silent and verbal. It was on the second occasion that Eileen began to talk rather wondrously about living in the Divine Will as opposed to doing the Divine Will. It was Louisa Piccarreta (1865-1947) who apparently received a revelation from God of this new existence. For most of her life this Dominican Tertiary was bedridden and often in pain and yet she experienced constant and joyful conformity to the Divine Will.

I was left wondering how all this had passed me by until now. On my departure from Walsingham there was one question uppermost in my mind. It wasn't just a question of knowing more about the Divine Will but how do I begin to live in it?

Some years ago Karl Rahner said that we are entering an age when the Christian must be a mystic or be nothing. He was saying that we must be a profoundly spiritual people – a people of deep prayer or we will become almost irrelevant.....

**Fr Steve**



## MESSAGE FROM FR STEVE

### FR TOMAS CREAGH-FULLER RIP

Fr Tom's Requiem Mass will be at St Edmund's on Wednesday 18 December at noon. There will be a reception in the Hall immediately afterwards, and the family will leave later for a private service at the crematorium.



### ST EDMUND'S CHRISTMAS FAIR Saturday 7 December

**MEETING TOMORROW  
MONDAY 25 NOVEMBER  
11 VILLAGE WAY AT 7.30PM  
PLEASE JOIN US IF YOU CAN**

Donations may be left at the back of the church or at the Office in the morning.

**We need  
BOTTLES  
CAKES  
CHUTNEY AND JAMS  
PRESERVES  
TOILETRIES  
BOOKS  
GOOD QUALITY UNUSED  
GIFTS FOR THE  
PRESENT TOMBOLA  
THANK YOU**

### PARISH ADVENT CAROL SERVICE Saturday 14 December at 7.15 pm

Why not get ready for Christmas by coming to the Church and enjoying some wonderful carols and readings.

All our Parish choirs will be singing.

A collection will be made in aid of St. Christopher's Hospice.

**Everybody is very welcome – please do invite your family and friends!**

### MASS FOR THE BEREAVED

**This coming Saturday 23 November at 10.00 am**

All parishioners are welcome to attend our annual Mass for the bereaved. During the Mass the names of those who have died in the last 12 months will be read out. Please contact the Parish Office if you would like the names of other deceased relatives and friends to be included.

There will be refreshments in the Hall afterwards.



As you know, at the end of September the Catholic Church in this country began a special year of reflection on the importance of the Bible, entitled *The God who Speaks*. You can find out more on <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/the-god-who-speaks/> We're encouraged to organise local events and Fr Ashley will be giving a preliminary talk on the meaning of the year and on the Bible on **Wednesday 27 November at 8pm in the church (following Mass)**. It is hoped that this will help us prepare for Advent which begins the following weekend.

### MONEY MOUNTAIN IS BACK!

We will be selling tickets for the Money Mountain after all weekend Masses over the next two weekends. 50% of the money raised will go to the winner and the rest to parish funds! The winning ticket will be drawn at the Christmas Fair.

If you are not able to come on the 7th, buying a few tickets for the Money Mountain is the best way to support the Fair

If you are able to help sell tickets after Mass please contact Sue Owen on 07828 132921 or email at [sueowenwolf@gmail.com](mailto:sueowenwolf@gmail.com)

### ADMISSION TO ST MARY'S SCHOOL

The Priest's Pre-Reference forms that need to be completed before parents apply for a place in the Reception class at St Mary's will be available from the back of the church at the end of November.



### LIFE IN THE SPIRIT PARISH PRAYER GROUP

**7.30 pm in no11 Village Way**

**Friday 24 November**

**(The last Friday of each month)**

All are warmly welcome to come and join us for PRAYER, PRAISE and sharing of GOD'S WORD, from which Words of Knowledge and Prophecy may grow.

Please bring your Bible.

Fr. Steve and Christine Parker 0208 658 9264

**Please would all parishioners use the email address on the newsletter masthead. Some continue to use the old one which ceased being monitored 18 months ago.**

## ST EDMUND'S CHILDREN'S ADVENT SERVICE

Sunday 8 December at 3.00pm

We are looking for lots of children to get involved in this lovely service. We will need readers, singers for the choir, and on the day lots of little ones dressed up in nativity costumes, such as angels and shepherds. We are also looking for a Mary, Joseph and the Three Kings, so if you think your children could play one of these walk-on roles, then please contact Maria, details below.

Readers only will need to attend a rehearsal at the church on Sunday, 1 December at 3.00pm.

To help us plan the service and allocate readings, please email Maria Crowe (mariabrigthouse@hotmail.com) if you are interested.



### Help us raise funds for St Edmunds at no cost to you through easyfundraising

easyfundraising is a great website where you can help St Edmunds Church, raise funds simply by doing your everyday online shopping with over 4,000 big name retailers including Amazon, Argos, John Lewis, ASOS, eBay, Boden, M&S and booking.com

Each time you shop, we receive a small donation to say 'thank you' and it's completely free too! We want to raise as much as possible for St Edmund's so please sign up and help us at <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stecb/>

**What is easyfundraising?** easyfundraising is the UK's largest charity fundraising site. It's simple to use, and it's free.

**How does easyfundraising work?** easyfundraising turns your everyday online shopping (4,000 retailers) into donations for St Edmunds Church, at no cost to you.

**How?** Just visit your favourite retailers through our easyfundraising website <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/stecb/>. Click on the pink "Support this cause" button, register and then shop as normal. Once you've made a purchase our retailers will then make a small donation to the church.

You will be asked to register when you start using the website.

Thank you for all your support.

### GROUPS USING THE HALL

Would all groups who use the Hall please make an extra effort to leave it clean and tidy. Tables should be washed down, chairs put around the perimeter, all lights switched off, the thermostat turned down and all taps in the kitchen and the lavatories turned off.

It is the responsibility of the group leader to check on all of this and to lock the Hall at the end of their booking.

### CONFIRMATION

Read the newsletter next week for instructions on how to sign up for Confirmation in June 2020.



## THANK YOU FROM THE PASSAGE

The Passage has let us know that their recent fundraising concert which was attended by a large contingent from St Edmund's raised £125,000 which will help them continue their work for the homeless.

## COLLECTION FOR ASYLUM SEEKERS AND REFUGEES IN LONDON

Next weekend we have our regular collection of items for asylum seekers and refugees living at the London Catholic Worker community in north London. Many thanks for the generosity you have shown in the past. This is what we are looking for: tinned tomatoes, nuts, raisins, cheese, tuna, chilli sauce, rice, couscous, pulses, olive oil, cooking oil, vinegar, mayo, spices, sugar, sunflower seeds, low-fat spread, fruit juice, herbal teabags, hot chocolate, instant coffee, cereals, jam, marmalade, honey, peanut butter, chocolate spread, stock cubes, toilet paper, shampoo, liquid soap, deodorant, shaving products, body lotion, cleaning products, incense sticks, and tea-lights. **Please NO tinned soup, tinned spaghetti, baked beans or pork.**



**As this is this is our last collection for the men before Christmas, it would be lovely if you could include a few treats with your donations.**



**This community relies entirely on donations to feed the many men it shelters. Please continue to give with your usual generosity.**

## ALTAR FLOWERS

The flowers have been given  
In Loving Memory of Breda  
by her friends Betty and Sandra

May she rest in peace.

## BROMLEY DEANERY MASS FOR DECEASED CLERGY

This annual Mass for the deceased clergy who served within the Bromley Deanery will be held at St Joseph's, Bromley on Thursday 28 November at 11.30 am. All parishioners are welcome to attend this Mass which will be led by Fr Steve, the Dean of Bromley.



Cafod has sent copies of their Christmas Gift Catalogue. Please take one from the reading slope in the porch. They contain a wonderful range of thoughtful, imaginative and practical gifts that help people in need.

## PILGRIMAGE TO OBERAMAGAU

Two places have come available on next year's pilgrimage to Oberamagau. There is information on this trip on the church notice board. If interested please contact Diane Brelu straight away before she releases the spaces to other parishes.

## MASSES THIS WEEK

### Monday 18 November

8.15 am	Church	<b>Feria</b> Sioban O'Reilly RIP
10.00 am	Church	Agnes Archibong, Utom & Coral Umu
7.30 pm	27 VW	Adoration

### Tuesday 19 November

8.15 am	Claver	<b>Feria</b> The Liell family RIP
10.00 am	Church	All persecuted born & unborn children in the world

### Wednesday 20 November

8.15 am	Claver	<b>Feria</b> Thomas Murnane RIP
10.00 am	Church	Mrs Hilda Panglose and Rene Panglose RIP and Mr & Mrs Alex Brelu RIP
7.30 pm	Church	Ellen McCarthy RIP

### Thursday 21 November

8.15 am	Claver	<b>The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary</b> Dec'd promoters & benefactors of the Claver sisters
10.00 am	Church	Alice O'Neill - wellbeing
8.00 am	Church	Mass for RCIA catechumens
8.00 pm	Claver	Adoration

### Friday 22 November

8.15 am	Claver	<b>St Cecilia</b> Nyree Turner
9.10 am	St Mary's	Canon Michael Scanlan - wellbeing
10.00 am	Church	Paolo & Armando Cogoni RIP

### Saturday 23 November

8.15 am	Claver	<b>Feria (St Clement)</b> Michael Coyne RIP
10.00 am	Church	Mass for the Bereaved
6.00 pm v	Church	Dante & Angelica Dragonetti RIP

### Sunday 24 November

8.00 am	Church	<b>Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe</b> For the people Family Mass
9.30 am	Church	Peggy Power RIP
11.00 am	Church	Clare & Nwosu family <i>Procession and Benediction</i>
5.30 pm	Church	Gretta Colonnese RIP
7.00 pm	Church	Crescenzo Panetta RIP

*Confessions on Saturdays are from 10.30 - 11.00 am and 5.00pm - 5.55 pm and at other times by request.*

*Rosary is said Monday to Saturday from 9.40 am and Adoration is for an hour after 10.00 am Mass.*

## DIARY DATES

**Meditation** every Monday in no11 from 5.30 - 6.15 pm - except on Bank Holidays

**Open door for the bereaved** on the first Wednesday of every month from 10.30 am to 12 noon.

**Law Surgery** every second Monday of the month in no11 at 7pm

**Prayer Meeting** last Friday of the month in no11 at 7.30pm

## NOVEMBER

Sat 23 Mass for the Bereaved, 10.00 am - followed by refreshments in the Hall

Mon 25 Requiem Mass for David Edwards - noon

Thur 28 Farewell Mass for Sr Assumpta followed by refreshments in the Hall

Sat 30 Contemplative Saturday in no11, 11.00-12

## DECEMBER

Sat 7 Parish Christmas Fair  
Carols for Christian Aid outside Waitrose (Our time slot to be confirmed)

Sun 8 Children's Advent Service at 3.00 pm

Mon 9 SVP Annual Christmas Lunch for older Parishioners

Sat 14 Parish Advent Carol Service, 7.15pm followed by mince pies & mulled wine in the Hall.

Wed 18 Fr Tomas Creagh-Fuller's Requiem Mass at noon.

## COLLECTION

Our collection last weekend came to £1816.82 with a further £2404.25 from Standing Orders and through ChurchSuite.

The collection for the Archbishop's Administration Fund raised £884.31

## THE CHURCH SHOP

The new shutter for the shop will be fitted on 25 November. All the helpers will require replacement keys. Please could they let the office know who they are: it would be helpful to have a name, phone number and email and which Mass they open the shop for.

Thank you

## Readings for Thirty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### Cycle 1 Psalter Wk 2

2 Samuel 5:1-3

Psalm 121

Paul to Colossians 1:12-20

Luke 23:35-43

**We pray for those who have died recently:** David Edwards, Stella Ighodaro, Maria Scannapieco, Frank Mattison, Fr Tomas Creagh-Fuller.

**We pray for those whose anniversaries are this week:** Charlie Doyle, Andrew Doran, Patricia Gilbert, Thomas Widdowson, Eileen Rogers, Michael Carney, Peggy Northwood, Agnes Hazer, Violet Pasiniewicz, Elizabeth Sylvester, Dino Toschi, Ellen McCarthy, Sheila Hartley, Siobhan O'Reilly, Andrew McNally, Raymond Gregory and Maureen Bentley.

**We pray for the sick:** Bernice, Emma-Jane, Carmel Cardiff, Chant, Arthur Cromwell, Christine, John Crouch, Ilean Curry, Giacomo Dillon, Joshua Dunford, Nicholas Dunford, Cecil Dutton, Ann Elmer, Felicity, Erika Geddes, Chris Grant, Johnny Greenan, Hans Halpin, Eileen Hayes, Jerry Jacob, John, Pauline Kirk, Bernadette McGilloway, Mary McGrath, Eddie Mitchell, Barbara Moyce, Orla O'Regan, John Quaife, Ron Renton, Brian Russell, Brigitte Savreux-O'Driscoll, Mary Shipsey, Coleen Shroeder, Siobhan, Angela Stolle, Charlie Wynn and Patricia Weal.