

**Sunday Masses:**  
**Sacred Heart Church:**  
 Saturday: 6.00 pm *Vigil Mass*  
 Sunday : 8.30 am  
 10.00 am  
 11.30 am  
 6.00 pm

**Weekday Masses**  
 10.00 am Mon – Sat  
 & 7.30 pm on Monday only  
 and on the First Friday  
**Morning Prayer of the Church**  
 9.30 am Mon - Fri  
**Rosary** 9.40 am Mon - Sat

**Holy Day Masses**  
 10 am, 12.15 & 7.30 pm

## Parish Newsletter

**Fourth Sunday In Lent**  
**Year C**  
**Sunday 31 March 2019**

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**  
 Sat: 10.30 - 11.30 am and 5pm-5.45pm

**Adoration and Novena of the**  
**Miraculous Medal and Sacred Heart**

**Monday after 7.30pm Mass** — 8.15 - 9pm  
**Wednesday & Thursday:** 10.30—12.00 noon  
**Saturday:** 10.30 - 11.30 am  
 and every **3rd Sunday** after 6pm Mass



**e-mail:**  
**millhill@rcdow.org.uk**  
**website www.shmi.info**

## Fr Ray's Notes - The Great Criterion Continued (2)

Pope Francis in his pastoral letter 'Gaudete Et Exultate (Rejoice and be Glad)' speaks on the call to holiness for everyone in today's world.

Paragraph 100—I regret that ideologies lead us at times to two harmful errors. On the one hand, there is the error of those Christians who separate these Gospel demands from their personal relationships with the Lord, from their interior union with him, from openness to his grace.

Christianity thus becomes a sort of NGO stripped of the luminous mysticism so evident in the lives of St Francis of Assisi, St Vincent de Paul, Teresa of Calcutta and many others.

For these great saints, mental prayer, the love of God and the reading of the Gospel in no way detracted from their passionate and effective commitment to their neighbours, quite the opposite.

Paragraph 101—The other harmful ideological error is found in those who find suspect the social engagement of others, seeing it as superficial worldly, secular materialistic, communist or populist. Our defence of the innocent unborn, for example, needs to be clear, firm and passionate, for at stake is the dignity of human life, which is always sacred and demands love for each person, regardless of his or her stage of development.

Equally sacred, however, are the lives of the poor, those already born, the destitute, the abandoned and the underprivileged, the vulnerable infirm and elderly exposed to covert euthanasia, the victims of human trafficking, new forms of slavery and every form of rejection.

We cannot uphold an ideal of holiness that would ignore injustice in a world where some revel, spend with abandon and live only for the latest consumer goods, even as others look on from afar, living their entire lives in abject poverty.

Paragraph 107—These who really wish to give glory to God with their lives who truly want to grow in holiness, are called to be single-minded and tenacious in their practice of the works of mercy. St Teresa of Calcutta clearly realised this : 'Yes I have many human faults and failures.....But God bends down and uses us, you and me, to be his love and his compassion in the world; he bears our sins, our troubles and our faults. He depends on us to love the world and to show how much he loves it. If we are too concerned with ourselves, we will have no time left for others.'

**Fr Ray Armstrong cm**

## Liturgical Calendar

**Sun 31 Mar 4th Sunday of Lent**

8.30 Fr Eamon Raftery (Rec Dec)  
 10.00 Marie Alda (Birthday)  
 11.30 Kathleen Gannon (Rec Dec)  
 6pm Patrick Linden (Anniv)

**Mon 1 April Lent feria**

10.00 Emerita & Sebastian de Sa (RIP)  
 7.30pm Jerome Vaz (Rec Dec)

**Tues 2 April Lent feria**

10.00 William & Isabella McGinty (Anniv)

**Wed 3 April Lent feria**

10.00 Edith Dempster (Anniv)

**Thurs 4 April Lent feria**

10.00 Anthony & Verodiana Fernandes (RIP)

**7pm—8pm Adoration and Rosary Around The World**

**Fri 5 April Lent feria**

10.00 Private Intention  
 7.30 First Friday Mass for Life

**Sat 6 April Lent feria**

10.00 Edith Dempster (1st Anniv)

# **A letter from Cardinal Vincent:**

## **1. Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse, Friday 12 April 2019**

In February 2016, Pope Francis asked each Bishops' Conference to establish a Day of Prayer for Survivors of Abuse. In response, the Bishops of England and Wales designated the Friday of the Fifth Week of Lent to be observed as this Day of Prayer. This year, therefore, the Day of Prayer is Friday 12 April.

I ask that this Day of Prayer is observed in all our parishes and chapels. It is important that we do so. Day by day, the pain of those who have suffered abuse, and its lasting corrosive impact, are brought more fully into the light. The pain of that betrayal of trust is all the more profound when the abuse took place within the community of the Catholic Church. We also see so clearly the failures in leadership in the Church that have exacerbated the sufferings of those who have been abused. We have plenty of reasons to pray.

We pray for those who bear this pain. We pray for their strength and perseverance.

We pray for those who have been caught up in the circles of mistrust, silence and complicity which emanate from this abuse.

We seek repentance and renewal for all who have failed in their duty to protect and respond to the victims of these crimes.

We pray for a renewal in the life of our Church that has become a lodging place for this evil.

We pray in confidence that the Lord does not abandon His Church but constantly calls us to purify our ways of life.

We pray with Mary, our holy Mother, and finest expression of our Holy Mother, the Church.

I ask you to respond to this earnest request in the ways you judge to be best, and to use this message as you think fit. The prayers provided on the website of the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors may be helpful to you:

[http://www.protectionofminors.va/content/tuteladeiminori/en/resources\\_section/day-of-prayer\\_page.html](http://www.protectionofminors.va/content/tuteladeiminori/en/resources_section/day-of-prayer_page.html).

For my part, I will keep the day with extra simplicity and self-denial and will celebrate the 5.30pm Mass in the Cathedral with these prayers constantly in my heart.

## **2. Knife Crime**

At the recent meeting of the Deans, attention was brought to the dramatic rise in knife crime in London, to the number of its victims and to the fear that is spreading in some communities.

**On Saturday 6 April 2019, I will be taking part in a Rally in Trafalgar Square under the heading 'Standing Together'.**

**The Rally runs from 2.00-4.00pm.**

It will focus first on the tragic consequences of knife crime, sharing a lament with those who have suffered the loss of life of a loved one and now carry a burden of great sorrow. Then it will proclaim the goodness of so many young people and give forth a voice of hope, much needed at this time.

I would be grateful if notice of this event could be given, especially in the London parishes, so that those who might think of joining in this public act of witness are encouraged to do so.



## ACCOMMODATING THE EDUCATION OF RURAL DEAF CHILDREN.

The **Ambo Lazarist Deaf School (ALDS)** educates Deaf children who mostly come from rural villages surrounding Ambo. Many of them, even at the age of 15yrs have **never** been to school before. Some were registered at their local school but finding themselves in classrooms of up to and over 70 students, they were unable to keep up with the lessons and could not progress. Some teachers told their parents to take them out of school as they were not capable of learning. A number of them were taken out of school as they were being endlessly mocked and jeered by their peers.

In some rural areas people believe that a disability such as deafness is the result of a curse on the family. This brings a great deal of shame on the family and so they hide their child away from people.

This results in the child being isolated, stigmatised and confused about their identity and wondering why they are so different to others. It's a very lonely existence.

When we visit the rural districts and meet the parents of Deaf children, we have an opportunity to give them some Deaf awareness training, challenge the myth's about their child's disability and help them to appreciate their child's abilities instead.

They also get an appreciation of how the Deaf school in Ambo can give their child the opportunity to reach his/her full potential in education.

Through the use of Sign Language we aim to unlock his/her capacity to access communication and learning. After all such meetings, the parents we meet are often desperate to give their child such a precious opportunity



Meeting with parents of Deaf children at one of the rural districts.



25 rural Deaf children who registered at ALDS in 2018.

In the past two years, as a result of these visits to the rural districts, we have welcomed **44** new children to the school.

The majority of them staying with relatives in the town. Since they are coming from poor farming families we offer them an allowance of **£10 per month** to pay for their transport, upkeep and accommodation. (**£4,400 for 44 students each year**).

Any funds raised this weekend will go towards the costs of accommodating the rural Deaf children in the town.

Your generosity and kindness in supporting these children is greatly appreciated and genuinely helps to transform their lives.

If you would like to donate on-line or  
'Sponsor A Child'  
please visit:  
[www.edp-ambo.com](http://www.edp-ambo.com)

You can follow the progress of the school at:  
*Facebook: Ethiopia Deaf Project.*

ou can contact Fr. Stephen at:  
[smonaghancm@gmail.com](mailto:smonaghancm@gmail.com)



The joy of reading



<b>Lenten Adoration and Prayer</b>	<b>Planned Giving</b>	<b>Our prayers are requested for the sick and housebound</b>
Adoration and prayer in the chapel of Daughters of Charity Provincial House, The Ridgeway <b>4 pm - 5 pm</b> on Sundays in Lent, followed by a cup of tea.	Planned Giving envelopes are available in the Narthex. If you would like to start using envelopes for your weekly offering, please complete the Parish Registration Form. A simple alternative is to give by bank standing. If you are a tax-payer, please also complete a Gift Aid declaration so that we can reclaim the tax you have paid on your offering.	Rita O'Brien Betty Allen Maria Darico Mary Raye Iris Moore Ulla Gemen Allan Van Der Loo Raymond Treanor Pauline O'Mahony
<b>Mass For Migrant People</b>	<b>The Scrutinies</b>	<b>The World United In Prayer</b>
The annual Mass for Migrant People will take place this year on Bank holiday <b>Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May</b> at Westminster Cathedral, with Bishop Michael Campbell OSA presiding. There will be a banner procession at 10am, with Mass starting at 10.30am. Further information and a poster will follow nearer the time.	The Scrutinies are questions that are proposed to people who are preparing for baptism. It will take place at the <b>Stations 8.30am</b> Sunday Mass.	<b>Join the world in prayer.</b>
<b>Stations of the Cross</b>	<b>Ordination Chinedu Eneh</b>	<b>Thursday 4th April 7pm—8pm</b>
Stations each Friday during Lent after the 10 am Mass.	We are happy to announce the Ordination of Chinedu Eneh on <b>Saturday 15th June at 12 noon.</b> Fr Chinedu will say his first Mass on <b>Sunday 16th June</b>	<b>World Adoration and Rosary.</b> This project inspired from the parish of Fatima in Portugal for the world to celebrate the centenary of St Francisco and St Jacinta departure to heaven. During adoration the Rosary will be prayed for the intentions that our Mother Mary requested in Fatima.
<b>Lenten Service of Reconciliation</b>		<b>1. World Peace</b> <b>2. For the conversion of sinners</b> <b>3. Reparation to the hearts of Jesus and Mary.</b> <b>4. Russia's Conversion.</b> <b>5. For the souls in purgatory.</b>
<b>The Service of Reconciliation. Priests will be available for individual Confession and Absolution. Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> April 7:30pm</b>		<b>Consecration Prayer to the Heart of Mary</b>
<b>Baptism Course</b>		<b>'Jesus want to establish in the world devotion to my Immaculate Heart. I promise salvation to those who embrace it, and these souls will be loved by God, like flowers placed by me to adorn His throne'. June 13th 1917</b>
The second part of the Baptism Course is on <b>2nd April 8pm</b> in the Bethany Room. Attendance by parents at this course is a Diocesan requirement for the first two children or if there is an interval of five or more years between the children's birth.	<b>Sunflower Growing Competition</b>	<b>SERVING THE PARISH IN THE SPIRIT OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL</b>
<b>Fr Stephen Monaghan CM</b>	Calling all young parishioners of primary school age—we are having a Sunflower Growing Competition here at the Sacred Heart. This weekend you will be able to buy a Sunflower Growing Kit containing 3 seeds, potting compost, a flower pot and set of instructions telling you how to grow your sunflowers. The kit will cost just <b>£2.00</b> . See the blue notice boards in the Narthex for further information.	<i>Fr Michael McCullagh C.M.</i>
Fr Stephen will make an appeal at all Masses today for the Ambo School for Deaf Children in Ethiopia.	<b>Rosary Beads</b>	<i>Fr Noel Travers CM</i>
	Do you have old rosary beads that are no longer needed? The Catenian Rosary Group has been sending unused rosaries to Aborigines in Australia and to various countries in Africa since 2009, but there is always a demand for more. If you, or your family or friends, have unused rosaries hidden away in cupboards or drawers, you can help the cause by sending them to John Riley, 112 Lonsdale Road, Bolton, Lancs. BL1 4PN, or contact him on 01204 845094 or dor.jonriley@yahoo.co.uk	<i>Fr Ray Armstrong C.M (Chaplain to Provincial House Daughters of Charity of SVP)</i>
	<b>Sunday Collection for 24th March 2019</b>	<b>Parish Administrator</b> <i>Melanie Gibbons</i> <b>millhill@rcdow.org.uk</b>
	<b>£1,704.58</b>	<b>Parish Safeguarding Representative contact at 0208 959 1021</b> <b>millhillsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk</b>
<i>Thank you for your offering</i>		
<b>Notices for Bulletin</b> please email: millhill@rcdow.org.uk <b>PARISH OFFICE HOURS : Monday to Friday 10.30-1pm and 2pm-3.30pm 0208 959 1021</b>		