



St Etheldreda's

WEEK BEGINNING 11 MAY 2025 - FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

NEWSLETTER

Mass Times

Sundays: 9 am (English)

11 am (Sung Latin)

Monday-Friday: 1 pm

'I give eternal life to my sheep.'



The Parish Priest Writes...

BY FR ANTHONY FURLONG IC

Fourth Sunday of Easter. It has been a most eventful first week in post for me and I'm enjoying the challenge of being on a steep learning curve. My knees, however, are creaking in protest at having to live in a steep, narrow house with four flights of stairs! Thanks to the team who put on the coffee morning last Sunday and for so many of you who stayed to introduce yourselves after the 1100 Mass and also to thank Fr. Tom for the sterling work he has done over the last two and a half years. When his schedule allows, he will still celebrate occasional Sunday Masses and weddings.

From Wednesday afternoon, the eyes of the world became focussed on a chimney atop the Sistine Chapel in Rome as the Conclave began. As a voice of authority, what the Bishop of Rome has to say is noted by millions of people who have no connection whatsoever with Catholicism. In an age of global communications, the Pope has a voice which the Holy Spirit uses to change lives for the better. Just 24 hours later, "Habemus Papam" and Leo XIV takes to the world stage. May we be filled with gratefulness that the Chair of Peter is once more occupied and the mission of Christ continues.

Talking of mission, today is Good Shepherd Sunday on which there's always a second collection to finance the training of present day students for the priesthood.

Please be generous. London has been a major focus of thanksgiving eighty years after VE Day. Let us continue our prayers for a swift resolution to the violence of our present age.

Today's Readings

Acts 13: 14, 43-52; [9 am Mass only: Psalm 99. **Response: "We are his people, the sheep of his flock."**]; Apocalypse 7: 9, 14-17; John 10: 27-30.

Sunday's Music (11am)

Haydn Missa brevis in F

Mendelssohn Hear my Prayer

Mendelssohn O for the wings of a dove
Credo III, Regina caeli, Domine salvam fac

Music Director: Robert Patterson

Patronal Feast Day

Our Patronal Feast Day will be celebrated this year on Sunday 22 June.

Thought for the week

Full of grace, indeed, is Mary. She belongs to the two Covenants, and has grace from both: to the Old, which endows her with the grace of motherhood, and to the New which gives her the grace of virginity. She has the grace of chaste splendour before men, and the grace of salvation before God. The dignity and majesty of her exterior gifts delight men; the abundance and perfection of her interior gifts delight God. Hence she is truly blessed among women; blessed above all women by virtue of the sacred seed which the Creator enclosed in her womb, and from whence all blessings flow. Thus, she not only has all blessedness as her own possession, but she gave birth to the permanent source of every blessing. **Blessed Antonio Rosmini**

Please Support Us



Priest Training Fund

Today is Good Shepherd Sunday and there will be a retiring collection to support the Priest Training Fund (Diocese of Westminster). This fund pays for the priestly formation of men for the Catholic priesthood. There are currently 50 men studying at Allen Hall seminary, 13 of whom are from the Diocese of Westminster. 2 of these are deacons for Westminster. There are also 2 seminarians at the Royal English College in Valladolid. Last year 3 deacons who studied at Allen Hall were ordained priests. This fund also supports the ongoing enrichment and formation of our ordained priests. Your generous donation helps ensure we can support these men who are called to be like Christ the Good Shepherd. Donation envelopes are available on the cloister table. Please continue to pray for vocations and for our priests. You can use the QR code to make your donation online or visit www.rcdow.org.uk/donations. Thank you for your generosity.

The Westminster Way

'A pilgrimage on foot is a great aid for rediscovering the value of silence, effort and simplicity of life. In the coming year, pilgrims of hope will surely travel the ancient and more modern routes in order to experience the Jubilee to the full.'

(Spes non confundit 5)

To celebrate the Jubilee Year, one of our diocesan initiatives is to invite you to travel in the steps of the martyrs and saints, who are 'Beacons of Hope', beginning at Tower Hill and ending at Westminster Cathedral. Go to <https://rcdow.org.uk/jubilee-2025/westminster-way/> for detailed information.

Sponsoring the Choir

For those parishioners attending the 11am Mass, please consider sponsoring the choir by taking a Choir Sponsorship Form from the cloister table, fill in your details and drop it though the Presbytery letter-box. A monthly or annual standing order would be the optimal way of your contributing to this scheme.

Donation Appeal

Donation Appeal. We hope you will consider continuing to support St Etheldreda's. We are cutting costs where appropriate but it would be of immense help if you would consider supporting the parish by setting up a regular standing order. This can be done either by completing the standing order form available from the cloister table or through our parish [Diocesan microsite page](#). Individual donations can be made through either our Digital Collection Plate (DONA) that can be found in the cloister table

"Habemus Papam"

Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost has been elected Pope Leo XIV as the 267th Bishop of Rome. "Peace be with all of you!" – the first words of Pope Leo XIV. He is the first Augustinian Pope and the second Roman Pontiff from the Americas after Pope Francis. However, unlike Jorge Mario Bergoglio, the 69-year-old Robert Francis Prevost is from the northern part of the American continent, though he spent many years as a missionary in Peru before being elected head of the Augustinians for two consecutive terms. Let us pray for our new Holy Father.

Etheldreda, Princess, Abbess, Saint

Etheldreda's World - Princess, Abbess, Saint. Dr Charles Moseley from Oxford University, wrote this book to mark 1,350 years since St Etheldreda founded a monastery on the site of what is now Ely cathedral in 673 AD. What was it like to be a Princess (c. 636-679 AD) an Abbess in a land where the old gods were still honoured by many? What power did women in her position wield? What did it mean to be revered as a Saint? This excellent book is available from the Presbytery. **Price 12.99.**

Getting married at St Etheldreda's – how to proceed

You should e-mail the Parish Priest at least 6 months before your intended wedding explaining who you are, your religious background, why you wish to get married at St Etheldreda's, and when (exact day, if possible). If the church accepts your request you will be invited to a preliminary meeting where the initial paperwork will be completed and the whole procedure will be explained and set in motion.

Collections

9 am: Plate -- Contactless: --
11 am: Plate -- Contactless: --
Donations made by standing order, calculated weekly, amount to **£426.44.**

or our DONA webpage link -

<https://donate.mydona.com/st-etheldredas-ely-place>.

If you are a UK tax-payer, please consider gift aiding your donation. Any donation you make will be increased by 25% at no expense to yourself. If you have any queries about how to donate please contact our Parish Administrator at enquiries@stetheldreda.com. Your donations will enable us to meet the costs of the day-to-day running of the Parish. Thank you for your support.

Mass Intentions

Sun 11th May
Fourth Sunday of Easter
9.00 am
Mrs Casey RIP
11.00 am
For the people of the parish

Mon 12th May
Easter Feria
1.00 pm
Betty Crawford RIP

Tue 13th May
Easter Feria
1.00 pm
Joseph Fernandes' Family GE

Wed 14th May
St Matthias
1.00 pm
Brian Patterson RIP

Thu 15th May
Easter Feria
1.00 pm
Elizabeth Hennessy & Family

Fri 16th May
Easter Feria
1.00 pm
Holy Souls

Contact

Parish Priest: Fr Anthony Furlong
IC
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www.stetheldreda.co.uk
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Mon–Fri (9.00am–5.00pm)
St Etheldreda's Church,
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Institute of Charity ([Rosminians](#)).