



St Etheldreda's

WEEK BEGINNING 4 JANUARY 2026 - 2ND SUNDAY AFTER THE NATIVITY

NEWSLETTER

Mass Times

Sundays: 9 am (English)

11 am (Sung Latin)

Monday-Friday: 1 pm

'The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.'



2nd Sunday After The Nativity (Year A)

Fr. Tom and I watched the New Year fireworks on TV, whilst the actual sound reverberated around Ely Place and thousands of hardy souls stood in those chilly vantage points on the embankment. Perhaps some of you were among the crowd. What stuck me about the whole spectacle was that the theme of "togetherness" in the display was mirrored by the filming of the multi-racial multitude and interviews with individuals who had come from far and near, unanimous in their opinion that there's something special about being here in our capital to mark the turning of the year. Yes, there's much work still to be done to care for those who are still excluded from sharing the prosperity of our society, but we work for Christ in the context of a stable, tolerant democracy, assailed but not defeated by voices of extremism. Among our New Year Resolutions, let's be determined to do our part in building the New Jerusalem in England's green and pleasant land. Renewed thanks for the many gifts and greetings received from you in this joyful season. May 2026 bring many blessings to you and your families.

Fr Anthony Furlong IC

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.**

Sunday's Music (11am)

Goller Missa Brevis

Bruckner Locus iste

Bruckner Tantum ergo

Credo III, Ave Regina caelorum, Domine salvam fac.

Organ voluntary: J S Bach In dir ist freude BWV 615

Music Director: Robert Patterson

Today's Readings

Sirach 24:1-2, 8-12; [9 am Mass only: Psalm 147. **Response: 'The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.'**]; Ephesians 1:3-6, 15-18; John 1:1-18.

Thought for the week

It is by loving one another in God that friends, even when they are far apart from one another, are always most close and united together; and this union is not brought about by talk or letters or any other sort of communication: it is entirely internal and spiritual, independent of material circumstances. In this case, what one loves is not the success of one's friend but the friend himself, and that within him which is the most excellent part — his soul and his eternal salvation.

Blessed Antonio Rosmini

Please Support Us



Let us remember in our prayers:

Jonathan Wood and Joanna Miller; recently married here.
Those who are sick, especially Geoffrey Cobden and Mary Ann Manning.

Coffee Morning

Call into the crypt for coffee and delicious home-made cakes after the 11 am Mass. It will be an opportunity, among other things, for visitors and newcomers to the parish to introduce themselves and for us to make them feel at home.

Mary's Meals

Would like to thank everyone in the parish for their generosity in response to our Foreign Currency initiative. It raised a terrific £602.35, which means Mary's Meals will be able to feed 32 children one good meal every school day for a whole year because of your support. Please continue to pray for the work of Mary's Meals. God bless you all.

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.

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.

The Epiphany of the Lord: 6 January 2026

Mass Times: 1 pm (English)
6 pm (Sung Latin).

Christmas Offerings

Many thanks for your generous Christmas offering to your Rosminians clergy which amounted to £885, of which £160 was gift-aided.

Camden Food Bank

The generosity of many in recent weeks has enabled the food bank to assist a significant number of families in food poverty this Christmas. The warehouse is now closed until 9 January; so we can pause our collection until next week. Thanks to all donors.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes

Travelling overnight by luxury coach from 9 to 14 February 2026. Leaving Slough and Ealing Broadway on 9 Feb 2026 and departing Lourdes on 13 February for a visit to the Shrine of the Miraculous Medal in Rue de Bac, Paris on 14 February morning and arriving in London later on 14 February 2026. Full board, exciting festival devotional programme, experience the Blessed Sacrament Procession of the Sick, the Candlelight Marian Rosary Procession and the International Mass on the Feast Day followed by Stations, Confessions and Adoration with Hour of Mercy. Travel, full board and programme cost £590. Call Millie on 07957594646 for more info.

Collections

9 am: Plate **£37.46**; Contactless: **£10.00**,
11 am: Plate **£216.55**; Contactless: **£39.00**;
Donations made by standing order, calculated weekly, amount to **£525.67**.
Thank you.



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Mass Intentions

Sun 4th January
2nd Sunday after Christmas
9.00 am
For the people of the parish
11.00 am
Gavin Menzies RIP

Mon 5th January
Christmas Feria
1.00 pm
Marie Francis GE

Tue 6th January
The Epiphany of the Lord
1.00 pm
Elizabeth Hennessy & Family
6.00 pm - Sung Latin Mass

Wed 7th January
Christmas Feria
1.00 pm
Miriam, Andrew & Mark –
Thanksgiving Mass

Thu 8th January
Christmas Feria
1.00 pm
Margaret Jeannet GE

Frid 9th January
Christmas Feria
1.00 pm
Holy Souls

Contact

Parish Priest:
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Parish Office:
Mon–Fri (9.00am–5.00pm)
St Etheldreda's Church,
14 Ely Place,
London EC1N 6RY

Parish Safeguarding
Representative: Victoria Wilson
Tel. 07709347099

Institute of Charity ([Rosminians](#)).