



CATHOLIC LIFE NEWSLETTER



St. Edmund Campion Pray for Us

Dear Parents and Carers

We begin our new academic year as we ended the last one – yes with uncertainty- but also with hope and faith that we will be guided by the Holy Spirit in the mission of our school to:

‘Achieve together through Christ’.

As we enter the challenges ahead in teaching and learning let us never let the light of hope be extinguished. The link below allows us to reflect for a few moments on the importance of hope:

<https://youtu.be/CtENxRBUwUI>



Our school along with many others in the country remained open when the lockdown was put in place back in March. This was to enable children of keyworkers to attend school so that their parents and carers were able to continue going to work enabling essential public services such as health and social care to continue. Please find in the link below a letter of thanks that we received from University Hospitals Birmingham:



Thank you from
University Hospitals



CATHOLIC LIFE NEWSLETTER



Our local parish of Erdington Abbey is served by the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer otherwise known as the Redemptorists. On the 1st August Redemptorists throughout the world celebrated the feast of their founder St. Alphonsus Liguori.

Alphonsus was born in 1696 just outside Naples in Italy. He was the eldest of eight children and after an excellent education he became a successful lawyer. However, after much prayer he decided to leave the legal profession and become a priest. He was ordained a diocesan priest in 1726 and in that role worked with the poor in Naples and surrounding villages.

This desire to reach out to the poor and forgotten in society led him to form a new religious order – the Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer – in 1732. His determination to preach the Good News to those who might not otherwise hear it and his emphasis on prayer and devotion to Our Lady has been spread all over the world by those who followed him as Redemptorist priests and brothers.

As well as being able to preach the Word of God in a way that everyone could understand Alphonsus also wrote many theological books and would eventually be given the title ‘Doctor of Prayer’ by the Church. His emphasis on the need for prayer is set out in his book, ‘Prayer, the Great Means of Salvation’:

“ I say, and repeat, and will keep on saying as long as I live, that our whole salvation depends on prayer.... For if you pray, your salvation will be secure.”

St. Alphonsus did not believe that adherence to the law and threat of punishment was God’s plan for us , but rather it was not fear but love that should characterise the Christian way of life.

The mission statement of the Redemptorists ‘Copiosa apud Eum Redemptio’ – ‘With Him there is plentiful Redemption’ is as valid today as it was in 1732.

Every month Pope Francis has a prayer intention in which he asks us to think about and pray for a specific topic. These intentions are informed by communication that he has with local churches throughout the world, and are shared for the challenges of humanity and the mission of the Church. The Holy Father’s prayer intention for September is ‘Respect for the Planet’s Resources’. Let us join our prayers with his that every person will care for creation and that the planet’s resources will not be plundered but shared in a just and respectful manner:

<https://youtu.be/NY9ULrc2ZVA>



CATHOLIC LIFE NEWSLETTER



Although churches are now open for public worship, mass each day and every Sunday continue to be streamed live from St. Chad's Cathedral and here is the link to access these:

www.stchadscathedral.org.uk

Redemptorist Publications also continue to make Sunday mass available online after 12 midday every Saturday. Mass is celebrated by Fr. Denis McBride C.Ss.R from the Redemptorist community in Chawton, Hampshire.

www.rpbooks.co.uk/holy-mass-online

For information on what's going on in our local parish community in Erdington here is a link to the Erdington Abbey newsletter:

<http://www.erdingtonabbey.co.uk/eacontent/uploads/2020/08/Bulletin-22nd-Sunday-in-Ordinary-Time-30-Aug-2020.pdf>

Gospel Reflection – 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time– Matthew 18:15-20



Admitting that we have done something wrong – or made a mistake – is not always easy. All too often we try to find all sorts of ways to avoid saying 'sorry I made a mistake, please forgive me'.

Being reconciled to one another is an important facet of life in order for us to live peacefully side by side. This is true whether you have faith or not. Our faith in God as a forgiving father, and our seeking of that forgiveness from him, is given to us through the sacrament of reconciliation.





CATHOLIC LIFE NEWSLETTER




*Lord,
Hear Our
Prayer*

To the Holy Spirit

You are fire; enkindle me in your love.

You are light: enlighten my mind with the knowledge of eternal things.

You are the dove: give me innocence of life.

You are the gentle breeze: disperse the storms of my passions.

You are the tongue: teach me how to bless you always.

You are the cloud: shelter me under the shadow of your protection.

You are the giver of all heavenly gifts: animate me, I beseech you, with your grace; sanctify me with your wisdom; adopt me by your goodness as your child, and save me in your infinite mercy; so that I may ever bless

you, praise you, and love you; first during this life on earth, and then in heaven for all eternity. Amen.

St. Alphonsus Liguori