

A DAY OF BLESSING FOR ENGAGED COUPLES Have you recently become engaged? We invite you both to come to the **11:00 Mass on Sunday, 11th February** and to come forward when asked to receive a special blessing to give you graces to build on your mutual love for each other.

If you would like to receive a blessing that day please contact olemoffice@rcdea.org.uk as soon as possible and give Annelize your names and contact details.

‘GIFT AID - THE GOOD WAY TO GIVE TO YOUR CHURCH’ Gift Aid is an arrangement that allows charities, including churches, to reclaim tax on donations made by a taxpayer. It covers weekly giving as well as one-off donations. This means that every donation you make is worth **25%** more to your Church, at no cost to you.

TEAMS OF OUR LADY is an international Christian lay movement that works to enrich marriage spirituality for couples who seek to live their marriages sacramentally. Contact us: ddpawelski@hotmail.com

BAPTISMS Normally on the last Sunday of the month at the **09:30** and **11:00 Masses**). New parents are required to attend a course for Baptism Preparation and to ensure that the one or two Godparents are practising Catholics. Please **click on:** [Baptism | Our Lady of The Assumption and The English Martyrs \(olem.org.uk\)](#)

MARRIAGES Are not normally celebrated in this Parish during Penitential Seasons: Advent and Lent. Six months notice must be given and the Diocesan Pre-Marriage course which is Mandatory. Please see our website: **Click on** [Marriage | Our Lady of The Assumption and The English Martyrs \(olem.org.uk\)](#)

FUNERALS Take place during a **12:15 weekday Mass**. This ensures that there will be a priest available and it has proven to be the most convenient time for those travelling and for either the Burial or Crematorium to follow. **Click on** [Funerals | Our Lady of The Assumption and The English Martyrs \(olem.org.uk\)](#)

RESOUND A group for children who have completed First Holy Communion and are in primary school. Sessions include games, crafts, music, as well as prayer and catechesis. Fortnightly, Wednesday evenings, 7-8 pm in the parish hall. Dates: **31st January; 14th and 28th February; 13th and 27th March; 10th and 24th April.** <https://forms.office.com/r/2SeEjHrC2a>

CATHOLIC YOUNG ADULTS OF CAMBRIDGE (CYAC) We are a community of young Catholics (18-35) who meet regularly to socialize, pray and learn about our Faith. Please contact olemcy@rcdea.org.uk for more details or sign up to the mailing list at bit.ly/CYACsignup

CATHOLIC LISTENING AND PRAYER MINISTRY The Diocesan ministry of listening and prayer offers a series of sessions with trained people of faith to listen and pray with you and suggest where you could go to get further help if necessary. To make an initial appointment, please leave a message at **01603 957653**. Calls are confidential and someone will get back to you within **48 hours**.

PARKING IN LENSFIELD ROAD CAR PARK A kind request that Parishioners should not use St Alban's Primary School car parking side (right hand side as you drive in) on Lensfield Road from Monday to Friday between the hours of 7:00 am and 4:00 pm.

Inviting young people (age 16 – 30) to Transform For Lent The Ignite Team are hosting a weekend retreat for young people at Clare Priory the weekend before Lent begins (**10th – 11th February**). Contemporary music, inspiring talks and passionate prayer times. For more information and to book a place see www.rcdea.org.uk/youth

DO YOU HAVE PICTURES OF OLEM FROM YEARS PAST? If so, you are invited to email pictures you have of the Church or of any Special Occasions at the Church we can upload to our website. Please email your pictures to olemoffice@rcdea.org.uk by the **18th of February 2024**.

CONFESSIONS FOR THE NEXT TWO WEEKENDS Our children who will be making their First Holy Communion will be making their First Confessions this weekend and the following two weekends at 09:00; 10:30 and 16:30. They will be using the Confessional under the organ loft.



80TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS Bishop-Emeritus Alan Hopes, who lives with us in the Rectory, will be celebrating his 80th Birthday 17 March which this year falls on a Sunday. Since it is such a busy day we hope to pre-empt the Bishop's birthday by celebrating it on **Saturday, 16th March from 12:00 – 16:00** in the School Hall. We would ask if there is anyone who would be willing to help organise the event to please contact Annelize in the Rectory Office on **(01223) 350787** or olemoffice@rcdea.org.uk Thank you!

PRAYING WITH ST TERESA OF AVILA Immerse yourself in the life and spirituality of the much-loved Carmelite saint, Teresa of Avila, over a weekend set in the beautiful Stonyhurst estate. The retreat will be preached by Fr Matthew Blake, OCD and runs from **Friday 8th to Sunday 10th March**.

<https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/praying-with-saint-teresa/> to book and for more information.

CALLED TO LOVE A new, unique retreat for singles, dating and engaged couples who want to think more deeply about relationships and the call to marriage. Runs from **Saturday 4th to Sunday 5th May, with the option of an night's stay on Friday**.

<https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/called-to-love/> to book and for more information

RCIA CATECHUMENS, CANDIDATES AND CONFIRM-ANDI are reminded that there is a free coach leaving at **13:00** to take you and your Sponsor to the Cathedral in Norwich for the Rite of Election which begins at **15:00** on **18 February 2024**. We suggest you come to the **11:00 Mass** that Sunday since the afternoon event is not a Mass.

LAST WEEK'S INCOME

Standing Orders	£	2,148.00
Offertory Olem	£	1,246.00
Dona and On-Line Giving	£	1,098.00
Fen Ditton	£	99.00
Bar Hill	£	102.00
Building Repair Fund	£	345.00
Donations	£	411.00
Other Income	£	1,020.00
Total	£	6,469.00

Thank You!

Correction to an Article in the recent Diocesan Newspaper entitled “Dozen East Anglia churches benefit from grants boost.” The article mentioned that OLEM received a grant of £55,476.37 but it was not a grant given to us in 2023. Rather the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme returned the VAT which we paid on work which was carried out in 2021-2022 when we installed the new lighting system, serviced the organ, upgraded the sound system and cleaned the large painting above the altar.—Slightly different from the article which could be misleading.

Please accept our deepest gratitude to those who have already upgraded their offerings and those who have volunteered their time and talents.

My Parish Commitment pamphlets are available on the website and at the back of the Church table for those interested in upgrading their offerings and volunteering their time and talents. It is also available on the Parish Website under “Newsletters”. Please contact the Parish Office on **01223 350787** or email: olemoffice@rcdea.org.uk for more information.

RESTORATION PREDICTION In the early part of 2024 we hope to have a prediction for the necessary work on the church to replace finials and crockets that have been taken down. We will keep you informed. Thank you for your continued generosity!

PARISH PRAYER O God, through Baptism you have made us your children, heirs of heaven and members of the Church. Make our parish a family of one heart and mind in love towards you. Grant that our common life and work may be an example to all about us. Guide our Rector and assistant Priests in their work along with all those involved in ministry. Acknowledge the intercessions of Our Lady of The Assumption and The English Martyrs, our patrons; and keep us secure in your love. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

FOR THE SICK

God our Father, Creator of the world, almighty and merciful, out of love for us You sent your Son into the world as the doctor of our souls and our bodies, look upon your children who, in this difficult time of confusion and dis-

may in many regions of the world, turn to you seeking strength, salvation and relief, deliver us from illness and fear, heal our sick. Do not abandon them in the moment of trial but deliver them from all evil. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

MASS INTENTIONS If you have an intention for a Mass, please put it through the Rectory letterbox with your name and address and offering or post it to: **The Parish Office, The Catholic Rectory, Hills Road, Cambridge, CB2 1JR**. The intentions are announced each day at the Mass and will also be posted in this newsletter. **We now have the facility for people to make online requests for Masses to be offered.** Please visit www.olem.org.uk/mass-intentions/ and follow the online instructions. If you have any queries, please email olemoffice@rcdea.org.uk and we will do our best to assist you.

BROOKFIELDS HOSPITAL, MILL ROAD If you have a Catholic relative in the Lord Byron wards contact: Deacon John Bell at johnbell2010@btinternet.com or ring him on **(07502560610)**

ADDENBROOKES AND ROYAL PAPWORTH HOSPITALS & NURSING HOMES Please check with the Ward Clerk that the patient is **REGISTERED** as a Catholic.

SUPPORTING CATHOLIC OUTREACH In this Parish we support two international Catholic Agencies: **Aid to the Church in Need** <http://www.acnuk.org/> and **CAFOD** <http://www.cafod.org.uk/> as well as **Food-bank** (Cambridge) and **The Cambridge Nazareth Trust** (Holy Land schools and parishes).

OTHER MASSES IN THE PARISH

Blackfriars Priory Tel: (01223) 741251
Sundays 08:15, 09:15 (Dominican Rite) 11:00, 18:00
Weekdays 07:30, Saturdays 09.30

St Edmund's College St Edmund's College
Tel: (01223) 336250
Sundays 10:30; Mon-Fri 7,15;
Holy days of obligation during the week 18:15

University Chaplaincy Fisher House
Sundays 09:00 (Sung Latin); 11:00 (Sung English);
17:30 (Said)
Weekday Masses 13:05 Monday - Saturday
followed by buffet lunch

Every blessing to you throughout the week!! Monsignor Provost Eugène Harkness, Fr Adrian Gates, The Revd Fr Anil Zachariah, OCD, The Revd Dr Deacon Gianluca Savini, and (In Residence) The Very Revd Canon Dr Giuseppe Rizzi and The Rt Revd Alan Hopes - Bishop Emeritus.

RESPOSITORY SHOP

We have re-activated the Repository and it is to be found in The Rectory. There are cards, pamphlets and other items available. It is only open during week days **Monday-Friday from 09:00-14:00**.

TOILETS ARE OPEN DURING MASS TIMES
PARENTS ARE ASKED TO
PLEASE ACCOMPANY THEIR CHILDREN