

UPDATES: Parish Office - Please contact the office for all enquiries: (+352) 661 127 962 / parish@catholic.lu Office hours are 08:00 - 12:00 Mon - Fri.

Fr Michael Cusack CSsR has been the confirmed by the Cardinal as Fr Ed's successor. He will arrive in early October in Luxembourg.

Weekday Masses at St Alphonse: the 7.30 am Mass has been cancelled until further notice.

First Holy Communion 2020 important update: This will be celebrated at two special Saturday Masses: 11.00 am on 14 and 21 November. More information will be sent out via email.

Rosary: you are invited to join in saying the Rosary on Sundays either from 10.30 am in the Garden Room or from 5.30pm before evening Mass.

Christmas in a Shoebox Appeal: The 2020 Christmas-in-a-shoebox season is starting this Sunday. Even more children are deprived as the poor communities are worst hit by the pandemic. Hence, we feel compelled more than ever to help. We will be running the appeal until the end of October 2020. If you wish to fill your own box, empty boxes with instructions will be available on a table outside the main doors of the church. Filled boxes can be dropped off during any English speaking mass on Saturdays or Sundays from mid September until the end of October. Unfortunately, there will be no stand to purchase pre-packed boxes this year. Instead, you can make a donation and we will pack the boxes for the amount received. The base price for a filled shoebox, including transportation fees, is 30 Euros. All boxes are packed with great care and with good quality items. You can transfer the money to the parish account via the *Giving* tab on catholic.lu and mention "Shoebox appeal 2020" in the reference. Thank you for your support - Shoebox team.

Children's Liturgy: There is no Children's Liturgy during the 11.30 am Mass at the moment. Arrangements for the new school year will be announced soon.

Eucharistic Ministers needed: if you would be willing to exercise this ministry, please contact the parish office.

Confirmation programme for adults: If you would be interested in enrolling in a preparation programme for adults, please contact the parish office in the first instance: parish@catholic.lu

Message from Fr Ed

'Through many dangers, toils and snares, [we] have already come; 'tis grace has brought us safe thus far, and grace will lead us home'. These words from Amazing Grace speak to me of God's guiding, inspiring and protecting presence, and I have had a clear sense of this presence since I arrived in 2012 as pastor of our community. We have faced challenges and obstacles – together; we have been uplifted and inspired – together; we have celebrated socially – together; we have constantly reached out to those in need, in our midst and far beyond – again, together.

We see every Sunday and each week the wonderful diversity of our community, held together in the unity of our faith; we see the commitment, energy, generosity and open-ness to God of our children, young people and adults; we celebrate our praise of God with solemnity, often less-formally, but always with joy. Each year, a constant cycle of catechesis continues, with people of every age being formed in the faith. In short, we have so much to thank the Lord for; and if we can hold on to this spirit of gratitude, it will nourish us in faith and life.

I personally have found my 8 years in Luxembourg immensely fulfilling, inspiring and satisfying. I can't adequately put into words how grateful I am to the people of our community for all you have given to me: your care, support, love, affection and the example of your faith; from the bottom of my heart, a huge Thank You!

I was reflecting on what might be the highlights for me of my time here... a futile exercise! Our joy-filled weekly celebrations of Mass; First Holy Communion and Confirmation Masses; simply talking and sharing life; St Patrick's Day (and other) processions – and so much more. I am grateful to our Cardinal for his constant encouragement and support to us – and his presence with us today; we are very conscious that we are part of the wider, international church in Luxembourg, and will continue to play our part in it.

I was delighted to be able to recommend Fr Michael Cusack to the Cardinal as my replacement: Fr Michael, as you will soon see, is a dynamic, personable and experienced Redemptorist, and I have every confidence he will be an excellent pastor to our community, which under his care will continue to grow.

Wishing you all every good wish and blessing – as I will keep you in my prayers, please keep me in yours!

Fr Ed

MASS SETTING : Mass of St Alphonse

OPENING HYMN : Here I am to worship



So, here I am to wor-ship, here I am to bow down, here I am to
say that You're my God. And You're al - to - geth - er love - ly, al - to - geth - er
wor - thy, al - to - geth - er won - der - ful to me.

1. Light of the world
you stepped down into darkness,
opened my eyes, let me see;
beauty that made this heart adore you
hope of a life spent with you.
2. King of all days, oh, so highly exalted,
glorious in heaven above;

humbly you came to the earth you created
all for love's sake became poor

after 3rd refrain:

3. I'll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross;
I'll never know how much it cost
to see my sin upon that cross
And I'll never know how much it cost...

PSALM 144 : The Lord is close to all who call him



Response: The Lord is close to all who call him.

PREPARATION OF THE GIFTS : Amazing Grace

1. Amazing grace! How sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found;
Was blind, but now I see
2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

3. Through many dangers, toils and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home
4. The Lord has promised good to me,
His Word my hope secures;
He will my Shield and Portion be,
As long as life endures

COMMUNION : 10 000 reasons

*Bless the Lord, Oh my soul
Oh my soul, worship his holy name
Sing like never before, Oh my soul
I'll worship your holy name.*

1. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes.

2. You're rich in love and you're slow to anger
Your name is great and your heart is king
For all your goodness, I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.
3. And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forevermore

COMMUNION II : Panis Angelicus

RECESSIONAL : Sing it in the valleys

*Sing it in the valleys,
Shout it from the mountain tops;
Jesus came to save us,
And his saving never stops.
He is King of Kings,
And new life he brings,
Sing it in the valleys,
Shout it from the mountain tops, (Oh!)
Shout it from the mountain tops.*

1. Jesus, you are by my side,
You take all my fears
if I only come to you,
you will heal the pain of years.
2. You have not deserted me,
Though I go astray
Jesus take me in your arms
Help me walk with you today.
3. Jesus, you are living now, Jesus, I believe,
Jesus, take me, heart and soul,
Yours alone I want to be.