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## Welcome to Father Vlad's Newsletter!

*I will be glad to stay in touch with you for updates and special seasonal messages, but if you prefer not to receive these messages, please unsubscribe below.  
Thank you.*

[www.fathervlad.com](http://www.fathervlad.com)

## Newsletter nr 59 - 21st September 2025 Twenty-fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

### *Our Lady of Walsingham*

*Next Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> September, we shall be celebrating the national feast of Our Lady of Walsingham. During the Holy Week of 1959, my first year at Imperial College, I went on my first Students Cross: a walk-with-full-sleeping-kit pilgrimage from Ely Place - then the RC University Chaplaincy church, London - to Walsingham. Eventually it turned out to be a turning point in my life as, thanks to that week, later that year, I joined Opus Dei.*

*During that trek, a medical student befriended me. As we were coming home by coach, he invited me to Netherhall House, a students' residence run by Opus Dei in Hampstead, London NW3. I was thrilled. I had a reason to cross London from Dulwich, where I lived, to Hampstead, on Gladys (my 125 BSA Bantam motorbike). Without knowing it, I had met a Numerary member of Opus Dei.*

*Soon I was invited to help set up the recently Opus Dei acquired facility in Oxford: Grandpont House. A great excuse for riding Gladys up and down the A40! Thanks to the decorating skills I acquired helping my father back home, I was soon seen as an asset. I spent many a weekend there, painting and decorating – and punting on the Isis and up the Cherwell.*

*As one does when leant on by a 'friend', I started to attend meditations, days of recollection, even 'Circles' at Netherhall and Grandpont. My spiritual life was being stirred. Riding Gladys I would use my fingers and thumbs as beads to pray the rosary*

*After a Day of Recollection at Netherhall House, I overheard that, just around the corner at Southwell House, the Jesuits had a squash court. A florin (a two bob/shilling coin) in the meter supplied an hour of light.*

*It was on that court that I realised I had been caught out. It was not true that rowing used every muscle in my body. The day after my first match – and even more stiffly the day after – I felt my backside Gluteus Maximus muscles I had never noticed before.*

*Every day of life is an opportunity to learn. Rowing backwards into the future, we never know what lies ahead.*

*If you are interested in how my life evolved, you can go to my website '[fathervlad.com](http://fathervlad.com)' and take a look at "A Journey to Eternity", my auto biography.*

*In 1960, by then a Numerary member of Opus Dei I went to Walsingham as Secretary to the London Leg and the following year as its Leader.*

*My first pilgrimage to Walsingham had a profound impact on my life. Thank you Our Lady of Walsingham.*

## Father Vlad's Blog



Please visit [Father Vlad Blog](#) for latest homilies, messages and musings.

### Recent Blogs:

20/09/2025

[Padel, tennis, and squash: where they all began](#)

15/09/2025

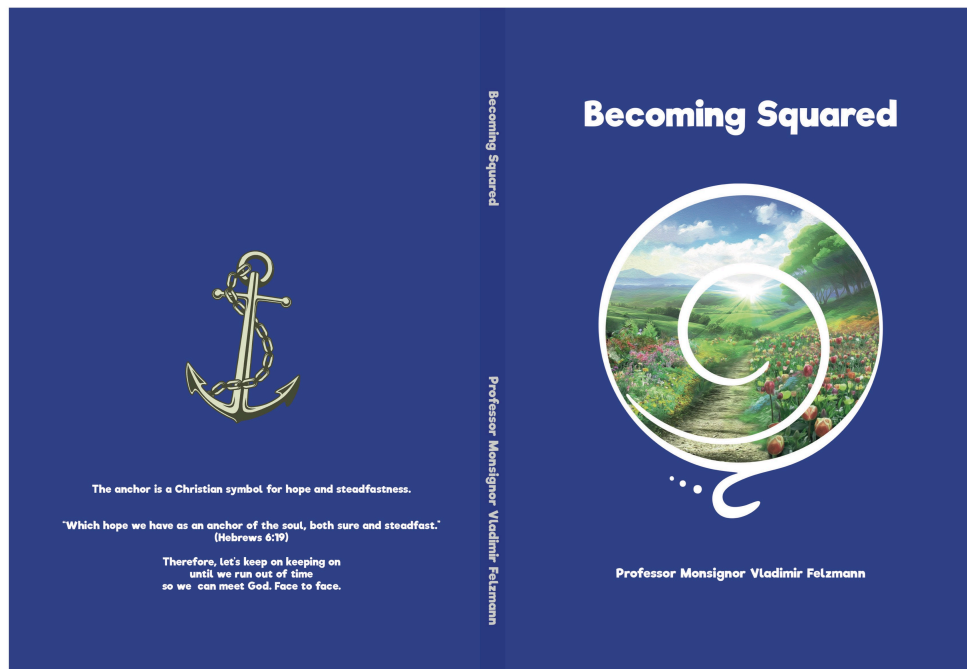
[Funeral Homily: Mark Lakin, at Holy Trinity, Over Warton](#)

14/09/2025 [The Exaltation of the Holy Cross](#)

07/09/2025 [Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time](#)

## Becoming Squared, the latest book by Msgr. Vladimir Felzmann is available!

click on the image below for PDF download



**Dementia Carers Support – getting to know the facts – and helping**

following article, and email Father Vlad with any ideas, comments, suggestions or to get involved.

### [Dementia Carers Support – getting to know the facts – and helping](#)

Please email your suggestions to [vladimirfelzmann@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:vladimirfelzmann@rcdow.org.uk)



The Universe Catholic Weekly has ceased its publication. However, the entire collection of Father Vlad's articles is still available on his [website](#). Father Vlad will continue writing his articles on sport & life, for his [website](#) and newsletter. For the entire collection of Universe Catholic Weekly articles, please click [here](#).



Father Vlad podcasts on **Radio Maria England** are available!

Please follow this link to access all podcasts: [Father Vlad's Radio Maria podcasts](#)

## **A Journey to Eternity**


All, three parts of my memories “A Journey to Eternity” are now available. If you are interested, just email me at

[Vladimirfelzmann@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:Vladimirfelzmann@rcdow.org.uk) or [msg.vladimir.felzmann@gmail.com](mailto:msg.vladimir.felzmann@gmail.com)

and copies will be on their way to you, they put some flesh on what there is in my Biography.

*(click on the images to download a free pdf version)*

	<p>Fr Vlad Felzmann was born in Prague in 1939 and came to London at the end of World War II. He studied Civil Engineering at Imperial College London and received his Doctorate in Divinity (summa cum laude) from Lateran University in Rome.</p> <p>Vlad has led retreats, lectured and spiritually guided people ever since his priestly ordination in 1969. He speaks English, Czech, Spanish, Italian, French and Latin. He enjoys friendship, prayer and writing. He keeps as fit as possible and does press-ups daily to the total of each year of his life since conception.</p> <p>He is the Canary Wharf Multi-faith Chaplaincy's dedicated Catholic Chaplain and is also Catholic Chaplain for sport, CEO of The John Paul II Foundation for Sport (which he launched in 2011) and is a trustee of The Passage, CaAPA and Genesis. A social entrepreneur, Vlad founded and directed two different pilgrimages to Lourdes and founded the Spiritual Peer Educational Centres SPEC, LOFT and SPECeast.</p>	<h1>A Journey to Eternity</h1> <p>The early years: 1939-59</p>
<p><i>Vlad stroking ICBC boat, Head of the River, 1959</i></p> <p>£3.00</p>		<p><b>Professor Monsignor Vladimir Felzmann</b> (aka Father Vlad)</p>




Main facade of St Peter's Basilica, Rome

London and received his Doctorate in Divinity (summa cum laude) from the Lateran University in Rome.


Vlad has led retreats, lectured and spiritually guided people ever since his priestly ordination in 1969. He speaks English, Czech, and still a bit of Spanish, Italian, French and used to speak Latin. He enjoys friendship, prayer and writing. He keeps as fit as possible and does press-ups – alternating this with squats – daily to the total of each year of his life since conception.

He was director of the Diocese of Westminster's work with Young People and Canary Wharf Multifaith Chaplaincy Catholic Chaplain. For many years he was a Trustee of The Passage and is the Catholic Chaplain for Sport, founder of the John Paul II Foundation for Sport (which he launched in 2011), chair of CaAPA, and trustee emeritus of Genesis. A social entrepreneur, Vlad founded and directed two different Diocesan Pilgrimages – YAP for young people and WDP for all – to Lourdes and founded the Spiritual Peer Educational Centres SPEC, LOFT and SPECeast.

£11.99



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Journey to Eternity: My Years in Opus Dei: 1959-1982

Professor Monsignor Vladimir Felzmann

# to Eternity

My Years in Opus Dei: 1959-1982



**Professor Monsignor Vladimir Felzmann**  
(aka Father Vlad)



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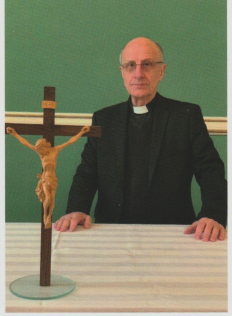
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ALL SQUARED

# A Journey to Eternity

The Later Years: 1982 onwards; forever upwards



**Professor Monsignor Vladimir Felzmann**  
(aka Father Vlad)

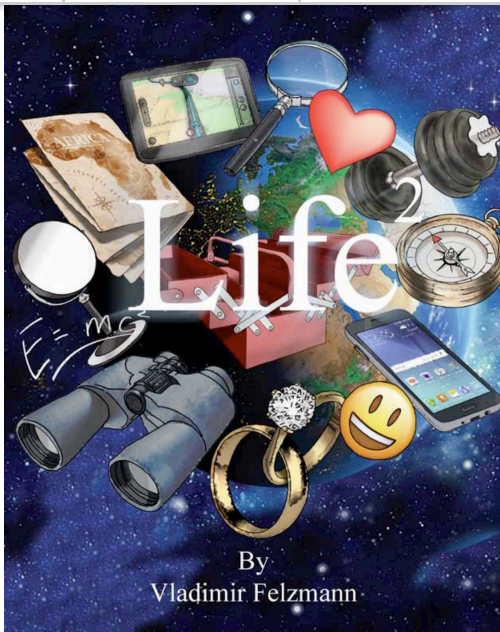
**Don't forget to buy Father Vlad's book Life Squared!**

As I approached my 80th birthday, I wanted to find out what I really thought about life. Writing this book has crystallised my experiences. I now know better what I have learned and what I think.

Now, that I'm coming to the end of my life, I have finally learned how to live. Time's slippage nudged me to act on my dream of passing what I have learned on to others.

*Father Vlad*

[download the introduction to Life Squared](#)



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