



# ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

## PARISH NEWS 14 MARCH 2010

### VOCATION PRAYER

Lord give me the gift of a generous heart to follow your will as I journey the path of life. You set before me the vocation of priesthood, religious life, single life and marriage. Grant me the grace and generosity I need to answer your call.

Amen.

### CONTINUING HOLY FATHER LETTER ON CHARITY IN TRUTH

6. “*Caritas in veritate*” is the principle around which the Church’s social doctrine turns, a principle that takes on practical form in the criteria that govern moral action. I would like to consider two of these in particular, of special relevance to the commitment to development in an increasingly globalized society: *justice and the common good*.

First of all, justice. *Ubi societas, ibi ius*: every society draws up its own system of justice. *Charity goes beyond justice*, because to love is to give, to offer what is “mine” to the other; but it never lacks justice, which prompts us to give the other what is “his,” what is due to him by reason of his being or his acting. I cannot “give” what is mine to the other, without first giving him what pertains to him in justice. If we love others with charity, then first of all we are just towards them. Not only is justice not extraneous to charity, not only is it not an alternative or parallel path to charity: justice is inseparable from charity, and intrinsic to it. Justice is the primary way of charity or, in Paul VI’s words, “the minimum measure” of it, an integral part of the love “in deed and in truth” (1 Jn 3:18), to which Saint John exhorts us. On the one hand, charity demands justice: recognition and respect for the legitimate rights of individuals and peoples. It strives to build the *earthly city* according to law and justice. On the other hand, charity transcends justice and completes it in the logic of giving and forgiving. The *earthly city* is promoted not merely by relationships of rights and duties, but to an even greater and more fundamental extent by relationships of gratuitousness, mercy and communion. Charity always manifests God’s love in human relationships as well, it gives theological and salvific value to all commitment for justice in the world.

### REFLECTION ON THIS PRAYER

It is not you that shapes God: God shapes you. You are the work of God. Await the hand of the artist who does all things in due season. Offer God your heart, soft and pliable; and keep the form in which the artist has fashioned you. Let your clay be moist lest you grow hard and lose the imprint of God’s fingers. *St Irenaeus*

### MISSION STATEMENT

To have Christ at the centre of our lives, enabling us to grow in faith as a community where all feel welcomed, loved and valued.

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## FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

### FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 13	6.00 p.m.	Rose Walmsley R.I.P.	T O'Driscoll
Sunday 14	8.30 a.m. 10.30 a.m.	Jim and Jan Jarvis People of the Parish	J Field
Monday 15	9.15 a.m.	Cornelius Sheehan R.I.P.	Mary Sheehan
Tuesday 16	9.15 a.m.	Harry and Maria Ford R.I.P.	C and I Restall

### FEAST OF ST PATRICK

Wednesday 17	8.30 a.m. 7.30 p.m.	Stations of the Cross	Led by K.S.C.
Thursday 18	9.15 a.m.		

### FEAST OF ST JOSEPH THE HUSBAND OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Friday 19	9.15 a.m. 7.30 p.m.	Pat Mills R.I.P. Stations of the Cross	Mary Swift
Saturday 20	9.15 a.m.	Fr. Jack Clifford R.I.P.	Pact Mass

## FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

### FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 20	6.00 p.m.	Bridget Doherty R.I.P.	M McLaughton
Sunday 21	8.30 a.m. 10.30 a.m.	People of the Parish	

### HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Holy Thursday	8.00 p.m.	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper	
Good Friday	3.00 p.m. 7.30 p.m.	Solemn Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord Prayer around the Cross	Led by Sister Nuala
Holy Saturday	8.00 p.m.	Liturgy of Pascal Vigil and First Mass of Easter	
Easter Sunday	8.30 a.m. 10.30 a.m.	The Resurrection of the Lord	

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

is a wonderful devotion to Our Lord's passion. While we make the stations either privately or publicly let us put ourselves in each station as we reflect on our own sufferings in the light of Christ.

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated on Saturdays 9.45 a.m. – 10.15 a.m. with the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

### LENTEN RECONCILIATION WITH SEVERAL PRIESTS

Billericay	Monday 22 March, 8.00 p.m.
Cathedral	Tuesday 30 March, 7.30 p.m.

### ANNIVERSARIES

We thank Almighty God for those who have gone before us and transmitted the faith of the Apostles to us, especially for our former parishioners, our families and friends and those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially: Kathleen Carley, Daniel Heaphy, Irene Murphy; Priests of our diocese: Canon Martin Horkan (1980), Fr. Donal Donegan (1985) and Fr. Sydney Williams (1928). May they Rise in Glory.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK IN THE PARISH

Don Whittle, Des O'Reilly, Simone Austin, Anita Czupeynski, Mick O'Dowd, Bernard Gordon, Maureen Smith, Hannah Eberle, Annie Baker and Mary McKenna, Mary Ward. Our Lady of Lourdes intercede for them. If there are any changes please let Fr. Leslie know.

### FINANCE MATTERS

In: Loose plate	<b>£272.29</b>	
Collection Envelopes	<b>£40.90</b>	Thank you very much.

### EASTER OFFERING FOR YOUR PRIEST

The Easter offering like the Christmas offering forms a major part of a priest's income. If you have a box of envelopes your envelope will be included. If you give by standing order or loose plate you will need to pick up an envelope from the rear of the Church.

In this year of the Priest, do pray for your Priest and all Priests of our Diocese, that we may become more like Jesus Christ whose life we put on at our ordination. Pray also for an increase in vocations to the Priesthood and Religious life.

### VOTIVE CANDLES

May I ask you not to remove used candle caskets until all the wax has dried. If they are lifted as soon as one goes out, wax is spilled on the carpet and tiled floor. Someone has to clean it up. Also do not balance new candles on old caskets. This could be a fire hazard. Thank you

### SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

If for some reason you are unable to receive Holy Communion, I offer you this prayer.

*O Jesus, I turn to you in the holy tabernacle where you live hidden for love of me. I love you, O my God. I cannot receive you in Holy Communion. Come nevertheless and visit me with your grace. Come spiritually into my heart. Purify it. Sanctify it. Render it like unto your own. Amen.*

### BIBLE ALIVE FOR APRIL

£1.90 from the back of the Church.

Toilets are situated in the hall (next to the Church)

### CATECHISM OF CATHOLIC CHURCH

Questions and answers. On sale £6.99



Welcome to our parish of St Joseph the Worker. We are moving closer to Holy week.

After miraculously crossing the Jordan, the children of Israel renewed their covenant with the Lord and celebrated their first passover meal in the promised land. We hear this in the first reading today.

Then it happened: the manna stopped. The miraculous provision that had sustained them for forty years in the desert came to a halt, and the people had to learn how to live off the bounty of the Land of Canaan instead. It must have felt odd to wake up that morning and not see the manna there, ready to be eaten. How they had to work for their food.

Sometimes we can become upset about changes that come into our lives. We may not feel God's presence in prayer the same way we did when we were first beginning to get to know him. Perhaps we move to a new parish where small differences make the liturgy feel strange to us. We get out of school, or we retire from work, or we are released from prison, and we miss the structure of a consistent daily routine. We feel cut adrift, and we do not know where to find God. If you are going through a season of change now, remember that God is the same yesterday, today and forever. He still cares for you. Of course you should cherish the ways he met your needs in the past. But you should also be open to what he wants to do with you today. If the manna seems to have dried up, look around to find the milk and honey. Perhaps for a time you will hear his voice more clearly at Mass than in your private devotions. Instead of longing for your previous Parish priest, look closely for the refreshing ways your new priest leads and serves.

### HOME IS A HOLY PLACE

May this Season of Lent  
bring us closer to our Lord.



### BLESS THIS HOUSE

If you would like your home blessed then give your name and address to Fr. Leslie.

Change is not always easy. But God always goes before you into every new situation. All you have to do is to seek his presence, and you will discover new and exciting ways to meet him.

This Lent we ask the Lord to come closer into our lives but first we have to let go of the things in our lives that shut the Lord out. Like the prodigal son in the Gospel we come home to our Father and share in life abundantly in the Eucharist. "Taste and see that the Lord is good."

Today is Mother's Day. Traditionally on the fourth Sunday of Lent about four hundred years ago, people made a point of visiting their nearest big church (Mother Church), the Church in which each person was baptised. Often the house-keeper or cook would allow the maids to bake a cake or to take flowers from the garden home for their mother, and so for both Church reasons and for family reasons this became known as Mothering Sunday. Today we have the honour to celebrate all that mothers do for us. We pray also for those mothers who have gone home to God.

Thank you and God bless.

*Fr Leslie*

Father Leslie

**SACRED HEART OF MARY  
GIRLS' SCHOOL SPRING FAYRE**

St. Mary's Lane, Upminster, Essex RM14 2QR  
Saturday 20 March 2010 at 1.00 p.m.  
Admission: Adults £1.00, Concessions 50p.

**CHURCH CLEANING**

The Ladies and Gentlemen who clean the Church every Friday, for which we are truly grateful, did undertake to wash the tile floor in the Church last Tuesday. Thank you very much for that undertaking. This Tuesday we will have the carpet cleaned professionally. The cost will be £647.43. It is four years since it was last cleaned and does have many stains, especially from the snow.

**THE KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA**

The Knights of St. Columba will be leading the Stations of the Cross on Wednesdays at 7.30 p.m. during Lent.

**CHRISTMAS BAZAAR THANKS**

We would like to thank you for all the generous donations received so far, a box will remain at the back of Church for any unwanted gifts and bottles.

**LITURGICAL FORMATION**

**LOOKING FORWARD TO THE  
NEW MISSAL**

Tuesday 15 June, 7.30 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.  
Cathedral Conference Centre, Brentwood  
Mr Martin Foster, National Liturgy Office, London  
Cost: £5 per person. *For Pastoral Assistants, Catechists, Ministers of the Word and all Parishioners*

**EUCCHARISTIC AND READERS ROTAS**

New rotas from April to September will shortly be prepared. Please advise Willa Jackson of any periods when you are unavailable or changes to contact details, by telephone on 01277 215846, or email [willajackson789@btinternet.com](mailto:willa.jackson@btinternet.com).

**MARATHON RUN**

Katie Kent is running the Brentwood Half Marathon on Sunday 21st March, in aid of St Francis Hospice. To make a donation, either visit [www.justgiving.com/Katie-Kent](http://www.justgiving.com/Katie-Kent), or phone her on 01277 210212. Your support is greatly appreciated.

**NORTHERN SHRINES OF FRANCE BY COACH**

MONDAY 11 – SATURDAY 16 OCTOBER 2010

Led by Father Leslie Knight

Co-ord

We are... is first at the back of the Church – please in... as possible. You can invite family friends or relatives – please give this a prayerful thought.

**THIS EVENT SADLY HAS BEEN CANCELLED FOR LACK OF SUPPORT**

**CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HUTTON AND SHENFIELD LENT COURSE**

**HEROES OF THE FAITH**

A series of talks by local clergy followed by refreshments at Hutton Free Church, Hanging Hill Lane on Tuesdays at 8.00 p.m.:

Tuesday 16 March	ST. BARNABAS	Rev. David Lewis
Tuesday 23 March	A talk on "THE PASSOVER MEAL" by Natasha Radford and Louis Feldman from our local synagogue.	

**READER MINISTRY**

Proclaiming the Word of God is an important ministry at Mass. We are in need of new readers at Saturday evening and Sunday masses, but particularly the 8.30 a.m. Mass on Sunday. New reader training will be arranged shortly, therefore if anyone wishes to participate in this ministry, please inform Fr. Leslie or sign the list at the back of the church as soon as possible.

**WANTED**

One or two ladies to represent St. Joseph's on the local (very friendly) committee of The Women's World Day of Prayer. Please ring Jen on 213400.

**BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY – SPONSORED WALK/STROLL**

On 22 May we would like as many parishioners, families, children and friends to join together in a sponsored walk from St Joseph the Worker to Brentwood Cathedral. Churches throughout the Deanery will be participating, and all the walkers will gather at the Cathedral for refreshments on completion of their walks. A sign up sheet will be found at the back of the Church. Fr. Leslie will be leading the walk, and we don't want to see him walking on his own, do we? Please join in, (it's only 2.3 miles) and please gather together as much sponsorship as you possibly can. Brentwood Catholic Children's Society desperately needs your help.

**PARISH SUPPER**

Saturday 10 April, 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m., £15.00 inclusive of wine. If you would like to attend, please add your name to the list at the back of the church. Limited spaces so do not delay.



**CHILDREN SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES BILL**

The passage of the Children, Schools and Families bill through the House of Commons has been a matter of grave concern for many pro-life groups and individuals. Having been passed by the House of Commons, it is due to have its first debate (the Second Reading) in the Lords on Monday 8 March and its Committee stage will start about a fortnight after that.

Reports that an amendment has been accepted which safeguards Catholic schools are misleading – the amendment does not alter what the bill would demand of them.

The bill marks a step-change in the demand for schools to promote "sexual health" messages – about abortion, birth control and homosexuality. Whilst the bill does not spell out exactly what must be taught, recent statements and publications from the Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF), and the Secretary of State, Ed Balls, have made that abundantly clear. One instance of this is a statement from the DCSF which cited the example of St Thomas More, a secondary school in Bedford.

The DCSF describes how the St Thomas More school teaches SRE:

"...sex within marriage is promoted as the ideal of the Catholic faith, but the school explicitly recognises the reality that some young people may choose to be sexually active and, if that is the case, they need the knowledge and confidence to make an informed choice to protect themselves from pregnancy and STIs."

"The school nurse provides students with clear accurate information about the full range of contraception and STIs and details of local services. Chlamydia screening is also offered to students in years 11 to 13. Pregnancy options, including abortion, are also discussed in a non-judgemental way with the RE syllabus requiring students to understand the spectrum of views in favour of and against abortion."

This claim – frankly scandalous if true – demonstrates what the DCSF has in mind.

There are two things that we can do. We can send a letter or email to Peers in the House of Lords urging them to oppose the bill. And/or we can write to Gordon Brown urging him to withdraw the sex education proposals. The Prime Minister's address is Rt Hon Gordon Brown MP, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA. Please write to him at the earliest opportunity.

**EASTER EGG TOMBOLA**

St Joseph's Pre-School are holding an Easter Egg Tombola in the Parish Hall after the 10.30 a.m. Mass on Palm Sunday, 28 March. All proceeds will go to buying much needed equipment for the Pre-School. Your support would be much appreciated.

*"Even in these difficult times I hope you will continue to make the Children's Society a priority and to support its vitally important work as generously as you have in the past."*

Bishop Thomas McMahon



*special friends*

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is the children's charity for the Diocese of Brentwood - it is your Children's Charity so please become a Special Friend and with your support we really can make a difference!

Contact Julie Abbott on 01268 784544 for further details on how your regular donation can make a difference to so many children's lives



**CATHOLIC AND HAVE LOST TOUCH?**

If you have been a non Church-going Catholic for a long time, it can be very helpful to read about contemporary Catholic beliefs and life. It may appear to you that some things have changed.

Free materials are available from the Catholic Enquiry Office.

Contact: "Coming Home", CEO, 114 West Heath Road, London NW3 7TX  
Tel: 020 8458 3316. e-mail: info@comehomeforchristmas.co.uk



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The Catenian Association is an international brotherhood of practising Catholic laymen who meet socially, at least once a month. There is an active branch of the Catenian Association in Brentwood. If you would like more details please contact President Terry O'Regan on 01277 213208.

We hope you enjoyed reading the newsletter this week; please do remember that if, for some reason, there are not enough hard copies at the back of the Church, it can always be downloaded from the Parish website (www.stjosephshutton.org). A PDF of the newsletter can be found under "communication".