

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

PARISH NEWS 22 MAY 2011

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.

FROM POPE BENEDICT XVI VERBUM DOMINI THE WORD OF GOD AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

After reflecting on God's final and definitive word to the world, we need now to mention the mission of the Holy Spirit in relation to the divine word. In fact there can be no authentic understanding of Christian revelation apart from the activity of the Paraclete. This is due to the fact that God's self-communication always involves the relationship of the Son and the Holy Spirit, whom Irenaeus of Lyons refers to as "the two hands of the Father". Sacred Scripture itself speaks of the presence of the Holy Spirit in salvation history and particularly in the life of Jesus: he was conceived of the Virgin Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit (cf. Mt 1:18; Lk 1:35); at the beginning of his public mission, on the banks of the Jordan, he sees the Holy Spirit descend on him in the form of a dove (cf. Mt 3:16); in this same Spirit Jesus acts, speaks and rejoices (cf. Lk 10:21); and in the Spirit he offers himself up (cf. Heb 9:14). As his mission draws to an end, according to the account of Saint John, Jesus himself clearly relates the giving of his life to the sending of the Spirit upon those who belong to him (cf. Jn 16:7). The Risen Jesus, bearing in his flesh the signs of the passion, then pours out the Spirit (cf. Jn 20:22), making his disciples sharers in his own mission (cf. Jn 20:21). The Holy Spirit was to teach the disciples all things and bring to their remembrance all that Christ had said (cf. Jn 14:26), since he, the Spirit of Truth (cf. Jn 15:26) will guide the disciples into all the truth (cf. Jn 16:13). Finally, in the Acts of the Apostles, we read that the Spirit descended on the Twelve gathered in prayer with Mary on the day of Pentecost (cf. 2:1-4), and impelled them to take up the mission of proclaiming to all peoples the Good News.

The word of God is thus expressed in human words thanks to the working of the Holy Spirit. The missions of the Son and the Holy Spirit are inseparable and constitute a single economy of salvation. The same Spirit who acts in the incarnation of the Word in the womb of the Virgin Mary is the Spirit who guides Jesus throughout his mission and is promised to the disciples. The same Spirit who spoke through the prophets sustains and inspires the Church in her task of proclaiming the word of God and in the preaching of the Apostles; finally, it is this Spirit who inspires the authors of sacred Scripture.

Conscious of this pneumatological horizon, the Synod Fathers highlighted the importance of the Holy Spirit's work in the life of the Church and in the hearts of believers in relation to sacred Scripture: without the efficacious working of the "Spirit of Truth" (Jn 14:16), the words of the Lord cannot be understood. As Saint Irenaeus states: "Those who do not share in the Spirit do not draw from the bosom of their mother [the Church] the food of life; they receive nothing from the purest fountain that flows from the body of Christ". Just as the word of God comes to us in the body of Christ, in his Eucharistic body and in the body of the Scriptures, through the working of the Holy Spirit, so too it can only be truly received and understood through that same Spirit.

MISSION STATEMENT

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

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www.stjosephspreschoolbrentwood.co.uk

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (A)

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 21	6.00 p.m.	Des and Antoinette O'Kelly	
Sunday 22	8.30 a.m.	Ann Lowden	Muriel Foster
	10.30 a.m.	People of the Parish	

MONDAY THROUGH THURSDAY THERE WILL BE NO MORNING MASS

FEAST OF ST. AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY

Friday 27	9.15 a.m.	Maureen Smith R.I.P.	Pat and Eddie Green
Saturday 28	9.15 a.m.		

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER (a)

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 28	6.00 p.m.	John Field R.I.P.	R and J Weller
Sunday 29	8.30 a.m.	Emma Mentessi R.I.P.	Carol Giles
	10.30 a.m.	People of the Parish	

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AT TODAY'S MASSES

6.00 p.m.	8.30 a.m.	10.30 a.m.
Marian Anderson	Pat Green	Julie Stone
Catherine Povey	Angela Mahoney	Pat Burton
Carol Turnbull	Joan Parker	James Brooks

READERS AT TODAY'S MASSES

Ann Howarth	Alan Bailey	Jessica Barber
Steve Howarth		Julie Stone

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Hector Castro Torres
Sally Haggerstone

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS AND READERS

Just to remind you that we need to be more aware of our dress when ministering at Mass. Overcoats etc. should be removed and we should be more aware of what we are doing in Word and Sacrament.

SECOND COLLECTION

Today there will be a Second Collection as you leave church for the upkeep of Our Sick and Retired Priests of our Diocese. This is a tangible way in which we can thank our priests who have served this Diocese. Every year you are all so generous to our Priests. For this we thank you very much indeed.

ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for those who have died and whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Stanley Sullivan, Ellisa Craddock, Edith Hill, John Oakey, and Constance Pollard. Priests of our Diocese Fr. Henry Peace (1990), Fr. Charles Carless (1939), and Fr. Austin Thorburn (1950). For them life is changed, not ended. May they rest in peace and rise in glory and grace.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK IN OUR PARISH

Daniella DiLisio (aged 16), Don Whittle, Simone Austin. Anita Czupeynski, Mick O'Dowd. Bernard Gordon, Hannah Eberle, Annie Baker, Mary McKenna, Mary Ward, Vera Ferrari, Jacqueline Burnie, Maureen Flaherty, Pauline White, Mairead O'Driscoll, Maud Barry, Bronisla (Barbara) Czerwoniec and Ethel Benneworth. Our Lady of Lourdes intercede for them. If there are any changes please let Fr. Leslie know.

ADULT EDUCATION COURSES

From time to time in our newsletter we advertise adult education courses and these are put on to help you to grow in your faith and in the love of Jesus. Some are to explain difficult teachings of the church - so please do make time to come now and again to the advertised courses.

ALSO on Sky Television channel 589 we have a Catholic network which gives a variety of topics - from the celebration of Mass, youth programmes, children's programmes in the afternoon, and other programmes explaining our lovely Catholic faith. Please do dip into this channel from time to time

COVENANTS

If you covenant through envelopes, please pick up your new boxes from the back of the Church.

200 CLUB

Father Leslie would be delighted to welcome you as a new member of the 200 club - this is a great way to raise funds for our parish and also give you the opportunity to win a prize in our monthly draw. Subscription is £2.00 per month payable by standing order. Please ask Father Leslie for a form. Monthly draw - First prize £40; Second prize £20; Third prize £10. Thank you and good luck.

RESTAURANT GUIDE

Strada Restaurant in the High St. Billericay are offering a special discount to St. Joseph's parishioners. If you bring a copy of this newsletter along with you to Strada and tell your server you are a parishioner, you will get 20% off your bill. Thank you Strada for this very generous offer.



Fr. Leslie writes

Welcome to our parish of St. Joseph the Worker.

Today is the fifth Sunday of Easter. The Gospel relates to the words of Jesus when he knew the disciples were unhappy at the prospect of his leaving them. "Let not your hearts be troubled; believe in God and believe in me". It is only by believing and trusting in Jesus that their hearts will find peace.

Like the disciples we lead troubled lives. So often it is self-inflicted. Our expectations are high and so often we do not fulfil them. We can be so absorbed by everything and are never satisfied for what we have. Our lives can be so full of a secular world and the constant search for happiness in material things that we lose sight that our destiny, our true home, is heaven.

This should be the source of our joy and happiness. We were created by the Father to be his children. In the words of St John "Think of the love the Father has lavished on us by calling us his children and that is what we are".

Our first sin took us out of the plan God had designed for us for our good and blessing. Out of love for us, Jesus came to bring us back into the Father's original plan. He came to take us to the Father. By his life, suffering, death and resurrection Jesus reconciled us to the Father. He took away the sins that separated us from him. He opened the gates of heaven so that we may enter into heaven itself.

We are all on our journey to the Father. As St. John Paul II said "The whole of the Christian life is like a great pilgrimage to the house of our Father". In faith we should keep our eyes fixed on heaven, longing and thirsting for it. Christ has promised to come back to take us there. He has prepared a place for us in his Father's house. This hope can overcome all our fears and troubles that burden our hearts and fill them with confidence, joy and peace.

During the coming week Father Leslie will be away from our parish. Father will be going to Italy with the priests and deacons from the Brentwood Deanery from early Monday morning until Thursday evening.

Our parish First Holy Communion will be on Saturday 11 June. As a community please keep the children and parents in your prayers.

Fr Leslie

Thank you and God Bless.



FINANCE MATTERS

In:		Out:	
Standing Orders for 6 April to 6 May:	£1,728.00	Diocesan Monthly Capitation	£917.19
Envelopes:	£33.00	Electrician for Parish premises	£384.37
Loose:	£323.04		

Thank you and God Bless.

ST JOSEPH THE WORKER PARISH DINNER

We are holding our first ever St Joseph the Worker Parish Dinner on Friday 14 October at the Mount Avenue Banqueting Suite. We will enjoy a three course meal in lovely surroundings and then be entertained by parishioner Arthur Edwards, the Royal Photographer, who will be our guest speaker after dinner. Tickets are £25.00 each - there will be also be a raffle with the proceeds going to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society.

You can invite your friends to perhaps make up a table of eight - or come as a family or individually. All are welcome. There will be a list at the back of the church for names and numbers or you can let Father Leslie know. Let's make this a really great evening.

CONFIRMATION PENTECOST 2012

This is just to test the water to see how many young people would like to be confirmed next year. Normally the Bishop comes every three years but if there are sufficient numbers we would hold the celebration of the Sacrament next year.

The requirements are you have to be 14+ when the course starts, and a frequent attender at Mass. You need to write to Father Leslie requesting to join the course from now.

MISSIO

Missio "Special Anniversary Issue" has arrived and can be collected from the table in the Narthex. Also a reminder that the Diocesan Mass to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the Red Boxes takes place on Saturday 25 June at 2.00 p.m. Supporters and friends are welcome to attend.

LARGE GLASS PANELS - HEALTH AND SAFETY

Around the Blessed Sacrament Chapel there is a large glass screen which was used in the past as a small Chapel for morning Mass and a room where parents used to bring their small children. The glass screen was constructed in the 60s and is now quite loose and if anyone fell against it they could be seriously hurt.

It is not in use now for either of the above two uses. I am in the process of getting estimates to see what it would cost to dismantle and remove the screen. I will keep you informed.

NEWS AND PICTURES FROM KENYA



Patrick Gill has sent through some pictures from his recent trip to Kenya. He hopes the photos (which we will publish over the next few weeks) will give some idea of the humbling and moving experience they all had at St Joseph's Church in Ukunda, near Mombasa, Kenya. Perhaps 1,500 people attended, with standing-room only, and many others at the doors. The dancing and singing were beautiful and uplifting. A never to be forgotten day.

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY - SPONSORED WALK

Any walkers who have yet to gather in all their sponsorship monies could they please do so and let Fr. Leslie have a cheque please, made payable to Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. Many thanks for all your help and support (and cheques!).



TEDDY BEARS' PICNIC

At New Hall School, Chelmsford on Saturday 11 June 2011 from 2.00 p.m. to 5.00 p.m. Activities include Music and Storytelling; Meet Beaulieu Bear and your local Policeman; Soft Play Area and much more. Bring a picnic and your favourite Teddy!! For more information please contact Mrs Gill O'Riley on 01 245 467 588 or g.oriley@newhallschool.co.uk or sign up online at www.newhallschool.co.uk



ST. JOSEPH'S SOCIAL GROUP - AN UPDATE

Friday 10 June - Mary's at Heybridge Basin with pub lunch
Friday 1 July - Brentwood Museum visit with Tea, meet at museum at 2pm
Friday 15 July - Fish and chip lunch in Parish Hall, please add your name and order on list at back of church.

VOTIVE CANDLES

May I ask you when lighting and removing spent cartridges be careful of not spilling wax. Before Easter it took two people three hours to clean around the stands and the stands otherwise it looks messy. Also we need church cleaners on Friday mornings. Thank you.

A DAY WITH MARY

National Shrine of Our Lady, Walsingham, Sunday 29 May 2011. For more details call 01328 820 217

THE EASTER MYSTERY

A presentation of The Easter Mystery in painting and poetry will be held on Thursday 26 May 7.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. This session will explore the riches of Easter with a view to deepening our prayer and our attachment to the Risen One. The presenter will be Sister Magdalen Lawler SND, Author and Retreat Director. The venue will be the Cathedral Conference Centre Brentwood and the cost £5.00 per person.

CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Children's books in our repository we have a good selection of children's religious books this is one way from an early age to teach our children about their faith which they received in the wonderful sacrament baptism.

ST JOSEPH'S PRE-SCHOOL - VACANCY

St Joseph's Pre-school, Hutton is looking to employ a practitioner, NVQ level 3 or equivalent diploma in Pre-school practice. Term time only. Please forward your C.V. together with a covering letter to St Joseph's Pre-school, Highview Crescent, Hutton Essex, CM13 1BJ attention Mary Brooks MA (Supervisor). You may also contact Mary by telephone 8:30a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on 01277 212591.

Closing date Monday 23rd May, 2011

OVER 60'S COACH HOLIDAY

Over 60's Coach holiday to the Isle of Wight, 12 to 16 September. For full details please call 01277 655 424

CAFOD

Join the CAFOD Team and take part in the Southend Moonlight Colourthon on Saturday 2nd July. This is a sponsored half Marathon (13.1 miles) walk setting off at 8pm from Chalkwell Park, taking a scenic route along the sea front, through Chalkwell Hall Estate and Old Leigh Village finishing back at the park. Perhaps you or a parish group would like to have fun and join hundreds of other walking for charities and raise funds for CAFOD. Entry is £15 which includes T shirt and medal and covers administration costs by the organisers, Southend on Sea Round Table. There is also a Sunlight Colourthon during the day which takes a shorter route and is for under 16's and those who prefer a more leisurely stroll. For registration and sponsorship details email brentwood@cafod.org.uk or telephone 020 85029722.

CATHOLIC PRESS AND MAGAZINES

From time to time we ought to purchase a Catholic paper and one of the magazines from the back of the Church. The papers give us a glimpse of what is happening in parishes around the country - and the magazines depending on which one you buy - tell us about our Church.

We buy the secular press - why not the Catholic press also?



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



Just £5 per month,

paid by Standing Order, will help the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society enormously in their work with the schools and young children in our Diocese.

The Society has been supporting local children and families since 1984. Its mission and values are as important today as they ever were. Please sign up today and become a special friend.

A standing order form can be obtained from Father Leslie, Ian Restall or John Tobin

(ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk) Thank you.



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- Meet new people
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- Make a real difference in your local community

We are looking for people who would like to:

- Spend time reading or chatting to residents, or playing board games or cards
- Help with planned group activities such as quizzes, bingo, craft, crosswords and games
- Driving - on excursions or to appointments
- Gardening
- Fundraising

From our volunteers...

- "The Marillac is such a rewarding place to spend a little of my time each week. With new people to meet and something to get involved in for everyone - you soon feel that you're helping to make a difference to others, whilst doing something positive for yourself, too."
- "We have been working here for over 12 years, and helping others less fortunate helps us to appreciate how lucky we are to be fit and healthy. It's good to be here."

The Marillac is a residential home for younger adults with physical and/or neurological disabilities. We are based in Eagle Way, Warley, Brentwood opposite the Ford's building.

Volunteering can be undertaken midweek, at weekends and in the evenings - even if you are only available to come in during term time.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering at the Marillac, please contact Amanda our Volunteer Co-ordinator on 01277 220276 or amandat@marillac.co.uk

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".