



ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

PARISH NEWS 30 JANUARY 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.

THE REALISM OF THE WORD

Those who know God's word also know fully the significance of each creature. For if all things "hold together" in the one who is "before all things" (cf. Col 1:17), then those who build their lives on his word build in a truly sound and lasting way. The word of God makes us change our concept of realism: the realist is the one who recognizes in the word of God the foundation of all things. This realism is particularly needed in our own time, when many things in which we trust for building our lives, things in which we are tempted to put our hopes, prove ephemeral. Possessions, pleasure and power show themselves sooner or later to be incapable of fulfilling the deepest yearnings of the human heart. In building our lives we need solid foundations which will endure when human certainties fail. Truly, since "for ever, O Lord, your word is firmly fixed in the heavens" and the faithfulness of the Lord "endures to all generations" (Ps 119:89-90), whoever builds on this word builds the house of his life on rock (cf. Mt 7:24). May our heart be able to say to God each day: "You are my refuge and my shield; I hope in your word" (Ps 119:114), and, like Saint Peter, may we entrust ourselves in our daily actions to the Lord Jesus: "At your word I will let down the nets" (Lk 5:5).

From the post-synodal apostolic exhortation *verbum domini* of the Holy Father Benedict XVI to the bishops, clergy, consecrated persons and the lay faithful on the word of God in the life and mission of the church

FAITHFULNESS TO OUR CALLING

All our life long Christ calls us. He first called us on the day of our baptism; but later on as well; whether we obey his voice or not, He calls us again and again in His merciful love. If we are not faithful to the promises of our baptism, He calls us to repent; if we try hard to achieve our vocation, He calls us further ahead from grace to grace, from holiness to holiness, as long as we are alive. Abraham was called to leave his house and country, Peter his nets, Matthew his job, Elisha his farm, Nathanael his refuge; all of us are called continuously, from one thing to another, always, without any rest, but going to our eternal rest, and obeying one command to be ready to listen to another one. It would be good for us to understand this; but we are slow to understand that basic truth; that Christ is in a sense walking in the midst of us and with His hand, His eyes, His voice, He commands us to follow him.

Blessed John Henry Newman

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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Primary School
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Brentwood, Essex CM13 1BJ
T: 01277 227282

St Joseph's Pre-School
(Brentwood)
Highview Crescent, Hutton
Brentwood, Essex CM13 1BJ
T: 01277 212591 (Session time only)
www.stjosephspreschoolbrentwood.co.uk

Welcome to our parish of St. Joseph the Worker

www.stjosephshutton.org

SEASON OF ADVENT

FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 29	6.00 p.m.	Eileen Hull R.I.P.	M. Anderson
Sunday 30	8.30 a.m.	People of the Parish	
	10.30 a.m.	Monica & Paul Plumer	M Alcock

ST JOHN BOSCO

Monday 31	9.15 a.m.	Hermann Herder	
Tuesday 1	9.15 a.m.	Margaret Cronin R.I.P.	C. Turnbull

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

Wednesday 2 8.30 a.m.

ST. ANNE LINE

Thursday 3 10.30 a.m. Funeral Mass for Rosemary Walker R.I.P.

Note change of Mass time. There will be no 9.15 a.m. Mass

Friday 4	9.15 a.m.	Rosemary Ann Walker R.I.P.	J. Dunne
Saturday 5	9.15 a.m.		

FIFTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR (A)

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 5	6.00 p.m.	Peter Anderson R.I.P.	M. Anderson
Sunday 6	8.30 a.m.	Jan & Jim Jarvis	M. Alcock
	10.30 a.m.	People of the Parish	

THE ROSARY IS RECITED BEFORE WEEKDAY MORNING MASS AT 9.00 A.M. MONDAY THROUGH SATURDAY EXCEPT WEDNESDAY. WHICH WILL BE AT 8.15 A.M.

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.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR THIS WEEKEND'S MASSES

6.00 P.M.	8.30 A.M.	10.30 A.M.
Pat Creavin	Pat Green	Dominic D'Alberquerque
Ewa Kania	Jan Jarvis	John Tobin
Michael Wild	Karen Field	Julie Stone
Ian Restall	Mary Allum	Pat Burton
Paul Bolton	Catherine Bray	Willa Jackson

READERS FOR THIS WEEKEND'S MASSES

Ann Howarth	Alan Bailey	Ciara Tobin
Steve Howarth		Jessica Barber

ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially; Florence Scannell and Agnes Young. Priests of our Diocese Fr. Joseph Burns (1990), Fr. Eric Blindloss-Smith. May they Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory and Grace

RETREAT SPIRITUALITY MORNING

Contemplation in a busy world. 29 January 9.30 a.m. to 12 noon in the Conference Hall

SPRING LECTURE

The word of God for the Church and the World. 24 March 7.30 p.m. to 9.00 p.m. Cost £5.00

50+ GROUP

After careful discussion the group has been reformed as ST.JOSEPH'S SOCIAL GROUP, mostly due to loss of 50+ members over the past couple of years. Meetings are now open to parishioners of all ages, and we hope if you are new to the parish, or would like to join a lively group with new ideas, please come along to the meetings in the Parish Hall. These meetings will take place on the first Friday of every month between 2.00 and 4.00 p.m. commencing Friday 4 February 2011.

There is a programme already in place as follows:

- Friday 25 March – Lent Lunch for CAFOD
- Saturday 16 April – Parish Supper
- April DTBA – Brentwood Museum with Tea on the lawn.
- Friday 10 June – Mary's at Heybridge Basin with Pub lunch.

ON GOING FAITH FORMATION

The parents' meetings for Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will take place in our parish hall with Sister Nuala on Wednesday 9 February and Wednesday 23 March all at 8.00 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (RCIA)

Any non-Catholic spouse or fiancé who would like to learn more about the Catholic Church and Catholic faith, without obligation, is invited to contact Fr Leslie or write to Father registering your interest. A new course will begin in February.



Welcome to our parish of St. Joseph the Worker.

Fr. Leslie Writes

Welcome to our Parish of St. Joseph the Worker. In last week's newsletter I encouraged you to purchase "Tears at night, Joy at dawn". This book was written by a man who was studying for the priesthood who when he was diagnosed with cancer wrote this journal. It's published by Alive Publishing at £9.99 (01782 745600). In the book he says "as you get closer and closer to the finish line you feel the exhilaration, you begin to smile and shed a tear of joy. One final push and you cross the line and enter that light in all its glory. Death is that moment of transition when, please God, I will be fully reunited to the Father".

Today is the fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time. Matthew's Gospel reflects on the Sermon on the Mount, known as the Beatitudes. This teaching is at the heart of Jesus' ministry. Here Jesus outlines the basic qualities required for membership of God's kingdom. Jesus' teaching has a formal introduction; Jesus responds to the crowds, goes up the Mount, formally sits down to teach in the tradition of the Jewish Rabbis, gathers his disciples, and then he speaks.

What follows is a new law, a new way in which the chosen people will journey home. The Blessed are those who follow in a way that is at odds with the values of the world. The Beatitudes express Jesus' mission to the needy and the dawn of a new era of salvation history. The "Poor", the "Mourners" and the hungry all referred to the same people. They are blessed not because they are morally better than others but because of God's special care for them. God's first priority is the care of the poor. It is not merely material poverty that is blessed; it is those who know their need for God, who accept who they are, and do not make themselves the centre of the universe. To live in such an attitude is to accept everything as

HOME IS A HOLY PLACE



BLESS THIS HOUSE

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

a gift and to grow in sensitivity to the material poor - how can we be poor in spirit if we close our hearts to our brothers and sisters in need?

The Beatitudes reveal the goal of human existence; God calls us to his own beatitude. This is our vocation addressed to us personally. So often our lives are living for self and we become absorbed by our own problems and live in isolation of other people. Perhaps we do not feel the need to pray, the love of the Sacraments, the love of those less fortunate than ourselves but we feel the need to centre our lives on ourselves, to go on our own way. Read again this teaching of Jesus and realise ultimately our need for God.

God bless and many thanks

Fr Leslie

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY – A LETTER OF THANKS

Dear Fr. Leslie,

Please accept my sincere thanks for the generous donation of £425.36 raised by the parishioners of St. Josephs during the Christmas season. It is only with support such as this that we are able to continue helping those children and families who find themselves in need. The support the parish and yourself have shown towards our charity in recent months is truly remarkable.

Yours sincerely, Dick Madden, Director, Brentwood Catholic Children's Society

BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY – SPONSORED WALK

Full details later but we will be looking for walkers to join us in the annual sponsored walk from St Joseph's to Brentwood Cathedral, with all money raised going to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. Saturday 7 May 2011 is the date for your diary.

CATHOLIC PUBLICATIONS

Catholic life, Vatican £3.50

Catholic Papers £1.20

Bible Alive £1.95

Do purchase Catholic papers and magazines from time to time.

APPEAL FROM MARILLAC CARE

Our volunteers provide extremely valuable support to our Residents and Staff. They contribute in many different ways, spending time reading or chatting to residents, playing board games or cards, gardening, helping with planned group activities such as quizzes, bingo, craft, crosswords and games.

Volunteers tell us that they find volunteering a rewarding and positive experience, and we are again seeking to recruit new volunteers to help us to continue to support our residents. As many of our volunteers are members of our local churches, I would like to bring this to the attention of your parishioners. For further information please contact Amanda Trew on 01277 220 276 (amandat@marillac.co.uk). Thank you, parishioners of St Joseph's, in advance for your support.

CHURCH ACTION ON POVERTY (CAP)

May I draw your attention to CAP's latest 3 year campaign "Close the Gap". This focuses on closing the gap between those who have and those who have not and encourages every church to make a commitment to it. The word "GAP" embraces the spirit of the Campaign; G = Giving, A = Action and P = Prayer. CAP are hoping that every church and parish will make a commitment to this campaign and take action. This is something church groups or individuals can sign up to and easily take part in. The campaign will be launched during Poverty and Homelessness Action Week (31 January – 7 February). For more information visit www.church-poverty.org.uk or contact Davina Bolt at CJSR 01277 265290 or email: cjsr@dioceseofbrentwood.org

SOUTH ESSEX MEMBERS/PUBLIC MEETING – WEDNESDAY 2 FEBRUARY 2011

A letter has been received from SEPT, who are inviting us to a members' meeting which covers the areas of Basildon, Brentwood, Castle Point and Rochford.

The meeting will be held on Wednesday 2 February 2011, 14.30–16.00 (doors open at 14.00) at Salvation Army, 146–148 London Road, Hadleigh SS7 2PF. (Entrance to car park is a few buildings after the Salvation Army on the left). Guest speakers from the Trust to talk on the following subjects have been arranged:

"Who Cares?" Project – Fiona Cutts, Project Manager

SEPT's Planning Process – SHARE YOUR VIEWS – Faye Swanson, Director of Compliance and Assurance

It's also a chance for you to meet your Governors and Trust staff over a coffee and biscuit!

DO SOMETHING DIFFERENT

Do something different and raise money for CAFOD. Register now for the 2011 110ft abseil down Harlow Water Tower taking place on 30 April/1 May. It's organised by the Harlow Tye Rotary Club in conjunction with Dukes Barn Outdoor Adventure Organisation. For further details and registration form contact CAFOD Brentwood email brentwood@cafod.org.uk or phone Joanna on 020 8502 9722

CLEANER REQUIRED

Cleaner required for a parishioner who lives in Greenway, Hutton. 3 hours per week. Telephone 01277 223617.

NINTH ECUMENICAL STUDY DAY FOR ESSEX AND EAST LONDON CHRISTIANS

The history of the Mass - understanding the historical development of the mass and how it is celebrated today – is the subject of this study day, which will be hosted by Abbott Casper Johnson, Liturgist, Benedictine Monk, Former Abbott of Quar Abbey and Consultor to the Congregation for Divine Worship.

Saturday, 5 March 2011 10:30 a.m. to 3.00 p.m. Brentwood Cathedral Hall, Ingrave Road, Brentwood CM11 5 8AT. Admission is free - please book your place. Donations welcome - sandwich lunch and refreshments provided.

AN APPEAL FROM MSGR JOHN ARMITAGE – SECOND COLLECTION TODAY

On Sunday 30 January Anchor House is marking **Homeless Sunday**, an annual day of prayer and action to draw attention to the effects of homelessness.

Anchor House, based in the most deprived ward of the sixth most deprived Borough, Newham, is developing an answer to mental health, offending, substance misuse, and years of worklessness by the homeless. Our organisation challenges the stereotypes around Homelessness; we challenge our residents, we do not accept the vision of a person in a sleeping bag and a dog - we believe in positivity.

As Chairman of Anchor House, I would like to ask you for your help to enable us to continue to provide accommodation and support services to people who have experienced a range of problems that has resulted in them becoming homeless.

And a big thank you (in advance). Without the support of our Catholic community we would not have been able to help as many residents achieve so many of the successes of which we are all aware. This support has given added strength to a small but dedicated team at Anchor House who have transformed a struggling Catholic charity into a multiple award-winning organisation held in high regard by all its peers in the homeless sector.

Thank you for your support on Homeless Sunday.

Msgr John Armitage.

Maud and Charles Barry are now in a care home. Their address is Cornwall Ward, Mornington Hall, Whitta Road, Forest Gate, London E7. They would love to hear from you. Charles is very ill and both need your prayers.

CHILDREN'S CORNER

CHILDREN'S LETTERS TO GOD

dear god

how did you know you were god?

charlene

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD

Thank you to all those who have volunteered to lead the Children's Liturgy of the Word. To help you there will be a workshop on Monday 7 February 7.30 p.m. – 9.30 p.m., Catholic Conference Centre with Sister Nuala. We then hope to begin on the First Sunday of Lent. If anyone else would like to volunteer please contact Fr Leslie. The more we have, the less burden will be on you.

Thank you again.



“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.”



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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MarillacCare

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an hour (or more)
each week?

If so, we can offer you the chance to...

- Meet new people
- Make good use of your talents and perhaps discover new ones!
- 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

To advertise on this page,
please contact Father Leslie or
Ian Restall on 01277 223078

ian.restall@design-portfolio.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”.