



ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

PARISH NEWS 06 MARCH 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 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

Here, at the heart, as it were, of the “Christology of the word”, it is important to stress the unity of the divine plan in the incarnate Word: the New Testament thus presents the paschal mystery as being in accordance with the sacred Scriptures and as their deepest fulfillment. Saint Paul, in the *First Letter to the Corinthians*, states that Jesus Christ died for our sins “in accordance with the Scriptures” (15:3) and that he rose on the third day “in accordance with the Scriptures” (15:4). The Apostle thus relates the event of the Lord’s death and resurrection to the history of the Old Covenant of God with his people. Indeed, he shows us that from that event history receives its inner logic and its true meaning. In the paschal mystery “the words of Scripture” are fulfilled; in other words, this death which took place “in accordance with the Scriptures” is an event containing a *logos*, an inner logic: the death of Christ testifies that the word of God became thoroughly human “flesh”, human “history”. Similarly, the resurrection of Jesus takes place “on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures”: since Jewish belief held that decay set in after the third day, the word of Scripture is fulfilled in Jesus who rises incorrupt. Thus Saint Paul, faithfully handing on the teaching of the Apostles (cf. *1 Cor 15:3*), stresses that Christ’s victory over death took place through the creative power of the word of God. This divine power brings hope and joy: this, in a word, is the liberating content of the paschal revelation. At Easter, God reveals himself and the power of the trinitarian love which shatters the baneful powers of evil and death.

REFLECTION

Prayer nourishes our hope because nothing expresses the reality of God in our life better than praying with faith. Even the loneliness of the most severe trial, nothing and no one can prevent me from addressing the Father “in the secret of my heart”, where he alone “sees” as Jesus says, in the Gospel. Two moments of Jesus’ earthly existence come to mind. One is at the beginning, and the other almost at the end of his public ministry; the 40 days in the desert on which the Season of Lent is based, and the agony in the Garden are both essentially moments of prayer. Prayer alone with the Father face-to-face in the desert; prayer filled with mortal anguish in the Garden of Olives. Yet in both these circumstances it is by praying that Christ unmasks the wiles of the tempter and defeats him. Prayer is the first weapon in our struggle against the Spirit of Evil.

Pope Benedict XVI

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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NINTH 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.	People of the Parish	
	10.30 a.m.	Vince Ma R.I.P.	Design Portfolio

FEAST OF ST PERPETUA AND FELICITY

Monday 7	9.15 a.m.	Tyrone Sequeira	
Tuesday 8	9.15 a.m.		

THE SEASON OF LENT

The Season of Lent is a preparation for the celebration of Easter. We are called to do penance in preparation for Easter.

Ash Wednesday – DAY OF FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

Wednesday 9 9.15 a.m. Holy Souls

NOTE CHANGE OF MASS TIME

8.00 p.m.

Thursday 10	9.15 a.m.	Fr. John Galvin R.I.P.	PACT Mass
Friday 11	9.15 a.m.	Len Hagerty R.I.P.	F. Hagerty
Saturday 12	9.15 a.m.	Fr. Gerald Collins	PACT Mass

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT (A)

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 12	6.00 p.m.	Michael Kent R.I.P.	Liz Kent and Family
Sunday 13	8.30 a.m.	Rosemary Walker R.I.P.	Bailey family
	10.30 a.m.	People of the Parish	

DURING LENT THERE WILL BE SEVERAL SERVICES OF RECONCILIATION WHERE SEVERAL PRIESTS WILL BE AVAILABLE

Wednesday 6 April	8.00 p.m.	At Billericay
Tuesday 12 April	7.30 p.m.	At Wickford
Friday 15 April	7.30 p.m.	At Cathedral

"Then the devil left him, and angels appeared and looked after him". Matthew 4:11

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR THIS WEEKEND'S MASSES

6.00 P.M.	8.30 A.M.	10.30 A.M.
Pat Creavin	Ken Eady	Mary Brooks
Stella Walker	Mary Allum	Chris Brooks
Ewa Kania	Margaret Bailey	Julie Stone

READERS FOR THIS WEEKEND'S MASSES

Marian Anderson	Carol Giles	Jessica Barber
Des O'Reilly		Willa Jackson

NEW READERS AND EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS ROTAS.

These are now available in the church porch. If you wish to receive your rota by email next time, please email Willa to willa.jackson789@btinternet.com.

EVENING PRAYER AT THE CATHEDRAL

Evening prayer is celebrated at the Cathedral on the first Sunday of the month at 4:15 p.m. Evening prayer is one of the Liturgies of the Hours. Pope Benedict says "The Synod Fathers called it a "privileged form of hearing the Word of God, in as much as it brings the faithful into contact with Scripture and the living Tradition of the Church. All priests are asked to promote times devoted to the Celebration of the Word in the communities entrusted to their care."

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK IN THE PARISH

Don Whittle, Simone Austin, Anita Czupeynski, Mick O'Dowd, Bernard Gordon, Maureen Smith, Hannah Eberle, Annie Baker, Mary McKenna, Mary Ward, John Field, Vera Ferrari, Jacqueline Burnie, Maureen Flaherty, Pauline White, Mairaid O'Driscoll, Tony Grimes, 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

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 23 March at 8.00 p.m. – 9.30 p.m.

LENT 2011 – WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE FORGIVEN?

Speaker Sister Helen Costigane, SHCJ on the question of guilt and forgiveness. This will be explored in the context of our image of, and relationship with, God. Date: Tuesday 5 April 2011, 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Venue: Cathedral Conference Centre, Brentwood. Cost: £5.00 per person. All are welcome. For booking please contact the Adult RE and Formation for Ministry office on (01277) 265255 or e-mail arefm@dioceseofbrentwood.org

MICK O'DOWD

Mick O'Dowd called me last week to send her best wishes to all her friends at St. Josephs. Mick is one of the founder members of our parish. To them all we have much to be grateful. Her address is:

Lillian (Mick) O'Dowd, 364 Church St, Bocking, Braintree, Essex CM7 5LL. She would love to hear from all of you.

FINANCE MATTERS

In: Envelope £67.00: Loose £623.60 (including £340.00 donations towards Tabernacle.

Out: Refurbishing of Tabernacle £660.00



Fr. Leslie writes

Welcome to our parish of St. Joseph the Worker.

On Wednesday we begin the Season of Lent - please note there are two Masses on this day. We mark the Season of Lent by receiving ashes to remind us to turn away from sin and live the Gospel. It is also a day of fasting and abstinence - that is that we should eat one reasonable meal and two light meals and we abstain from meat. It is also customary to do a penance for the 40 days. Again the penance should not be arranged to make us look good, nor for any personal gain, but with an element of sacrifice. It should not be an endurance test but rather something that we can manage comfortably. Each day we could choose something different, keeping in mind the three Lenten challenges – prayer, fasting and good works. It is also time the time to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

Today's Gospel completes the Sermon on the Mount which is the well-known masterpiece of moral and ethical teaching. It is the charter for Christian life.

Jesus invites us to put the teaching into practice. To live it, breathe it, witness to it and be guided by it. To put the beatitudes into practice requires great courage; it requires us to die to self and live for God. "Blessed are the poor in Spirit, Blessed are the gentle, Blessed are those who mourn, Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for what is right, Blessed are the merciful, Blessed are the pure of heart, Blessed are the peacemakers, Blessed are those who are persecuted or abused on my account".

To live these goes against the grain, but to live them we must. But to do so we need the mercy and kindness of the Lord. This could be our Lenten challenge, or at least to make a start. The book of Deuteronomy sets the challenge "See I set before you today a blessing and a curse: a blessing if you obey the Commandments; a curse if you disobey the Commandments of the Lord your God".

Fr Leslie

Thank you and God bless.

HOME IS A HOLY PLACE



BLESS THIS HOUSE

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

CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD



We will have a meeting with Sr. Nuala in the Parish Hall on Monday 7 March at 7.30 p.m. before we begin on the First Sunday of Lent. For the benefit of all our parishioners - this will take place at 10:30 a.m. Mass. Please note, the parents do not accompany their children to the Hall. I also stress this is not a crèche or a Sunday School. The children will hear the same Gospel reading as we all do for that particular Sunday.

Please be aware that all helpers are required to be CRB checked. To facilitate this, please bring along to the meeting three items of identification, being;

- A) Passport
- B) Driving Licence
- C) Utility Bill addressed to yourself.

Many thanks.

WHAT IS CHILDREN'S LITURGY OF THE WORD?

There might be a temptation to use the time as a substitute for sacramental preparation or for teaching the children the Rosary or presenting them with the Stations of the Cross or other forms of prayer and devotion. Below is a list of what will happen, and what won't happen.

- ❖ We will not set aside the Guidelines for celebrating the Liturgy of the Word.
- ❖ We will not introduce non-scriptural stories that echo the gospel ideals, but will bring the children's own experience into conversation with the gospel.
- ❖ We will not assume this is all a test of listening and memory skills.
- ❖ We will not ask the children to use crayons, pencils, arts and crafts materials.
- ❖ We will not solely teach traditional Catholic prayers such as the Lord's Prayer and Hail Mary
- ❖ We will not simply focus on devotional practices like the Rosary or Stations of the Cross.

For a true celebration of the Liturgy of the Word, we will

- ❖ We will follow the guidelines for celebrating the Liturgy of the Word.
- ❖ We will ensure the environment and atmosphere convey a sense of the sacred.
- ❖ We will remain true to the Order of the Mass - e.g. The Penitential Rite; (The Gloria - depending on the Liturgical season); Gospel Acclamation; Proclamation of the Word; Responding to the Word; Prayer (Bidding's); Creed (time permitting).
- ❖ We will use the appropriate rituals and gestures.
- ❖ We will ensure the children see a link between the gospel story and the events and relationships in their lives.
- ❖ We will ensure the questions we ask are open-ended
- ❖ We will ensure the children interact in the sharing/ reflection

CHILDREN'S LETTERS TO GOD

god, instead of letting people die and having to make new ones, why don't you just keep the ones you've got now?

Jane

UNDERSTANDING THE REVISED MASS TEXTS

With Martin Foster - Department of Christian Life and Worship, Bishops Conference of England and Wales. Exploring the revised texts of the Mass. Date: Tuesday 8 March 2011. Time: 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Venue: Cathedral Conference Centre, Brentwood. Cost £5.00. McCrimmon Publishers will have the resources available (Understanding the Revised Mass Texts - Paul Turner and other resources). All are welcome. For booking, please contact the Adult RE and Formation for Ministry office on (01277) 265255 or e-mail arefm@dioceseofbrentwood.org

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

ADULT FORMATION

Road to Jerusalem - Saturday 26 March 2011. 10.00 a.m. - 3.30 p.m. at Cathedral Conference Centre

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.

SATURDAY 19TH MARCH - FEAST OF ST. JOSEPH

Please join us in the hall after 6.00 p.m. Mass for wine & refreshments.

FRIDAY 25TH MARCH - LENT LUNCH FOR CAFOD

Please do consider coming for this worthy cause, 1.15 p.m. £3.00 inclusive of tea and coffee.

PARISH SUPPER - SATURDAY 16TH APRIL

Limited spaces left, please add your name to the list in the porch ASAP.

FAMILIES TOGETHER - SHARING THE MINISTRY.

Sunday 20 March 1.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. at Our Lady and St George's School, (Lower Site) Shernhall Street, Walthamstow E17 9HU. You, members of your family and friends are warmly invited to join us for lunch and the opportunity to share your experiences of marriage and family life. There will also be the chance to learn more about the resources available to support marriage and the family in your parish. There is a 12 o'clock Mass at St George's and you will be made very welcome if you wish to attend. We are providing lunch and crèche facilities so it is especially important to book a place for your children as well as for yourself. Please email familylife@dioceseofbrentwood.org or call Elisabeth Abbott on 01277 265236 for more information.

RED BOX HOLDERS

The Spring edition of "Mission Today" is available for Red Box holders to collect.

LENTEN LECTURE

The Brentwood Cathedral Lenten Lecture will take place on Wednesday 16 March at 7.30 p.m. in the Cathedral. Archbishop Vincent Nichols has agreed to give this inaugural lecture which is entitled; Living our Catholic faith in a Secular Age. Light refreshments in the Cathedral Parish Hall will follow the lecture. There will be no charge and everybody is very welcome.

MASS IN SUPPORT OF MIGRANT WORKERS IN LONDON

Parishioners are invited to this year's Mass for Migrant Workers which takes place at St. George's Cathedral, Southwark on Bank Holiday Monday, 2 May at 11.00 a.m. The Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Peter who will be joined by Archbishop Nichols and our Bishop, who will be preaching. This is a pan-London event, which celebrates the contribution of migrants to the UK and their valued presence in our communities. Many of the new migrants to our Diocese are Catholics, and their social, pastoral and spiritual needs are made manifest in our churches and parishes every Sunday. Many recent migrants living in London can experience exploitation and racism. Our faith, driven by Catholic Social Teaching, demands that we stand up and speak out as one for justice, social cohesion and for a society which values the contribution of Migrants.

LECTIO DIVINA - PRAYING WITH THE GOSPEL -

Lectio divina MEANS Divine Reading, or Holy Reading. It is a way of Praying with Scripture and can be summarised as follows;

1. Reading and listening - the ability to listen deeply to the Voice of God
2. Meditation - when we receive the Word, like many, we ponder it in our hearts
3. Sharing - we share with one another what touches and challenges our deeper selves
4. Open prayer.

During the Lenten Season it would be a wonderful experience for the parish to have at least one Scripture Group to pray the Scriptures. At present we do have one which meets regularly. For those who would like to take part there will be information and literature available at the back of the Church. Please do get involved.

LIVING THE WORD BIBLE STUDY GROUP

Next meeting is on Thurs 10th March, 8.00-9.30pm at 3 Quennell Way, Hutton.

HELP NEEDED WITH THE REPOSITORY

We are desperate to have help with the Repository, especially after the 10.30 am Mass, please. If anyone feels they can help will you please get in touch with one of the team. Pat has retired after many years of service to our community. Jacintha is coping but, to be fair, we need two people to cope with the demands of the Repository after the 10.30 Mass. It is simply selling the books, rosaries, statues, etc. Everything is marked up - you won't have to guess the prices! And putting everything back in the storage cupboards under the counter. If you feel you can do this but not sure why not have a go for a Sunday or two to try it all out. See how it goes. No obligation. The more that volunteer the bigger the rota and it could be only a Sunday now and again! How about it? Give it a try! Look forward to hearing from a few of you to come forward to help us out. Otherwise, we will have to close, now and again, after the 10.30 am Mass.

PRAYER VIGIL – IN THE SHADOW OF RECESSION

On Tuesday 8 March, the Diocese of Chelmsford have organised an ecumenical event in the form of a Prayer Vigil, the title is "In the shadow of recession". Prayers will be offered by all those affected by and responding to high unemployment and part-time working with particular focus on the communities of Essex and five East London Boroughs, and will also include prayers for the nation's response. Everyone is welcome to attend: the event will be held in Chelmsford Cathedral; 10.00 a.m. – 12 noon reflections; 1.00 p.m. – 3.30 p.m. refreshments and opportunity to socialise; 5.00 p.m. – 6.00 p.m. Evensong.

CJSR will be participating in the Prayer Vigil and hope that as many people as possible from our diocese will attend. Formal registration is unnecessary but if you require further information please contact Elisabeth Abbott at CJSR on 01 277 265236, email: elisabeth@dioceseofdiocese.org



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.

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



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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

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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".