

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

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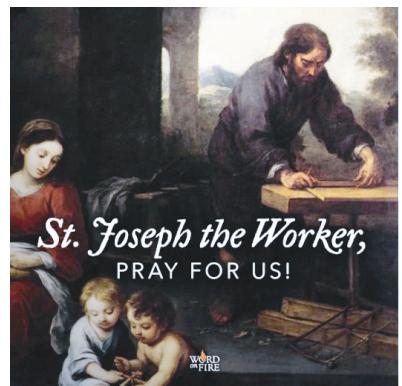
Stewards Of The Gospel

"The important thing in evangelising is not to effortfully set out to try to convert someone, but to live one's faith as a Catholic attractively. It is important to trust that God is working".

www.stjosephshutton.org

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.



Welcome to our parish news of St. Joseph the Worker 20 February 2022



"Do to others as you would have them do to you"

IN TODAY'S GOSPEL

G.K. Chesterton famously said 'the Christian ideal has not been tried and found wanting. It has been found difficult; and left untried'. It's relatively easy to talk about or give lip-service to ideal such as loving our enemy, not judging, turning the other cheek, and praying for those who mistreat us.

But try doing these things when you actually have someone to forgive or indeed have an enemy who wants to harm you. It's not as easy, is it?

So, what's the solution? Do we have to try harder, pull our socks up, regroup and buckle down to the Sermon on the Mount and the Beatitudes? For many this is the answer and their best response. The big problem - apart from being heretical - is that it misses the mark, because our faith isn't about trying harder and putting in the effort.

Of course, many will claim it is, and without a doubt we have to co-operate, to want to live Jesus' teaching, but simply trying harder isn't the answer. Grace is the answer, grace building on nature, so that we can live a new life in and by the power of the Holy Spirit.

How does this happen? As offensive and scandalous as this may sound, we need to be overwhelmed by our complete inability to live the Christian ethic; we need to touch our bankruptcy and feel deep down in our being a wretchedness born of an insight that we desperately need God's grace. Nevertheless, we don't need to be dismayed or overwhelmed, for the Holy Spirit's power enables us to live holy lives, because holiness is the fruit of the Spirit.

We often believe that God helps those who help themselves, but actually God helps precisely those who cannot help themselves. When we acknowledge this, when we recognize our need for God's grace, his grace, mercy and Holy Spirit are poured out into our hearts, so that we can love our enemy, forgive from our hearts, and pray for those who persecute and mistreat us.

Lord, I'm a poor sinner, but you can work the miracle of making me a better person.

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Upcoming Masses**SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)****THE WORD OF GOD****FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY**

FEBRUARY

Saturday 19	6.00 p.m. Mass John Anderson Intentions
Sunday 20	10.30 a.m. Mass Roy Gonsalves RIP

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 22	9.00 a.m. Elizabeth Kent RIP <i>R&J Weller</i>
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Thursday 24	9.00 a.m. Mass Patrick & Catherine Kell <i>B. Dooley</i>
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Friday 25	9.00 a.m. Mass Kathleen & Alfred Hicks RIP <i>C. Turnbull</i>
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Saturday 26	10.00 - 10.30 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation
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Church Open all week for Private prayer

9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)**THE WORD OF GOD****FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY**

Saturday 26	6.00 p.m. Mass Les Hull RIP
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Sunday 27	10.30 a.m. Mass Elizabeth Kent RIP <i>Jean Dunne</i>
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* Remember your loved ones by having a Mass offered for them. Your donation also forms part of your Priests salary.

Please remember to have a Mass said for family and friends. Envelopes in the Narthex.

PLEASE NOTE: Newsletter goes to print one week in advance.

Anniversaries

We pray for the anniversary of all our relatives and friends, especially those whose anniversary occurs at this time.

We pray for: Florence Fernandes, Ellen Watson, Joseph Redknapp, Florence Turkin, Mimzie O'Donovan, William Ward, and Fausto Vasco Biagion.

Priests of our Diocese: Deacon Sydney Lewis (1994), Deacon Dwight Hayter (2021), Fr. Gerald Murphy (2009), Canon Aloysius Roche (1968), Mgr. Canon Jules Van Meehan (1966), and Fr. Clifford Beecroft (2012).

Please pray for all those who have lost a loved one during the pandemic – May these and all the faithful departed Rest in peace and rise in Glory.

Ministries

Church Cleaners - We are desperately in need of cleaners to clean God's House. We gather on Thursday at 10.00 a.m. – 11.00 a.m. Please Help.

Altar Servers - If your son or daughter has made their First Holy Communion, would they like to serve at Mass and work with other children? Our parish has always been blessed with many servers. If they are involved in the liturgy, they will begin to understand the faith and stay with Jesus weekly.

Eucharist Ministers - We also need more Eucharistic Ministers to take Jesus to our sick and housebound parishioners and to minister at our Sunday liturgy. This is a tremendous calling as we participate in our closeness to Jesus. For any of these ministries, please contact Mary (Parish Secretary) or Fr. Leslie.

Tea and Coffee after 10.30 a.m. Mass - We are resuming tea and coffee after the 10.30 a.m. Mass from Sunday 13 February, but need more helpers to be able to make this a weekly occurrence. Please sign up on the list at the back of the church for dates you could help or email Willa: willa.jackson789@btinternet.com Full instructions will be given.



Welcome to all our parishioners and visitors to the Sunday Celebration of our liturgy.

In today's Gospel Jesus gave an important sermon on these essential virtues and elements that must guide our lives and actions as Christians. It's about justice. How do we reconcile our constant quest for justice with the virtues of mercy and compassion? Today we speak about mercy and at the same time advocate justice. We have a clue in the second weekday preface of the Eucharistic prayer. It says 'in justice God condemned us, in mercy he redeemed us'.

Justice and mercy can be mutually exclusive, contrary to what our society has asked us to believe. If we are hurt and find it does not heal so fast. In fact it can last a long time. Jesus knew this perfectly well. Jesus not only spoke on this but lived it. Paul reminds us that we derived our body and way of life from Adam. We derived the spirit that gives life to our body from Christ. Whatever our situation or circumstances, we must not lose the sense of the sacred. We must guard against sin. When we do sin, we seek God's mercy. Lord be merciful to us and show us your kindness.

Lent begins on 2 March. We have been asked to walk 5k a day in solidarity with 200 million children who are at risk of malnutrition around the world. By accepting this challenge and walking this Lent you can help give hunger its marching orders. Each small step we can make Big Things Happen. Use the QR Code on the leaflet that you will find in the Narthex. We also ask you to make a big sacrifice in the second collection on the weekend of 12/13 March. This is putting our Christian action into practice. However, if walking is not your cup of tea, you can raise funds with a hot cross bun! Perfect for a coffee morning after Sunday Mass during Lent on Saturday evening/Sunday morning. We need tea and coffee helpers. The offer of a cup of coffee or tea when people come to Mass is a simple but important form of welcome and hospitality. Don't be in a hurry to go home. Come and linger with one another and get to know your fellow parishioners. If you can help, please sign up in the Narthex. Please see other parts of our newsletter to see how you can help in our parish family. We ask you also to encourage one another to return in person to our Sunday Mass especially our young people. Our relationship with Jesus is so precious in our world and in your life. He loves you so much. Our church is open all day as Jesus awaits your visit. St Paul says 'I have never stopped thanking God for you. I remember you in my prayers.....I ask that your minds may be opened to see His light, so that you will know what is the hope to which He has called you, how rich are the wonderful blessings He promises His people, and how very great is His power at work within us who believe'. (Ephesians 1:16-18)

Finance News

Eddie has very kindly prepared a financial forecast for the income and expenditure of the parish through to end March 2022. This forecast predicts the parish will be over £22,000 in debt by the end of this financial year – March 2022. There is some mandatory, and expensive, work that has to be completed due to Health & Safety repairs, which will total in excess of £16,000.

Situation in Ukraine

We ask you all to pray for the gift of peace in Ukraine today, so that those responsible may be filled with, and radiate, a peace that is 'contagious' and that the crisis will be overcome exclusively through dialogue.

Friends of the Holy Land

We ask for your help in the Holy Land in prayer and action. Could a group of people meet regularly in prayer for our Brothers and Sisters? Father bless our Brothers and Sisters in the land of the Holy One. Grant peace in their homes, in that land and in their hearts. Give to pilgrims a new vision of your kingdom, fill them with compassion and love. We make this prayer in the power of the Holy Spirit and in union with Christ. Amen. We know of the financial challenge of many people and of the church. Can we get together especially in the summer months to organise a fund-raising event, more details on 01926 512580 or email office@friendsoftheholylad.org.uk.

Twin Parish in Dundee –**South Africa**

Thank you to all who contributed to our Twin parish in Dundee, South Africa. Through the Blue Boxes, you raised £100.00 – *Thank you and God Bless you.*

Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in the most Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to receive you into my soul. Since I can not at this moment receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. I embrace you as if you were already there and unite myself wholly to you. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

Eucharistic Ministers

We are in need of new volunteers to be Eucharistic ministers to:

1. Take Holy Communion to our sick, housebound parishioners in their homes or care homes. Please contact Willa Jackson or Fr. Leslie.
2. Altar Servers - We are looking to train new altar servers for our parish celebrations of our holy Mass. It is a great privilege to minister at the altar. Again, if you wish to take on this ministry, please give your name and contact details to Fr. Leslie.

Thank you for the three people that have volunteered so far. We will be in touch shortly.

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Walsingham House

Be part of the Walsingham House Team 2022/2023 - If you are 18+ and looking for an exciting gap year opportunity, then a year on the Walsingham House Team could be for you. Spend a year as a volunteer in a thriving young catholic community. We are looking for inspiring individuals who want to share their faith with other young people and to learn new skills, grow deeper in their own faith and enjoy a challenge. More information Contact Joseph Beate 01277 373959 or josephbeathe@dioceseofbrentwood.org

Synod Prayer

We stand before You, Holy Spirit, as we gather together in Your name. With You alone to guide us, make Yourself at home in our hearts; Teach us the way we must go and how we are to pursue it. We are weak and sinful; do not let us promote disorder. Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path nor partiality influence our actions. Let us find in You our unity so that we may journey together to eternal life and not stray from the way of truth and what is right. All this we ask of You, who are at work in every place and time, in the communion of the Father and the Son, forever and ever. Amen.



Synodal Journey

I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone who has engaged so far with the Synodal Journey. All of your contributions have been collated and prepared to be sent to the Diocese. As part of this continuing journey, everyone is invited to a meeting in the Parish Hall at 7.00 p.m. for 7.30 p.m. on Wednesday 23 February. Through the story of Bartimaeus, we will reflect on how his healing helps us to see where the Holy Spirit is guiding us. Teas and coffees will be available, looking forward to seeing you there. Mary Brooks

THE BLIND MAN OF JERICHO.

This is the reading that will be discussed at the Synodal Meeting.

They reach Jericho, and as he left Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (that is, the Son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and to say, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me'. And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me'. Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here'. So they called the blind man. 'Courage,' they said 'get up, he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus. Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 'Rabbuni,' the blind man said to him 'Master, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go, your faith has saved you'. And immediately his sight returned, and he followed him along the road.

Synodal Pathway

I would like to keep you updated as to how you can participate in the Synodal Pathway. If you live, work or worship in Essex or East London, the Diocese of Brentwood Synod Team would love to see you at one of our online listening sessions as part of Pope Francis' call to Journey Together along our Synodal Pathway. All the sessions are free and open to everyone. We hope to hear the Holy Spirit speaking through those who join us. To book, please visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/cc/online-listening-sessions-91519> Mary Brooks

Collection Baskets

We are now passing the collection baskets around our parishioners. The majority of our people have been vaccinated and this provides significant protection to themselves and others. Please do sanitize your hands on arriving and departing from our parish. However, if you are able to do so please give by standing order, once you have set this up, you will not need to worry about your offering when you come to Mass. If you are a taxpayer, please gift aid your offering more details <https://www.stjosephshutton.org/giving/gift-aid-form/> Also we have the QR codes as you enter the church. This new on-line donation system has been set up so that parishioners and visitors are now able to donate with or without gift aid by using the QR codes displayed at the back of the church or on our newsletter. Thank you for generosity. It is very much appreciated.

Coffee after 10.30 mass

There is a list at the back of the church for volunteers to host a coffee morning after mass.



BCYS Summer Lourdes Pilgrimage

2022: 23 – 30 July 2022.

Applications are now open for our summer pilgrimage to Lourdes for those in Years 11-13, with those of school leaver age (18+) invited to join us as young leaders. This is one of our most popular events and after a two-year gap we are excited to be returning next year. The week is spent travelling alongside the main Diocesan pilgrimage as we assist the elderly and infirm with going to Masses and services, as well as visiting shops and cafes within the town. For those travelling with the BCYS the week will also include a retreat, reconciliation service, as well as social events and a party. Please see www.bcys.net/events/sl22/ for more information including visas, vaccinations and how to apply.

Candles

Lighting candles has restarted – Please be careful when sanitizing your hands – that you don't overdo them especially if you are lighting a candle. (Sanitiser and flames do not go together!). If you can use the QR for your candle donation, that would be wonderful.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage in 2022

The Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage, led by Bishop Alan, will take place from Sunday 24 – Friday 29 July in Lourdes. It will be the first time in three years that the Diocese has returned to Lourdes. Brochures for the pilgrimage, which will include costs, will be available soon. If you would like further information now, please contact Cathy O'Connor, the Administrative Director: cathy@dioceseofbrentwood.org or 07813 710070.

God Gives You Forgiveness

For if you forgive others, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. –

Matthew 6:14

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind, and you shall love your neighbour as yourself. –

Matthew 22:34-39



Baptism

Sacrament of Baptism – Saturdays at 11.00am. Please wear a mask in Church - Application Forms available for our Parish Administrator (hutton@dioceseofbrentwood.org).



Pope on Twitter



The news coming out of Ukraine is very worrying. I entrust to the intercession of the Virgin Mary, and to the conscience of political leaders, every effort on behalf of peace

The Beatitudes declare that those who are poor, who lack many goods, are blessed, or happy. This poverty is also an attitude toward the meaning of life: Jesus' disciples do not believe they possess it or know everything already. Rather, they know they must learn every day.

Discover the meaning of life by coming to the aid of those who suffer, understanding their anguish and bringing relief.

Child soldiers are robbed of their childhood, their innocence, their future, and often of their very lives. Each one of them is a cry raised to God that accuses the adults who put weapons in their little hands.

Finance News

For the week ending 13 February 2022 you gave £140.00 of which £41.00 was through Gift Aid.

Also an anonymous donation of £260.00 Thank you and God Bless.

Remember, if you do not give by standing order or pay directly into the bank or by envelopes – please use the QR codes in this newsletter. If you do not have a smartphone use the white buckets as you enter the church. Any one-off donation will be greatly received to help maintenance of the hall and church. God Bless and thank you all so very much.

CAFOD 5k Walk Against Hunger

This could be the only Lent challenge you need!

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex so people can let us know if they are participating.

Willa and Kevin Jackson will be walking to Shenfield, stopping for refreshments and walking back as part of their 5km Walk Against Hunger on Tuesday 1 March following 9.00 a.m. Mass. Please sign up on the list at the back of the church if you would like to join them, with a donation to CAFOD.

Making your donation by Standing order

If you are able, please support our parish of St. Joseph by giving by standing order, and if you are a tax payer, please gift aid your offering. For more information contact Fr. Leslie or Chris Brooks on 07747148048.

Light Laughter

Why is Cinderella so bad at football?

She always runs away from the ball!

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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.

39 Eccleston Sq. London SW1V 1BX Tel: 020 901 4863



PLEASE USE QR CODES FOR YOUR GIVING INSTEAD OF CASH

Donate £3.00



Donate £5.00



Donate £10.00



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Donate with Giftaid-it

Please treat as gift aid donation, all qualifying gifts of money made from the date of this declaration. I am a UK taxpayer and understand that, if I pay less Income Tax and/or Capital Gains Tax in the current year than the amount of Gift Aid claimed on all my donations, it is my responsibility to pay any difference.

If you are unable to donate with Giftaid-It then please use the codes below.

Donate £3.00



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Donate without Giftaid-it

To make a donation please scan the QR code for the appropriate amount. If you wish to Giftaid-it please scan the codes in the Giftaid-it section after reading the declaration.

QR Codes

What are they and how do they work?

A QR (Quick Response) code works in the same way as a barcode at the supermarket. It is a machine-scannable image that can instantly be read using a Smartphone camera. Every QR code consists of a number of black squares and dots which represent certain pieces of information. In our instance, the QR code will take you directly to a website where you can make your donation digitally, instead of using cash. The Diocese is wanting ALL churches to use this form of giving to replace cash which is time consuming and expensive to count and check.

Using the QR code enables the parish to save time and money – both of which are very welcome! So please don't forget that if you normally donate cash weekly, then please use the QR codes which can be found on the back page of the newsletter each week. This helps to keep the money coming in while reducing the amount of cash that we have to count, double check and then take to the bank. And amazingly some banks have actually stopped taking cash! *Thank you and God Bless.*



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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".

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092