

# ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

Parish Hutton and Shenfield

## 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.

FR. GARY DENCH

The Presbytery

17 Highview Crescent, Hutton Brentwood, Essex, CM13 1BJ

T: 01277 221917

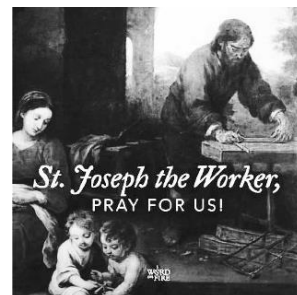
HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Kathryn Poulter St. Joseph the Worker Primary School

Highview Crescent, Hutton Brentwood, Essex CM13 1BJ T:

01277 227282

web: www.stjosephshutton.org email: hutton@brcdt.org



## 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”.

## Welcome to our parish news of St. Joseph the Worker 15 December 2024

Advent is a time in we are invited live in expectation of Jesus and not to stop looking forward to his coming so as to keep ourselves open and ready to encounter him. Heartfelt watchfulness, which Christians are always called to practise in their daily life, is taken on with a greater intensity.

This Sunday is known as ‘Gaudete’ Sunday and is a special invitation to us to joyfulness, to a vigilance that is not sad but happy. “Gaudete in Domino semper”, St Paul writes ‘Rejoice in the Lord always.’ True joy is not just having a good time. True joy is linked to something deeper. It is linked to our relationship with God. When we encounter Christ in our lives, we can feel a serenity and joy in our hearts that nothing can take from us, despite the challenges of daily life.

True joy is a gift, born from the encounter with the living Person of Jesus and, making room within ourselves, from welcoming the Holy Spirit who guides our lives.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our parish party last Saturday. We had a record 180 at the evening Mass and it was such a joy to see our church so full. The children sang beautifully, and everybody involved did a fantastic job with the party afterwards. If anybody would like to be involved with organising events like this in the future, then please let me know. It is a wonderful opportunity for families to come together, for the children to see each other outside of school, and for parents to be able to relax a little bit.

May God bless you all

## Christmas Masses

### Christmas Eve

4.30pm - Mass for our Children

9.30pm - Mass during the Night

### Christmas Day

8.30am - Mass of the Dawn

10.30am - Mass of the Day

12.00pm - Latin Mass

Maybe you know someone who has not been to Mass for a while? Without nagging them, perhaps this Christmas might provide you with an opportunity to invite them to join us? Christmas is a time for families. And that includes our parish family. Welcome them home to St Joseph’s this Christmas. *Fr. Gary*

## Newsletter

The newsletter is now produced and printed in the parish office. Any items for inclusion can be sent to Ngozi the Parish Administrator.

## Christmas Collections

Priests in our diocese do not receive a salary and have no pension which means, although basic expenses are covered, their day-to-day living is reliant upon the support of the people they serve. Together, the Christmas and Easter collections form a major part of a priest’s income for the year, and also determine his ability to put something aside for his retirement or in the event of sickness. The Christmas offertory collection is your gift to your priest. Thank you for your continued love and support of the work of our parish.

## Food Bank Reminder

This weekend 14/15 December is Christmas Foodbank. Please support families in need in Hutton by donating Christmas goodies, non-perishable foods and toiletries to our local Community Food Hub. All donations are gratefully received. Thank you.

## Our Parish Vision

Our mission statement speaks of Christ at the centre helping us to grow in faith as a community where we all feel welcomed, loved and valued. We all have the opportunity to serve at our parish of St. Joseph in so many ways.

There are many ministers, choir and music, altar serving, readers, eucharistic ministers, (especially to bring Holy Communion to the sick), church cleaners, hospitality and welcome refreshment team.

## Christmas Hamper

Please help us raise some much-needed funds for our parish while also giving you a chance of winning this magnificent hamper. Just pick up an envelope from the back of the church, write your name and contact number on the envelope, put a £5 note inside, and hand in the completed envelope. That’s all you need to do!

If you require more envelopes, there are some available on the porch. Please remember to return your £5 envelopes.

The draw will be made on Sunday 22 December after the 10.30 Mass. Good luck.

## Hall Hire

The Parish Hall of St Joseph the Worker is available for hire Saturday afternoons 1-4 p.m.

## First Holy Communion Children

Please can the parents of First Holy Communion Children sign the weekly signing sheet after Mass today. Thanks in advance.

## Pilgrims of Hope

Pope Francis has designated 2025 as a Jubilee Year under the theme of ‘Pilgrims of Hope’.

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C)

### FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 14 5.30 p.m.  
Joan Greenfield *Int.*

(*Wedding anniversary*)

Sunday 15 10.30 a.m.  
Ammanoeel Rassam *R.I.P.*

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 16 9.15 a.m.  
Peter Barlow *R.I.P.*

Tuesday 17 9.15 a.m.  
Peter Barlow *R.I.P.*

Wednesday 18 9.15 a.m.  
Fr Brian Moore *R.I.P.*  
(*Anniversary*)

### NO MASS ON THURSDAY

Friday 20 9.15 a.m.  
Holy Souls

## FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 21 5.30 p.m.  
St Peter Canisius. Prist Doctor

Sunday 22 10.30 a.m.  
Private Priest intentions

## Anniversaries

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

Anniversary: Fr Brian Moore (19/12/2011).

We pray for Priests of our Diocese.

**May all the faithful departed Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.**

Let us never forget our former priests or parishioners. They were part of our parish family. We pray that they will be part of the church triumphant and pray also for holy souls in purgatory the church suffering and for ourselves on our journey the church militant.

## Mass Attendance

Saturday 7 December 5.30 p.m.: 186

Sunday 8 December 10.30 a.m.: 63

## For information

Fr. Gary’s day off is on Thursdays.

## Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday 14 December 5.30 p.m.  
Catherine Bray

Saturday 21 December 5.30 p.m.  
Ewa Kania

Sunday 15 December 10.30 a.m.  
Willa Jackson

Sunday 22 December 10.30 a.m.  
Blane McKie

## “Missio Red Boxes and 2025 Calendar

Please would everyone who has a Missio red box leave it at the back of the church so that I can arrange for it to be counted and returned. Please make sure that your red box is clearly labelled with your name and address. The ‘Mission Today’ Calendar 2025 is available to collect from the table in the church porch.

If anyone who does not have a Missio red box would like one, please speak **Clare Barton**. Missio is the Church’s official charity for overseas mission in the developing world.

## 200 Club

Each month there are cash prizes to be won through our very popular 200 Club.

All you need to do is to complete a Standing Order Form for £2.00 per month (there are forms for you in the Narthex) and hand it in to Marian Anderson or Fr. Gary. Once completed, you will be entered into a Prize Draw. Three names are drawn each month and cash prizes are £50.00, £30.00 and £20.00 for first second and third respectively. It’s a great opportunity for parishioners to win a cash prize, while 50% of the proceeds goes to boost parish funds. The draw is made at the end of each month so act now to be involved in the next draw!

## God’s presence

When a family gathers together for a meal, say grace, i.e. Bless Lord our food which we have received, or a short passage from scriptures. Where two or three are gathered, Jesus is with us. Wherever we go Jesus is always with us. Find time to pray with your children and in the silence experience the stillness and presence of Jesus. When you pass any Catholic Church, make the sign of the cross, to recognize the presence of Jesus, or pay a short visit. Do not lose sight of God’s presence.

## Baptism

It is always a pleasure to welcome new members into the Church. Baptism forms can be obtained from the parish office at [hutton@brcdt.org](mailto:hutton@brcdt.org).

## Standing Orders and Gift Aid

A huge thank you to all who are supporting our parish through standing orders. Standing orders allow us to budget for the year and meant that if, for whatever reason you are unable to come to Mass, then you can still support our parish family. If you would like to set up a standing order, this form needs to be returned to your bank. By gift aiding your donations it means that we are able to claim back an extra 25p from the inland revenue for every £1 you give to our parish, at no cost whatsoever to yourselves. You can find you can find Standing Order forms and Gift Aid forms on the parish website: [www.stjosephshutton](http://www.stjosephshutton). Alternatively, it can be done online using our details

Account Name: Catholic Church Hutton and Shenfield St Joseph The Worker  
Sort Code: 40-13-22  
Account number: 61018884

If you use this method, please put your surname and initial as a reference. If you are part of our gift aid scheme, then please add your gift aid number.

By entering this reference our gift aid organizer will be able to make sure that your generosity is increased in line with the gift aid regulations.

## Parish Register

Please consider visiting our website to register as a parishioner with us.

## St Joseph the Worker Catholic Primary School, Hutton are looking to appoint a deputy headteacher for April 2025.

For more information and a full advert, visit our school website: <https://st-joseph-the-worker-catholic-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/recruitment-1/>

Applications Close: Tuesday 28th January 2025 at 12pm.

Interviews: Tuesday 11th February 2025 at 9am

## Bible Alive

Bible Alive for December is available from the Narthex £3.00 each.

## St John Bosco Children’s Camp - summer 2025

Can you volunteer at the St John Bosco Children’s Camp next summer? Applications are now open for anyone aged 17+ to volunteer for a week at the end of July 2025. From helping in the kitchen to running sports and other activities, your skills will mean that 100 children have a wonderful holiday. For most of the children, it is their only summer holiday. The Camp is a special work of Caritas Brentwood. More information - including training date and DBS requirements, along with volunteering FAQs - can all be found at [www.boscocamp.co.uk](http://www.boscocamp.co.uk). Applications for children to come to Camp will open in the spring.

## Brentwood Directory

The new diocesan directory is now available for purchase. It contains information relating to local churches, Mass times, as well as articles about our newly ordained priests and many other interesting things. All for the very reasonable price of £3.20!

## Brentwood Cathedral Carol Service

Brentwood Cathedral Carol Service will take place on Sunday 22nd December at 4pm. It lasts about an hour and a quarter and has some really beautiful music. A reception takes place afterwards in the Cathedral Hall.

## Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage

The Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage, led by Bp Alan, will be from Friday 18 July - Friday 25 July 2025. The flights will be Southend to Lourdes. Details, including how to book, will follow. We hope you will join us.



## Little Joke

Why do we tell actors to “break a leg?”

**Because every play has a cast...**

## Readers

|                      |                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| Saturday 14 December | 5.30 p.m.<br>Marian Anderson |
| Saturday 21 December | 5.30 p.m.<br>Mark Brennan    |
| Sunday 15 December   | 10.30 a.m.<br>Paul Downey    |
| Sunday 22 December   | 10.30 a.m.<br>Peter Sanders  |

## Pilgrimage to Knock & Co. Mayo - 13th April 2025

Holy Week Escorted Tour to Westport, Knock & Co Mayo, 13th April 2025. £849.00 pps. Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 4 nights in 4\* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Live outdoor Passion Play at Ballintubber Abbey, Quiet Man Museum. Single supplement on Enquiry.

Contact 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email [knockpilgrimages@gmail.com](mailto:knockpilgrimages@gmail.com).

## Newsletters. Finance News - 1

For the week ending Sunday 8 December, the Plate Collection totalled - £320.00  
Thank you and God Bless.

## Finance News - 2

Please support the work, running and mission of the Parish by setting up a Standing Order via your on-line banking. Our Bank details are:

HSBC Plc, High Street, Brentwood, Essex  
Account name: Catholic Church Hutton & Shenfield St Joseph The Worker

Sort code: 40-13-22

Account Number: 61018884

Thank you.

## Mass intentions

Please don’t forget to have a Mass said for the response of the soul of a family member, friends or someone who is sick or for a private intention. One day we will need people to pray for us. “Ask a holy priest to pray for the dead that they may be released from their sins” (from book of Maccabees). The celebration of Mass is the most powerful prayer as we represent the earth and resurrection of Jesus.

## Adoration and Confessions

Saturday 10.30 - 11.15 a.m. or on request before Mass or any other time.

## Sick parishioners

Please pray for our sick parishioners and those in care homes.

## Penance Service

The Cathedral is hosting an Advent penance service. This will take place on Monday 16th December at 7.30pm. It will be a wonderful way to prepare spiritually for Christmas and to experience God’s loving mercy in the Sacrament of Penance. All are welcome. Fr Gary is also available to hear confessions Saturday mornings 1030-1115 during Adoration and any other time by appointment.