

# ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

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.

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Welcome to our parish news of St. Joseph the Worker 24 January 2021

## CHURCH CLOSURE

While some places of worship remain open, we have decided that it will be more prudent to close St. Joseph at the moment, given the very high local infection rates. This has been a difficult decision to take, but the care and well-being of our parishioners is uppermost in our minds at this very difficult time for us all. The church is sanitized each week but we feel that we cannot ask parishioners to put themselves at risk.

Please refer to the parish website or our Facebook page for up to the minute developments. All those parishioners that have registered their details on the website will also receive an email notifying any changes.

The church will not be open for public Masses. The church will be open for private prayer on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings between 10.00 a.m. and 12 noon.

Where Masses have been asked to be said for the individuals' intentions, these will be said privately by Fr. Leslie.



The Third Sunday in ordinary time year B.

Welcome to all our parishioners. We hope you are all well. These are very hard times, but we need to be positive and know that Lord Jesus is with us.

On the feast of The Baptism of the Lord in the River Jordan we heard those heart-warming messages – “You are my Son the Beloved; my favour rests on you”. Those same words are said of us through our Baptism – “You are my children, the Beloved; my favour rests on you”.

So to our senior parishioners and our young people in particular who are struggling in their own different ways, and all of us, remember those words that we are His Beloved children and He is with us. We are loved by Him and He is with you in every circumstance of our lives.

In the Christmas season God, The Word in his Divinity, took on our humanity so that we can share His Divinity. Let us offer our sufferings, our feelings, our fears, our anxiety, for all those who lost their lives and those who are grieving through this virus that they may be strengthened in the knowledge that we are His Beloved children, and He is with us.

May Mary our Mother intercede for us all.

God Bless. Take care. Stay safe.

## UPCOMING MASSES

### SEASON OF THE YEAR BEFORE LENT (B) THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B)

At present our church is open for private prayer on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10.00 a.m. to Midday. We will inform you via our website, Facebook page and through our parish school newsletter when we feel it is safe to reopen for Sunday Mass. We hope this will be the beginning of February, but it will depend on the COVID-19 virus. We encourage everyone to choose a 'day of prayer' to bring this virus under control and to remember those who have lost their lives and the many grieving families.

### Confessions

On Request (During the COVID 19 Virus)

### Face Masks

At the moment, face masks are required to be worn at all times in the Church.

## Parish Register

Please whether you are a parishioner of many years or new to our parish (welcome), please visit our website and fill in your name, address and contact details. Also visit our website to request Baptism and First Communion forms.

## Time of Prayer from the Bishops of England and Wales

In these difficult moments, we ask that, as a Catholic community, we make full use of our churches as places of individual prayer and sources of solace and help. We must sustain each other in our patterns of prayer. As a family try as suggested by the Cardinal to pray each day for an end to this pandemic as a Catholic community spread throughout our country.

## Ash Wednesday

Is 17 February, it's a day of fasting and abstinence. More details about guidelines of receiving ashes will follow when available.

## Molly Alcock

Molly rang me last week to inform me that she is moving to Sittingbourne to live with her son and family. Molly, who is 100, recently found it hard to manage on her own, after two falls. She has been in our parish community for twenty one years. She also wants to send her love to all her friends. We pray that she will settle in her new home with her son and I know she will be happy. She is a person with a wonderful faith and a love for Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. We all thank her for her friendship and support.

## Church Sanitised

Every Friday the church is cleaned and sanitised by an independent company.

## Anniversaries

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

### We pray for:

Frank Lowen, Stephen Eagle, Patricia Gower, Longin Czupinski, Anthony Fleming, Edward Williams, Katherine Dalton, Leo Naughisn, and John Halsey.

### Priests of our Diocese:

Fr. John O'Sullivan (1999), Fr. John Hibbert (1975), Fr. Alfred Field (1946), Bishop Patrick Casey (1999) fifth Bishop of Brentwood (1969 - 1979), and Fr. John Clifford (2010),

**May these and all the faithful departed Rest in peace and rise in Glory. For all who have died from COVID-19 Eternal Rest give to them O Lord, may they Rest in peace and Rise in Glory.**

## Sickness

### We pray for our sick in our parish:

Daniella DiLisio, Simone Austin, Jacqueline Birnie, Norah McPherson, Mano Subryan, Diana Pearce, Greg Thomas, Liz Kent, Alan Bailey, Brian Donoghue, Patricia Green and Mary Alcock.

Our Lady of Lourdes intercede for them.

If there are any changes please let Fr. Leslie know.

**PLEASE NOTE THAT IN FUTURE THE NAMES OF ALL THE SICK WILL BE CONTAINED ON A CARD THAT WILL BE PLACED ON THE ALTAR AT EVERY MASS.**

**PLEASE ALSO NOTE THAT DUE TO DATA PROTECTION REGULATIONS PARISHIONERS WHO ARE SICK NEED TO ASK FR. LESLIE FOR THEIR NAMES TO BE ADDED TO THE LIST.**

## First Holy Communion Parents

Everything at present is on hold because of Covid-19. However, there are three things you can do with your children. First, please contact our website/Sacraments. Should you wish your child to make his/her first Holy Communion at some point next year, Mary Lockwood, our parish administrator, will send you a form to fill in and return to the Presbytery by 10 January 2021. Secondly, we normally ask the children and parents to erect somewhere in your home, usually their bedroom, a "holy place" consisting of, maybe a crucifix, a rosary, a bible or whatever you wish to place on it. You and your child can pray together each evening. Perhaps you could send a photograph into the school or presbytery of your "holy place". Thirdly, we welcome you and your child to attend mass each Sunday which is a very important part of your desire for your child to make his/her first Holy Communion. These are three ways you can focus the family attention on this important sacrament. I will keep you informed about the progress we are making when it is prudent to do so.

## Streaming of Mass

If you are watching Mass streamed from a Catholic Church, please observe the following:

Do not watch it in bed eating your breakfast (unless you have to be in bed). Do not watch the mass drinking tea/coffee. The Mass is sacred and through the media this great mystery is happening in your home. We should behave as if we are in church.

## Stewards

When we return to having public Masses again, we will undoubtedly need more volunteers to steward the people attending Mass. Please do give it a thought. It's not a big task - you would be needed to take contact details, show people to their seat, and assist in bringing people up for Holy Communion a bench at a time so that there is no overcrowding in the aisle.

**Please please help if you can.**

## Finance News

Standing orders from 5<sup>th</sup> December to 5<sup>th</sup> January: £2,159. Thank you very much. Unfortunately our expenses were £4,779.92. A reminder that our parish relies on your generosity as all expenses for maintenance, insurance of our buildings and running costs are the responsibility of each parish.

## Standing Orders

These represent the most efficient method for you to support our Parish. Please complete a Standing Order form which can be found at the back of the church, and send it to your bank. If you are a tax payer, please do think about Gift Aiding your donation, which benefits the church by an extra 25% of your giving, at no cost whatsoever to yourselves.

### HSBC

Account name: St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Church, Hutton.

Sort Code: 40 13 22.

Account No.: 61018884



## Pope on Twitter



The world's faith depends on #ChristianUnity; in fact, the Lord asked that we be one "so the world might believe" (Jn 17:21). The world will not believe because of our convincing arguments, but because we have borne witness to that love that unites us and draws us near.

After the Last Supper, Jesus prayed for His own, "that they may all be one" (Jn 17:21). This means that we are not able to achieve unity with our own strength. Above all, unity is a gift, it is a grace to be requested through #prayer. #ChristianUnity

Jesus invites us to abide in Him so as to bear much fruit (see Jn 15:5-9). Abiding in the Lord means finding the courage to step outside of ourselves to take care of others' needs and give a Christian witness in the world.

Today The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins. This year, the theme refers to Jesus's counsel: "Abide in my love and you shall bear much fruit"

Let us pray together for our brothers and sisters of Sulawesi, in Indonesia, hit by a strong earthquake. May the Lord console and sustain the efforts of all those who are engaged in bringing aid. Let us also pray for the victims of the airplane accident in Indonesia.

The design that God has for each one of us is always a design of love. And the greatest joy for every

believer is to respond to that call, offering one's entire being to the service of God and the brothers and sisters.

Light  
**Laughter**

Are you a victim of faulty double-glazing?

You could be entitled to condensation!

[www.stjosephshutton.org](http://www.stjosephshutton.org)



### Brentwood Catenians

Our mission statement is - strengthening family life through friendship and faith.

If there are any gentleman interested in the Catenian Association please contact Peter Brisbourne our membership officer on 01277 219746.

## PLEASE NOTE

This newsletter is being provided to you by the parish so please take it home with you and don't leave it in the church. This is because of restrictions due to Covid-19. The newsletter can also be downloaded from the website.