

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

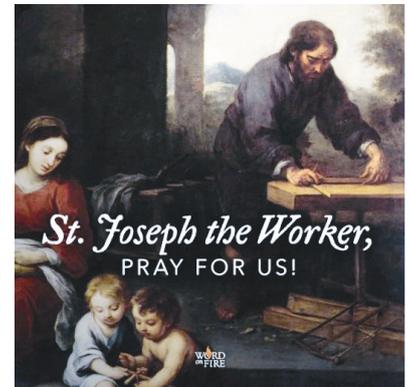
Fr. Leslie Knight
The Presbytery
17 Highview Crescent, Hutton
Brentwood, Essex CM13 1BJ
T: 01277 221917
M: 07730 409784

Miss Bernadette Rossiter
St. Joseph the Worker
Primary School
Highview Crescent, Hutton
Brentwood, Essex CM13 1BJ
T: 01277 227282

www.stjosephshutton.org

Mission Statement

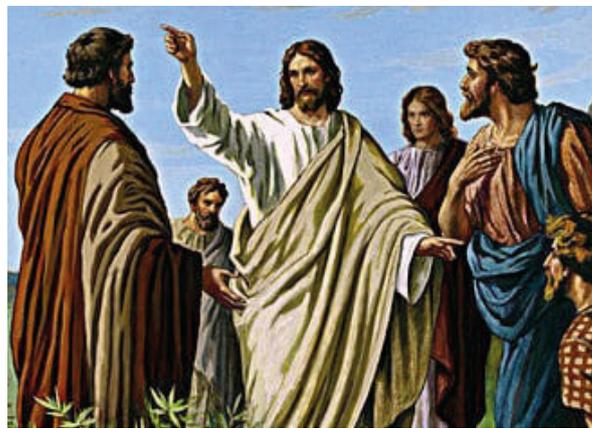
To have Christ at the centre of our lives, enabling us to grow in faith as a community where all feel welcome, loved and valued.



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 27 February 2022



“Why do you notice the splinter in your brother’s eye, but do not perceive the wooden beam in your own?”

IN TODAY’S GOSPEL

Jesus was a carpenter and was no doubt familiar with the occupational hazard of wood chippings inadvertently landing in the eye. He draws on this experience to teach us about the all-too-human tendency to judge others harshly. It’s part of the human condition to see more readily what’s wrong with others (the splinter) before addressing issues in our own lives (the plank). Why is this?

Is it insecurity, low self-esteem, boredom or even just plain old envy or malice? God knows we all do it frequently, clergy and laity alike. St. Teresa of Calcutta said, ‘If you judge people, you have no time to love them. Furthermore, Thomas a Kempis stated, ‘Be not angry that you cannot make others as you would wish them to be, since you cannot make yourself as you wish to be’.

Jesus encouraged us to first examine our own lives before we judge anyone else. The Christian way is to put God’s spotlight on yourself before you judge someone else. A great mantra to help us with this is: ‘There but for the grace of God go I’. If we lived like this, we would usher in a spiritual revolution, both in our own lives and in our parishes and wider society. We would gossip less, criticize less, and condemn less, and have a better understanding that we are all fallen, wounded and prone to darkness, sin, and confusion.

Some will protest that we need to judge and discern people and situations - how else can we help? Apart from the self-righteousness of this view, it’s wrong because it presumes we know how and what God thinks. God’s thinking is as far away from our thinking as the east is from the west. We should practise not judging. The next time you come across a story about someone’s fall (through any human weakness), instead of judging them, pray for them, offer them up to God’s mercy and love. When we think and act like this, we think and act like the Father.

Lord, teach me to stop sitting in judgement and condemning others: for the measure I dish out is the measure I will receive.

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Upcoming Masses

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

FEBRUARY

Saturday 26	6.00 p.m. Mass Les Hull RIP
Sunday 27	10.30 a.m. Mass Elizabeth Kent RIP Jean Dunne

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 1 9.00 a.m. Elizabeth Kent RIP
R&J Weller

ASH WEDNESDAY (Day of Fasting & Abstinence)

Wednesday 2 9.15 a.m. Mass – *Note the change of Time - Today Only*

7.30 p.m. Mass

Thursday 3 9.00 a.m. Mass

Friday 4 9.00 a.m. Mass

Saturday 5 10.00 - 10.30 a.m. Sacrament of Reconciliation

Church Open all week for Private prayer 9.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m.

NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 5 6.00 p.m. Mass
Beryl de Prazer RIP
UGA Bailey

Sunday 6 10.30 a.m. Mass
People of the Parish

* 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: Alma Tincey, Edward Pearce, Aubrey Field, Raymond Bolt, and Mary Sheerhan,

Priests of our Diocese: Fr. David Chapman (1998), Fr. John Wall (1952), Mgr. Canon Patrick O'Donnell (1981), Fr. Brain Galvin (1994), and Fr. Malachy Kelly (1976)

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 our Sunday celebration. Two weeks ago, we started to read the discourse which Jesus, at the start of His ministry, spoke to His disciples on a plain at the foot of a mountain. A large crowd followed Him wherever He went. A group of fishermen namely Peter, John, and James and others, after a catch of miraculous fish and in response to the call of Jesus, left everything and followed Him and became His disciples. Jesus began His teaching to them pronouncing blessings and woes. They were intended to show His disciples the two ways of living and their consequences - one that leads to happiness and life and the other that leads to misery and death. To emphasise the same message as last week not to set themselves up as judges of others instead to look to themselves first.

In today's gospel He draws the picture 'can a blind person guide a blind person? Will not both fall into a pit?' Jesus often asks questions, not expecting an answer, but to make the people think. The message today of his teaching was that the disciples would not be able to lead and guide others unless they themselves believed in and faithfully put His teaching into practice. Again Jesus uses another imagery about the splinter in another person eye, while ignoring the beam in your own eye. It's always easy to find fault with other people, ignoring our own faults. In other words, we must reform our own lives before we can help others. Then he speaks of how to live a good life by bearing good fruit.

What about us? We must make time for prayer and centre our lives on prayer. Again, let us reflect on the scriptures. Let us learn from the saints by reading about them. Let us go to Mass regularly, celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least monthly and acknowledge the graces of Baptism, Confirmation, Marriage etc. The Sacraments are gifts given to us to nourish, strengthen and express our faith. We live in a world surrounded by good and evil both vying for our attention. Now that we move into the season of Lent, we have a wonderful opportunity to reflect on our lives and to change where change is needed. I invite you to pray to Mary that she will help us to make the right choices and come to love and embrace her Son Jesus.

May God bless all our families.

Faith Lift Day

This will be held at the Sion Community, Sawyers Hall Lane, Brentwood, CM15 9BX on Saturday 12 March. The programme begins with Mass at 12.00, followed by lunch (please bring your own); 2.00 p.m. praise and worship; 2.45 p.m. talk followed by Adoration until 4.30 p.m. during which time Confession and prayer ministry will be available. Please feel welcome to join the day at any time, no booking is required. Tea and coffee will be available. Please share with anyone you think may be interested.

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@friendsoftheholylan.org.uk.

Repairs And Maintenance

Work continues on the Parish Room windows which will take at least another week or so. The roof repairs are now complete – for the moment.

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.

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 Beathe 01277 373959 or josephbeathe@dioceseofbrentwood.org

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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.

Please see detailed Income and Expenditure spreadsheet below for the year to 31 March 2022. Our financial situation needs addressing urgently.

St Joseph the Worker - Financial Position at 31st Dec 2021

INCOME	ACTUALS										FORECAST			Total 2021_22
	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar		
Offertory Income	£2,974	£2,481	£2,800	£2,596	£2,571	£3,340	£3,605	£2,540	£3,492	£2,600	£2,600	£2,600	£34,200	
Non Offertory Income														
Tax Refunded (Covenants and Gift Aid)	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0		£5,226	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0		
Other income - Donations / Bazaar etc	£162	£165	£814	£265	£519	£397	£281	£600	£677	£315	£315	£415		
200 Club	£0	£0	£0	£0	£0		£0	£0	£0	£1,000	£0	£0		
Total Non Offertory Income	£162	£165	£814	£265	£519	£397	£5,506	£600	£677	£1,315	£315	£415	£11,149	
TOTAL INCOME	£3,136	£2,646	£3,614	£2,860	£3,090	£3,737	£9,111	£3,140	£4,169	£3,915	£2,915	£3,015	£45,349	
GENERAL EXPENSES														
Pastoral Expenses	£774	£902	£991	£803	£795	£836	£904	£794	£812	£795	£795	£795	£9,995	
Pastoral Other Expenses - Liturgical / Catechetical	£895	£855	£836	£578	£191	£1,183	£181	£550	£766	£890	£890	£890	£8,707	
Premises (all Parish Buildings)- Utilities, Rates, Insurance etc	£974	£2,061	£1,640	£1,466	£1,280	£1,757	£1,002	£980	£2,049	£1,343	£1,146	£1,146	£16,843	
Financial - Diocesan Quota / Overdraft Interest	£712	£682	£700	£682	£682	£902	£692	£694	£732	£682	£682	£682	£8,522	
Other Diocesan charges	£703	£703	£703	£703	£703	£703	£703	£703	£703	£703	£703	£703	£8,436	
TOTAL GENERAL EXPENSES	£4,057	£5,203	£4,869	£4,232	£3,651	£5,381	£3,482	£3,721	£5,061	£4,413	£4,216	£4,216	£52,506	
INCOME vs GENERAL EXPENSES	£-921	£-2,557	£-1,255	£-1,371	£-561	£-1,644	£5,629	£-581	£-892	£-498	£-1,301	£-1,201	£-7,154	
OTHER EXTRAORDINARY EXPENDITURE - ALL PREMISES														
Already Spent - Year to Date	£2,099													
Planned Mandatory Health & Safety repairs (Feb & March)	£16,488													
EXPECTED BANK BALANCE AT END OF FINANCIAL YEAR	£-22,100													

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 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

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.



Pope on Twitter



Pessimism and complaining are not Christian. We were not made to be downcast, but to look up to heaven

With the Spirit of Jesus, we can respond to evil with good, we can love those who do us harm. This is what Christians do. How sad it is, when people and populations proud to be Christians see others as enemies and think to wage war against each other!

Turning the other cheek is not the withdrawal of the loser, but the action of one who has a greater inner strength, who defeats evil with good, who opens up a breach in the heart of the enemy, unmasking the absurdity of his hatred. It is dictated not by calculation, but by love.

The Church is a family of brothers and sisters with one Father, who gave us Jesus as our brother, to help us understand how much He loves fraternity. In fact, he wants all humanity to become one universal family.

Finance News

For the week ending 20 February 2022 you gave £180.00 of which £18.00 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 the 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.*

Light
Laughter

Why does Peter Pan fly around so much?

He Neverlands!

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.



Baptism

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

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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



Donate £20.00



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



Donate £5.00



Donate £10.00



Donate £20.00



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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www.stjosephshutton.org

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust - Registered Charity No. 234092

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".