

# 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](http://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 17 October 2021

## IN TODAY'S GOSPEL

T.S. Eliot once said. 'Most of the trouble in the world is caused by people wanting to be important. This observation could (undoubtedly!) be applied to James and John. Their thirst for ambition stirred up resentment and indignation among the disciples. Quite what was going on in their hearts is hard to figure out. It was not a particularly edifying kind of ambition.

We say 'particularly edifying' for- rather like pride - not all ambition is wrong. Parents are proud of their children: we can be proud of our work: we are proud to be associated with teams, events, or organizations. Such pride is human and understandable. It's the same with ambition, is it not?

However, the Scriptures are quick to point out that selfish ambition is sinful. Indeed, through the process of maturity and grace, James himself wrote many years later: 'If you have bitter jealousy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast and be false to the truth... for where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. (Jas. 3:15-16).

St. Bernard of Clairvaux also condemned the vice in no uncertain terms: 'Ambition is the mother of hypocrisy and prefers to sulk in corners and dark places. It cannot endure the light of day. It is an unclean vice wallowing in the depths, always hidden, but ever with an eye to advancement.'

So, there is no doubt that ambition of the kind displayed by the disciples was not noble or impressive. What then is the right kind of ambition? We are called to be ambitious to grow in holiness, and to be ambitious for the kingdom of God: for the spread of the Gospel and the growth of Christ's kingdom on earth.

*'The only true riches are those that make us rich in virtue. Therefore, if you want to be rich, beloved, love true riches. If you aspire to the heights of real honour, strive to reach the kingdom of heaven. If you value rank and renown, hasten to be enrolled in the heavenly court of the angels.'* (St. Gregory the Great).

## The Catenian Association

The Catenian Association is an international organisation of Catholic Men committed to faith, family and friendship. There are over 300 groups world-wide, known as Circles.

Through our monthly meetings and varied programme of social and family events, lifelong friendships are built, and a support structure develops which can be called upon should the need arise.

You will be most welcome to join us for one of our dinners to see who we are and what we do. For further information, please contact your local Membership Team member, Eamonn Brennan on 01277 211931



## Christmas Gifts (already!)



If anyone needs anything from the Repository for Christmas presents or any gifts generally, please contact Mandy.

## Baptism

Sacrament of Baptism - Saturdays at 11.00am. Maximum number 40, Please wear a mask in Church - Application Forms available for our Parish Administrator ([hutton@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:hutton@dioceseofbrentwood.org)).

## Catechist Training and Resource Day

6 November, and will be held at the Sacred Heart of Mary School, Upminster - 70 St. Mary's Lane, RM14 2QR. The day will be an opportunity for catechists to come together and receive inputs from CARITAS Brentwood and BCYS and other organisations. As a parish we need catechists, so this is an opportunity to find out how we proceed with this important ministry.

## October Reflection

We know in our own heads that the decision to find time to pray, to sit in the presence of the Lord is often harder than the decision to work, write another Email, make a telephone call and so on. Today we hope to encounter the Lord in a new way of prayer, and we rejoice in the peace of great pride one thing is needed: to be still in the presence of Lord and come to know and Love Him.

## 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.

**Upcoming Masses**

**TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR (B)**

**THE WORD OF GOD  
FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY  
OCTOBER**

- Saturday 16 6.00 p.m. Mass  
Marina Moffat RIP  
*C Waters*
- Sunday 17 10.30 a.m.  
People of the Parish
- Monday 18 Church open all day for  
Private Prayer from 10.00 a.m.
- Tuesday 19 9.00 a.m. Mass – Mass  
Jack & Mary Connaghton RIP  
*M. Anderson*  
Church open all day for  
Private Prayer after  
morning Mass
- Wednesday 20 Church open all day for  
Private Prayer from 9.00 a.m.  
11.00 a.m. Funeral mass for  
Anne Rimmer
- Thursday 21 Church open all day for  
Private Prayer from 9.00 a.m.
- Friday 22 11.00 a.m. Funeral Mass for  
Marina Moffat  
Church open all day for  
Private Prayer after  
morning Mass
- Saturday 23 Church open for private  
prayer from 10.00 a.m.  
Sacrament of Reconciliation  
from 10.00 a.m. - 10.30 a.m.

**TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME YEAR (B)**

**THE WORD OF GOD  
FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY**

- Saturday 23 6.00 p.m. Mass  
People of the Parish
- Sunday 24 10.30 a.m.  
Marina Moffat RIP

\* Remember your loved ones by having a Mass offered for them. This 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. This Newsletter will be printed the week prior to 4/5 September.

**Anniversaries**

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

**We pray for:** Mary Anne Whittle, Antionette Parascandol, Bernard Gordon, Mary Connaghton, Sheila Towler, Rosemary Moule, Doris Waileniak, 'Otty' Parker, Margaret Hunt, and Kathleen O'Harte.

**Priests of our Diocese:** Fr. Bernard Clay (1970), and Canon William O'Neill (1951)  
**May these and all the faithful departed Rest in peace and rise in Glory. Rest in peace and Rise in Glory.**

**Please pray for all those who have lost a loved one during the pandemic – May they rest in peace and rise in glory.**

**November Dead Envelopes**

These will be available in the Narthex from October.

**Advertising your business**

If you would like to increase your profile and advertise your business on our back pages, please contact:

ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk for details.

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



Welcome to each and everyone today as we gather around to celebrate our Holy Mass. Our numbers of parishioners returning are slowly on the rise, but we would like to see more parishioners returning to our church. On a Sunday morning our conscience and our love to receive Jesus in Holy Communion and our obligation should encourage us to come to church - especially our First Holy Communion children. For our house bound parishioners we understand it may not be possible but we are praying for you. Live streaming of the Mass, like many things, was forced upon us but it became a very useful tool. But now that people are moving about

freely and off on holidays, there is absolutely no reason why we cannot return to church. I look forward to welcoming you all back.

We are coming up to the month of November when we pray especially for our loved ones who have departed this life, especially those who died from COVID. There are "November Dead" envelopes in the Narthex, where you can pick some up, place in the envelope the names of those whom you wish Mass to be offered for the repose of their souls, plus a donation, and return them to the church by the beginning of November. It is our Catholic duty to remember those who have died and have prayers offered for them that they may be released from their sins as we read in the Book of Maccabees.

Today's liturgy of the word reminds us that greatness comes from service. On the night before he died, Jesus washed the feet of the disciples. Mother Teresa of Calcutta became great by emptying herself to serve the poorest of the poor. How can we be seen as great? We can make time to visit the sick, maybe someone is having a bad time or a bad day. Maybe someone needs help with a difficult job. We all have different gifts. We need to be responsible to develop our gifts with mercy, compassion and justice. True greatness comes from Jesus Christ. He has called us to service. After He washed the feet of the disciples He said "Go and do likewise".

May God bless each and everyone of us and our school.

**Christmas Hamper**



Our Christmas hamper will be arriving shortly – to raffle towards our much needed parish funds – as we have so many repairs to do on our parish property. Each year you have been very generous to St Joseph's and I know you will be equally generous this year. I realise that many are struggling in one way or another, but we must not neglect God's house.

Also we will encourage you to send your Christmas Greetings to one another via the newsletter as we have done in the past. Proceeds will go towards Brentwood Catholic Children's society. Thanks again for your unflinching support.

**First Holy Communion**

Our children and parents are preparing for the sacrament of reconciliation in December. As a parish community we pray for them and their families at this time. May I respectfully remind everyone to prepare for Christmas by attending this sacrament.

**Confirmation 2022**

If you wish to be confirmed next year, please give me in writing your name and contact details. You should be 14+. The preparation course begins in January 2022. Confirmation is the second sacrament where you will be anointed with the fullness of the Holy Spirit and his Gifts. By this anointing the confirmed receives to 'seal' or 'mark' of the Holy Spirit. A seal is a sign of authority or ownership of the object. Christ himself declared that he was marked with his father's seal. The seal of the Holy Spirit makes our total belonging to Christ, our enrolment in his service for ever, as well as promise of divine protection. In the prayer..... "Send your Holy Spirit to be their helper and guide – give them the spirit of Wisdom and understanding, right judgement, courage, knowledge, reverence, spirit of wonder and Love".... I ask our parents to engage in conversation about the important sacrament offered to our young teenagers for their journey in life.

**Candlelight fund for CAFOD**

Please pick up a candlelight fund leaflet – it's a special fund in memory of a loved one who has died. All donations in their memory, now and in the future, will be combined to make a life changing difference to families in some of the world's poorest communities. It can be a private act of remembrance – donating to mark a special event like a loved ones Birthday. Please take a leaflet and read what it's all about.

**Second Collection**

For World Mission Sunday Weekend 23/24 October. Please see the notice on the white board in the Narthex – on the bottom right. There is a QR code, please use this code if you are able.

Second Collection for National Youth Sunday 20/21 November 2021.

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**Pope on Twitter**



The #Synod is a process of spiritual discernment, that unfolds in adoration, in prayer and in dialogue with the word of God. #ListeningChurch

The Lord has liberated us from slavery freely, and set us on the path to walk in the fullness of freedom.

Today we remember the final apparition of #OurLadyOfFatima. I entrust you all to the heavenly Mother of God. May she accompany you on your way and be of comfort in the trials of life.

Participating in a #Synod means taking the same path as the Word made flesh: following in his footsteps, listening to his word and the words of others, discovering with amazement that the Holy Spirit always surprises us with fresh paths and new ways of speaking.

**Finance News**

For the week ending 10 October you gave £190.00 of which £41.00 was through Gift Aid.

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.*

**Making Your Donation By Standing Order:**

If you can, please support our parish of St. Joseph the Worker by giving by standing order and, if you are a tax payer, please gift aid your offering. Thank you for your generosity.

**Sickness**

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

Jacqueline Birnie, Norah McPherson, Mano Subryan, Diana Pearce, 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.**



Did you hear about the new restaurant called Karma? There's no menu – you get what you deserve!



Just some of the goodies and gifts that are available in our very well stocked Repository. Please pop in before or after Mass and have a browse. No supply chain shortages or lack of lorry drivers here!"

**Sunday For Christian Ancestors (Journey Home)**

From the earliest times, Sunday was the day set apart for communities to gather and celebrate the Easter Mysteries of Christ's death and resurrection. It became a spiritual thing in the Christians week. St. Paul refers to "The day of the week" (1 Cor 16(1-2)) as the moment for taking a collection to support the poorest communities. The Acts of the Apostles describes the community celebrating the Eucharist in Troas "on the day of the week" (20.7-8). The Didache composed in the first century addresses believers saying "gather yourselves together on Sunday, and break bread, and give thanks after having confessed your transgressions, that your sacrifice may be pure. But let no one who is at odds with his fellow come together with you, until they have reconciled, that your sacrifice may not be performed. For that which was spoken by the Lord "In every place and time offer to me a pure sacrifice, for I am a great king, says the Lord and my name is non earful among the nations." The Sunday Eucharist becomes so important for our ancestors that they were willing to risk their lives and suffer martyrdom. For example in the year 112 Pliny the Younger wrote to the Emperor Trajan boasting that he had arrested Christians who had gathered together on a Sunday to sing hymns to Christ. Of course, such persecution is still present in many parts of the world today. These men and women are martyrs for the day of the Sunday celebration. The importance of attending Sunday Mass was emphasised in a third century instruction known as the Didasklia. Teach the faithful and effort them to the present at Sunday mass, less they decrease the church by their absence and deprive the mystical body of Christ if one of its members, they should hear the words of Christ as directed to each one of them in particular. Christ makes himself present as promised and communicates with us, you cannot belittle yourself nor deprive the Saviour of his members, you can't separate or divide his body."

Website: [www.thresholdhope.co.uk](http://www.thresholdhope.co.uk)

**World Mission Sunday 23/24 October**

This is a World Day Prayer and sacrifice for the spread of the Gospel for the church's mission worldwide. A retiring collection will be taken after Mass.

**Bible Alive**

Please purchase a copy of Bible Alive to help you to reflect on the scriptures each day. They are an important part of our prayer and our spiritual lives.

**Funeral Masses**

Funeral Mass for Marina Moffat will take place at 11.00 a.m. on Friday 22 October.

*May she rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.*

**Bible Alive**

For October is available from the Narthex £5.00 each. This wonderful book allows us to reflect on our Sunday liturgy of the word in the comfort of your home and also has other interesting articles to help you to understand God's word and what is happening around our Catholic World. Plus other interesting information. You can also order it so that it can be sent to your homes.

Christmas Cards can also be ordered – which contains quotations from the bible and Christmas messages. A great way for us to spread "The Good news and our faith". And there is much more.

**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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PLEASE USE QR CODES FOR YOUR GIVING INSTEAD OF CASH

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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.



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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](http://www.stjosephshutton.org)). A PDF of the newsletter can be found under “communication”.