

# ST JOSEPH THE WORKER, HUTTON

## WITH ST JOHN AND ST ERCONWALD, INGATESTONE



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13<sup>TH</sup> / 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025 ✦ THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### MASS TIMES

All liturgies and devotions are at Hutton unless otherwise stated.

**WEEKEND MASSES:** Saturday Vigil Mass 5.30pm (Hutton), Sunday 9.00am (Ingatestone) & 10.30 a.m. (Hutton).

**WEEKDAY MASSES** – 9.15 a.m.: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday

**CHURCH OPENING HOURS:** St Joseph's – every day 9am-5pm. St John's Tuesday & Friday 10.30am – 12.30pm; Sunday 8.30am – 11am.

NO MASS ON THURSDAYS

**ADORATION AND CONFESSIONS:** Saturday 10.30 – 11.15 a.m. or on request before Mass or any other time.

**PARISH OFFICE HOURS:** Wednesday and Friday 9.30 a.m. – 3 p.m.

### MASS INTENTIONS

<b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup></b>	5.30 p.m.	Brian Green	<i>R.I.P.</i>
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup></b>	9.00 a.m.	Colin Ware	<i>R.I.P.</i>
	10.30 a.m.	Private Intention	
<b>Monday 15<sup>th</sup></b>	9.15 a.m.	Geraldine Heneghan	<i>R.I.P.</i>
<b>Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup></b>	8.30 a.m.	Eileen Malone	<i>Intention</i>
<b>Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup></b>	9.15 a.m.	J & M Henegha	<i>Intention</i>
<b>Friday 19<sup>th</sup></b>	9.15 a.m.	Andy Henman	<i>R.I.P.</i>
<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup></b>	5.30 p.m.	Angela Booker	<i>R.I.P.</i>
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup></b>	9.00 a.m.	Grace & Donald Shaw	<i>R.I.P.</i>
	10.30 a.m.	Peggy Fehily	<i>R.I.P.</i>

### OFFERTORY COLLECTION

*Thank you for your generous donations*

**Date 6/7 December**

**Hutton:** £205.00  
**Ingatestone** £180.00

### ROTAS

	Readers	Eucharistic Ministers
<b>Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> – 5.30 p.m.</b>	Hannah Ola	Stella Walker
<b>Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> – 5.30 p.m.</b>	Marian Anderson	Mark Brennan
<b>Sunday 14<sup>th</sup> – 10.30 a.m.</b>	Tara Sanni	Blane McKie
<b>Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> – 10.30 a.m.</b>	Sophie Newbould	Lyn Birnie

### READINGS AT MASS

**First reading:** Isaiah 35:1-6,10

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 145(146):6-10. ✠ Matthew 5:3

**Response:** *Come, Lord, and save us. Or: Alleluia*

**Second reading:** James 5:7-10

**Gospel Acclamation:** Isaiah 61:1(Luke4:18)

**Alleluia, Alleluia!**

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me; He has sent me to proclaim good news to the poor.*

**Alleluia!**

**Gospel:** Matthew 11:2-11

### MASS ATTENDANCE

<b>Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> December</b>	– 5.30 p.m.	173
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	– 9 a.m.	34
<b>Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> December</b>	– 10.30 a.m.	72

### FR GARY

On this Third Sunday of Advent, the Church pauses and says simply: *Rejoice*. This joy does not rise out of excitement or anticipation alone. It emerges from faith. It is the joy that comes from knowing that God is faithful, and that He does what He has promised, in His own time and in His own way. The first reading speaks of the desert rejoicing and the wilderness flowering. It is a calm and beautiful image: not of sudden spectacle, but of renewal taking place where little seemed possible before. God does not always change the world by noise and drama. More often, He changes it quietly, from within.

In the Gospel, John the Baptist is no longer calling out beside the Jordan. He has stepped back, and Christ has stepped forward. John's role has been to prepare the way, and now that preparation is bearing fruit. The works of the Messiah speak for themselves.

Gaudete Sunday reminds us that Christian joy is never self-made. It is received. It comes from trusting that God is at work, even when we are still waiting. It belongs just as much to the patient and the weary as it does to the confident and strong.

The rose candle and lighter vestments are a gentle sign, not of a celebration completed, but of a promise already fulfilled in part. Advent continues, but hope has sharpened, and joy has taken root.

As we move towards Christmas, the Church invites us to hold on to that quiet joy: the joy of believing that God is near, that His promises are sure, and that our waiting is not in vain.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our parish party last Saturday. 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. We raised over £1000 for parish funds and, most importantly, it was 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. Watch this space for news of exciting social events to come. The new year will see the return of the parish disco, and there may even be some wine-tasting coming our way!

May God bless you and your families this week

*Fr Gary*

### Christmas Masses

#### Christmas Eve

4.30pm – Mass for our Children

7.00pm – Sung Mass (Ingatestone)

9.30pm – Mass during the Night (Hutton)

#### Christmas Day

10.30am – Mass of the Day

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 this Christmas.

### Funeral Arrangements for Bishop Thomas

We have been informed that attendance at the Mass on 16th December is extremely limited but it is possible to watch a live-stream of the Mass by going to <https://www.shealolin.co.uk/bishop-thomas>

#### Monday 15th December

Reception of the body of Bishop Thomas McMahon into Brentwood Cathedral. Solemn Vespers at 5.00 p.m.

#### Tuesday 16th December

11.30 a.m. Requiem Mass for Bishop Thomas McMahon at Brentwood Cathedral. Main celebrant: Cardinal Vincent Nichols.

### Mass Time Change

As Diocesan Master of Ceremonies, Fr Gary will need to be at the Cathedral early on Tuesday to go through the running order with the servers and to

help set things up for the liturgy. Mass on Tuesday morning will be at 8.30am. Thank you for your understanding.

### Parish Christmas Cards

There are plenty of parish Christmas cards left. Would you consider delivering some to your road? Or perhaps you could give them to someone/some people who you know are Catholic but have not been for a while? Something as simple as a Christmas card may be just the thing to welcome them back to our parish family.

### Christmas Clean

We are aiming to have our churches looking at their best for the great celebration. Our cleaning teams will be getting everything read on Tuesday 23rd December at 10am at St John's, Ingatestone and after Mass at St Joseph's, Hutton. Do you think you might have the time to help-out? Cleaning materials (as well as tea, coffee and biscuits!) are provided.

### Christmas Tree Decorations

Last year our children decorated our Christmas trees so beautifully with their hand-made Christmas decorations. I would if our younger members might be able to step forward again to make our trees look their best? Decorations can be hung on the trees anytime between now and Christmas. Parents, please accompany your children if they are coming into church to pray or place their decorations on the tree. Thank you!

### Christmas Collections

Our diocese does not pay its priests a salary or pay into a pension for them. While basic living expenses are covered, priests depend to a great extent on the generosity of their parishioners. In smaller parishes like ours, a priest may claim up to just under £600 per month from parish funds as a form of stipend. Here, that amount is shared between Hutton and Ingatestone. In addition, the priest may keep what is given at the Christmas and Easter Masses. These two collections form a significant part of a priest's income. They make a real difference to his ability to set something aside for retirement, to provide for times of illness, and simply to live a balanced life, with the possibility of rest, friendship, and an occasional holiday. The Christmas collection is therefore a personal gift to your priest, and a very practical way of supporting his work and ministry. Thank you, as always, for your kindness, generosity, and continued commitment to the life of our parish.

### Christmas and Standing Orders

The diocese does not allow any donations made by standing order to be directed towards the Christmas and Easter support of clergy unless the donor has specifically requested this in writing. For that reason, those who normally give in this way may wish to consider making an additional personal gift at this time. This can be done very simply. Donations may be made using the card machine at the back of the church, by bank transfer or online donation. If using the parish bank details, please mark the reference 'Christmas'. For those more comfortable with their phone, a QR code is also available next to this notice. However, you choose to give, please know that it is very much appreciated, and received with real gratitude.



## PARISH NOTICES

**Christmas Flowers:** We have our Christmas flower appeal this weekend. Thank you for your generosity.

**New Vestments:** St Joseph's has a new set of Rose vestments which have been specially donated in loving memory of Douglas Bennie. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace. Amen.

**New Stations of the Cross:** Our new Stations of the Cross at St Joseph's were put up on Friday and are looking wonderful. They have been donated by the Sisters of Mercy and have come from the Sion Community chapel in Brentwood, which is owned by the sisters. The Sisters of Mercy have a long-standing connection with our school and parish. Please remember the sisters in your prayers, especially Sr Jude, without whom this would not have been possible. Please also pray for the Sion Community who are preparing to move to a new spiritual home.

**Welcomers, Readers and Eucharistic Ministers:** Please sign up for these ministries over the Christmas Period on the sheet at the back of the church. Thank you for your service in our parish.

**Advent Daily Reflection Booklet:** Walk With Me Advent Booklets are on sale at the back of the church at St Joseph's, priced at £1.50. They are a

useful short daily reflection as part of your advent preparation. Please put monies in the Repository wall box.

**St Joseph's Christmas Hamper Raffle:** We have been donated a wonderful Luxury Hamper for our Christmas raffle, with a giant Toblerone as second prize and a bottle of Champagne as third prize. To be in with a chance of winning these marvellous prizes please take an envelope from the back of the church and return it with £5 inside, and your name and phone number on the front. The raffle will be drawn on Sunday 21 December after 10.30 Mass. Our target is to raise £1000 for church maintenance funds. Thank you!

**First Holy Communion:** FHC parents can find the Mass attendance register at the back of the church. Please sign this after Mass so that we know you have attended with your child. Many thanks.

**Cards and Gifts:** The Repository is open before and after mass every Saturday evening and Sunday morning. We have a range of religious Christmas Cards, candles and calendars at reasonable prices.

**Missio Red Boxes:** 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 2026 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 to me. Missio is the Pope's charity for world mission, helping local missionaries to work alongside global communities that are poor or in need. Visit [missio.org.uk](http://missio.org.uk) to find out more or to donate online. Thank you for your support.

**Maranatha!** Come Lord Jesus! You are warmly welcomed to an evening of praise and worship, including mass and adoration.

**Save the dates:** Friday 16th of January and Friday 13th of February 2026. Time: 7:00pm to 9:00pm, including refreshments after.

**Venue:** The Blessed Sacrament Church, 116 Melbourne Avenue, CM12DU, Chelmsford. Bring your friends!

Organised by the CDSC (Charismatic Diocesan Service of Communion).

## REGULAR NOTICES

### Tea and Coffee



Tea and coffee are available after both the 9am at Ingatestone and the 10.30am Mass at Hutton.

Refreshments are also served after the Saturday evening Mass on the first Saturday of the month.

There will be refreshments after the 10.30 Mass, and everyone is welcome. Please sign up on the list at the back of the church to help. New volunteers are always welcome. You only have to provide the milk, and full instructions are given.

**Parish Registration:** If you are new to the parish and would like to register, the Parish Registration forms are available in the Church porch, or you can register on the website. If you are a parishioner at Ingatestone then please email the Parish Office.

**200 Club - Hutton:** There are cash prizes to be one through our popular 200 club. For just £2 per entry, you could be eligible to win prizes of £50, £30 or £20 each month. Half the proceeds go to boost parish funds. Please complete a 200 Club standing order form and hand it to Marian Anderson or Fr Gary.

**Anointing of the Sick:** If you know of someone in the parish who is very ill, please contact Fr Gary to arrange a visit. Please pray for all the sick people of our parish.

**Funerals:** To book a funeral, please contact the Parish Office.

**Marriage support** - Does your relationship need some TLC? Need help with deeper issues? Contact: +44 7887 296 983. Visit: [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

**Hall Hire:** The Parish Hall of St Joseph the Worker is available for hire, please contact the Parish Office.

## SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES

**Baptism:** It is always a pleasure to welcome new members into the Church. It is by Baptism we become part of the Body of Christ. Baptism forms can be obtained from the parish office.

**FHC & Confirmation:** Email your inquiry to the parish office at [hutton@brcdt.org](mailto:hutton@brcdt.org).

**Marriage:** Please contact Fr Gary via e-mail to organise a meeting.

## A Little Joke

Who hides in a Christmas bakery? A mince spy!