

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

Parish Hutton and Shenfield

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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 4 December 2022

Only 21 days to Christmas!

Time then for our annual Christmas Hamper Raffle! This year the hamper is bigger and better than ever and will grace any family's Christmas Dinner table. Regulars will know all they need to do is to put a £5 note in an envelope (at the back of the church) and write their phone number on the front. There are boxes in the Narthex to put the completed envelope in. New parishioners are very welcome to join in the fun!

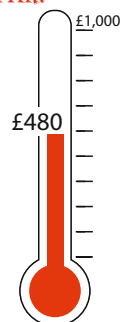
It's a record-size hamper. Let's see if we can make it a record sized fundraiser to help parish finances. *We can do this!*



HAMPER CONTENTS

The Fizz and Festivities Christmas Hamper is packed full of indulgence. It is the perfect gift for that special someone – be it family, friends or colleagues – who enjoy life's little luxuries. Crack open the trio of Accademia Prosecco, this triple treat is sure to be a great addition to the most discerning drinks trolley! We have popped in two signature kilner tins from Cartwright & Butler, one with English Breakfast Tea and the other with delicious Cheddar Biscuits. A fabulous box of Belgian Chocolates from Cachet in a gold sunburst design alongside sweet and savoury treats galore! All of these delights are carefully packed in a bespoke hand-crafted wicker basket. It's brand new for this festive season and is sure to make a stylish addition to your home once the fabulous fare has been enjoyed.

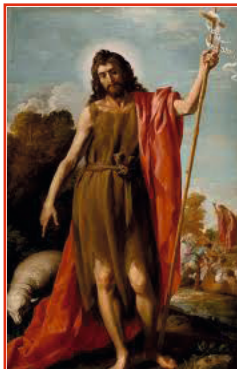
TOTAL SO FAR!



The hamper includes:

- ◆ Accademia Gold Prosecco (11%), 3 x 75cl
- ◆ Gold Crown Christmas Pudding, 350g
- ◆ Cachet Milk, Dark and White Chocolate Assortment, 200g
- ◆ Chloe's Cinna-Men Biscuits, 175g
- ◆ Abbey Biscuits Mince Pie Shorties, 150g
- ◆ Grandma Wild's Butter Shortbread Biscuits in Tube, 150g
- ◆ Savoursmiths Italian Cheese & Port Crisps, 150g
- ◆ Vitavigor Cheese Breadsticks, 125g
- ◆ Cartwright & Butler Chocolate Wafer Rounds, 120g
- ◆ Lily O'Briens Creamy Caramels with Sea Salt, 120g
- ◆ Walkers Classic Collection Gold, 120g
- ◆ Cartwright & Butler Cheddar Cheese Biscuits in Caddy, 100g
- ◆ Cartwright & Butler English Breakfast Tea in Tin, 90g
- ◆ Godiva Dark Chocolate Ganache Heart Bar, 86g
- ◆ Buitemans Gouda Biscuits Gold, 75g
- ◆ Wicker Basket with Round Handle Detail

Weight: 11.1kg



IN TODAY'S GOSPEL

"I am baptizing you with water, for repentance, but the one who is coming after me is mightier than I. I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

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**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR (A)****THE WORD OF GOD****FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY**

Saturday 3	6.00 p.m. Fred Greenfield RIP J. Greenfield
Sunday 4	10.30 a.m. Antonio Fernandes Family 3.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 6	9.00 a.m. Parishioner
Wednesday 7	7.30 p.m. Holy Souls
Feast Of The Immaculate Conception	
Thursday 8	9.00 a.m. Kathleen Murnane RIP
Friday 9	9.00 a.m. Holy Souls
Saturday 10	10.00 a.m. – 10.30 a.m. Confession (Sacrament of Reconciliation) or by appointment. Also before 6pm mass.

*Do try and come to a weekday Mass.
We all need Jesus.*

SEASON OF ADVENT

During Advent and Christmastide we ask you to pray for Migrants and Refugees, Expectant Mothers

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT – YEAR (A)**FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY**

Saturday 10	6.00 p.m. Dorothy Duranti RIP Evelyn Lamb
Sunday 11	10.30 a.m. Parishioners 3.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Church open each day for visit to Blessed Sacrament

You are invited to come and spend time with Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. Come and find that peace and tranquillity in the presence of your dearest friend, Jesus, who loved us so intimately.

* 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 there are plenty of space during the week for mass to be said for your intentions or deceased members of your family or for the Holy Souls in purgatory.

PLEASE NOTE: Any Mass intentions have to be in a week in advance as our newsletter is printed a week in advance.

PLEASE NOTE: At the weekends you may not get the date you request because everyone wants mass at the weekend. So you may get a different day. However your mass can be said on a weekday nearer the date you request. I am mandated as a Parish Priest to offer mass for @ Parishioners' each weekend.

We should have regular mass for our loved ones (Holy Souls) as often as we can.

Mass Attendance

Saturday 26 November	63
Sunday 27 November	80



Welcome to our parish family and visitors to our parish. Do make them welcome.

I truly invite you to pray the rosary as we prepare for the Birth of our Saviour. Last Sunday we heard about the three comings of Jesus. His first coming was when God revealed Himself by taking on our humanity. He came among us in His Divine nature and in His Human nature in order to redeem us. We heard on that first Christmas Day, he came in poverty and rejected by the people. There was no room in the various inns. He was born in a stable. We have reflected 'if we do not make a home for Him in our hearts'. His second coming is now. He comes to us in the Blessed

Sacrament, the important symbol of the Catholic faith. It's the body and blood of Christ Himself which he shed for us to attain eternal life. It's our way of getting closer to Christ. Through the consecrated bread and wine, we not only remember his ultimate sacrifice but also celebrate His presence in the Eucharist.

Today we hear of the appearance of John the Baptist calling us to repentance. Here we encounter Jesus in the Sacrament of Confession. He is present in this Sacrament waiting for us to come and seek His Divine mercy of forgiveness. John the Baptist teaches us to get rid of the material thoughts and things that distanced us from Jesus who awaits our return to Him. Sin is what separates us from Jesus. It's our failure to love. We know what we should do, to be the kind of person you know that you can become, to walk with Jesus, for Jesus has come for only one purpose and it is to teach us how to love.

The call of John the Baptist was To Repent. 'A voice cries in the wilderness; Prepare a way for the Lord, make his paths straight'. This Advent, let us put aside the thoughts and actions and way of life that separates us from Jesus. Return to Him in prayer and in Good works.

I wish you all and your families the Blessing of God. Have a safe week.

Fr. Leslie

Christmas Mass Times**CHRISTMAS EVE**

Saturday 24 December: Mass at 6.00 p.m.

CHRISTMAS DAY

Sunday 25 December: Masses at 8.30 a.m. & 10.30 a.m.

Christmas Community Food Hub Collection 3/4 & 10/11 December

This Christmas we are supporting Hutton Community Food Hub by donating items for their Christmas Hampers for families in need in the local area. If you are able, please donate any of the items below, by bringing them to Mass on 3, 4, 10 or 11 December. Please do not donate any non-perishable items and where possible bring them in a Christmas 'bag for life'. They will be taken to the Community Food Hub on 17 December for distribution.

Hamper items to donate include:

Christmas Crackers, Mince Pies or Christmas Pudding, Stuffing or Gravy, Pickles or Cranberry Sauce, Savoury Crackers, Crisps, Biscuits, Chocolate, Yule Log or Christmas Cake, Soft Drinks. Thank you for your support.

Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023

Pilgrimage to Lourdes 2023: The annual diocesan pilgrimage, led by Bishop Alan, will take place from Monday 24 – Saturday 29 July. All are welcome, including those of us who need assistance. Details regarding booking and costs will follow soon.

Christmas Greetings

We have opened up our Christmas Greetings section to parishioners. This is where you can send your Christmas messages to friends and family (and Fr. Leslie!). All you need to do is to email ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk with your Christmas message (please put Christmas Greetings in the subject bar) and make a donation of £5.00 per message. Place in an envelope and hand it to Fr. Leslie please. All monies received will go to support Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS) at what is always a difficult time for children who are abused physically or mentally, or treated poorly, often by those closest to them. Thank you in advance for your support.

Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine

Escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, 29 May 2023, led by Bishop Alan. £699.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight, all transfers, 4 nights in Knock House Hotel with full board. All entertainment and excursions included. Day trips to Westport, Ballintubber Abbey, Croagh Patrick, Fr. Peyton Centre & National Museum. Single supplement £150.00.

Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com

Baptism

Sacrament of Baptism – Saturdays at 11.00 a.m. Application Forms available for our Parish Administrator (hutton@dioceseofbrentwood.org).

Eucharistic Ministers For This Week's Masses

3 December	6.00 p.m. Ewa Kania Mark Brennan
4 December	10.30 a.m. Mary Allum Jan Jarvis

Readers For This Week's Masses

3 December	6.00 p.m. Sophie Newbould
4 December	10.30 a.m. Sharon Ruffles

Eucharistic Ministers For Next Week's Masses

10 December	6.00 p.m. Ewa Kania Stella Walker
11 December	10.30 a.m. Mary Books Sharon Ruffles

Readers For Next Week's Masses

10 December	6.00 p.m. Marian Anderson
11 December	10.30 a.m. Peter Sanders

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IN TODAY'S GOSPEL

On the eve of the third millennium Pope John Paul II said, 'The Council, while not imitating the sternness of John the Baptist who called for repentance and conversion on the banks of the Jordan (cf. Luke 3:1-7), did show something of the Prophet of old, pointing out with fresh vigour to the men and women of today that Jesus Christ is the "Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29), the Redeemer of humanity and the Lord of history' (Tertio millennio adveniente 19).

Poor John the Baptist's message is often construed as harsh, and yet the Gospel cannot be proclaimed without something of this great prophet of old: the invitation to return to God and the proclamation that Jesus is the Lamb who takes away the sin of the world. John lived and preached in the wilderness, dressed in rough clothing woven from camel hair, and ate locusts and wild honey, and yet the people still flocked to him.

We seem to have moved away from sin, repentance, confession and conversion; perhaps this isn't 'on message' anymore. But we can still acknowledge that examination of our lives, confession and repentance are crucial to living the Christian life, then as now.

Advent is a penitential season, a time to be reconciled with God and one another. We're invited to make a sacramental confession at least once a year, but many of us haven't been for years. God's hand of mercy and compassion is extended to everyone. Remember, we're not confessing our sins to the priest but rather laying down our burden before God. If a priest has received faculties to hear confession (and this isn't automatically granted by the bishop) we hope and pray that he has the necessary pastoral wisdom and maturity to minister this sacred grace so that we can know in a deeply personal way the mercy, forgiveness and compassion of God.

'Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love... Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity. Cleanse me from my sin.' (Ps. 51:1-2)

Christmas Envelopes

Christmas Envelope for your priest are on the table at the back of the church. This collection forms a major part of your priest's income. We know you will be as generous as you have done so in the past.



Lunchtime Recitals

As we near the end of 2022 we look back over a busy year of outstanding Lunchtime Music Recitals here in Brentwood Cathedral. We have had some first class musicians whose music has been much enjoyed by our large appreciative audiences. Our next Lunchtime Recital will be an Organ one to be given by Ben Collyer from the RCM on Wednesday 18 January at the usual time of 1.00 p.m.

Hamper Envelopes

These are available in the Narthex. Hamper contents are elsewhere in this newsletter. Please take an envelope, add your name and phone number (and £5 please) and return to the church. Our Target is £1000.00

Parish Social – Saturday 10 December

Parish Christmas Celebration
In the church Hall straight after Mass on Saturday 10 December. 7.00 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.
Everyone is welcome. Come along and join in the fun, a great opportunity for the children to wear their favourite festive outfit/jumper. And adults too!

We'll have:

- Mince pies
- Mulled Wine
- Nibbles
- Wine



Please bring your own treats too, plus games for the children to play.

Cost: £3.00 per adult. Please let us know you're coming by emailing us using our events email: sjw.huttonparishevents@btinternet.com

Christmas Present for Children.

The Wise Men Who Found Christmas – a great picture book for children. Available from most book shops.



SYNODAL Pathway Progress

We invite you to reflect on the Synodal Pathway. Pope Francis has extended Synod on Synodality to 2024. He made this decision "in order to have a more relaxed period of discernment". He would like everyone to live it as the journey of brothers and sisters who proclaim the joy of the Gospel.

The first was the worldwide undertaking during which Catholics were encouraged to submit feedback to their local dioceses – these have now gone to Rome. The continental share discussion will be with the Synod of Bishops. The final universal phase will begin at the General Assembly of Synod of Bishops October 2023 to October 2024.

In the meantime, we need to reflect on Eucharistic revival and how we develop and some of reverence and awe in our celebration of the Eucharist and live our Catholic values in today's world.

Journey Home Threshold of Hope (Continued)

IN BRIEF: "PRAYER IS THE RAISING OF ONE'S HEART TO GOD OR THE REQUESTING OF GOOD THINGS FROM GOD."

Jesus teaches us how to pray.

Just as Jesus prays to the Father and gives thanks before receiving his gifts, so he teaches us filial boldness; "Whatever you ask in prayer, believe that you receive it, and you will." Such is the power of prayer and of faith that does not doubt; "all things are possible to him who believes." Jesus is as saddened by the "lack of faith" of his own neighbours and the "little faith" of his own disciples as he is struck with admiration at the great faith of the Roman centurion and the Canaanite woman.

The prayer of faith consists not only in saying "Lord, Lord," but in disposing the heart to do the will of the Father. Jesus calls his disciples to bring into their prayer this concern for cooperating with the divine plan.



Pope on Twitter



On the Feast of the Apostle Andrew, I would like to express my affection to my dear brother Patriarch Bartholomew I and to the Church of Constantinople. May the intercession of the brothers, Saints Peter and Andrew, obtain full unity for the Church and peace for the entire world.

Before the day's end, let us learn how to read what has happened during that day in the book of our hearts -- not in newspapers, but in my heart.

God conceals himself in the most ordinary situations of our lives. He does not come in extraordinary events, but in everyday things: our daily work, a chance encounter, someone in need... That's where the Lord is, who calls to us and inspires our actions.

Season of #Advent, let us be shaken out of our torpor to recognize God's present in daily situations. If we are unaware of his coming today, we will also be unprepared when He arrives at the end of time. Let us remain vigilant!

Finance News

For the week ending Sunday 27 November you gave £205.00. with £31.00 through Gift Aid.

Christmas Hamper sales: £145.00.

Running total now: £480.00

Christmas Greetings: £0.00

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.*

Anniversaries

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

We pray for: Alice Holman, Andrew McCreadie, Peter Lunny, Peggy Bartlett, Ellen Burham, and Peter Heron.

Priests of our Diocese: Fr. Brain Drea (1993), Fr. Michael Healy (1967), Fr. Bernard Pownall (1918), Fr. John Lame (2008), Canon Anthony McKentey (2017), Fr. Geoffrey Pye (1996), and Fr. Eamon Wagrath (2013)

Remember to have Masses said for your deceased Relatives and Friends and Holy Souls in purgatory.

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.

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.

Light
Laughter

What do you call a blind reindeer?
No eye-deer!

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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



CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

Why not send your Christmas greetings to your friends and fellow parishioners by placing them in the newsletter? Please email your greeting to: ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk and send the donation (normally £5.00) to The Secretary 17 Highview Crescent, Hutton – or hand to Fr. Leslie as soon as possible. All donations will go to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society which is our major charity.

Thank you in advance. Come on – let's fill the back page!

Fr. Leslie wishes all parishioners a Happy and Holy Christmas. Blessings for the New Year

Christine and Ian Restall wish Fr. Leslie, and all their friends and parishioners at St. Joseph a very happy, healthy and holy Christmas and let's all hope – a happy and healthy New Year!

A very happy and healthy Christmas to all the parishioners at St. Josephs. Stay safe and take care.

Jo, Greg, Alex and Charlie Thomas

Wishing everyone a safe and happy festive period with their loved ones.

Love The Peachey Family

The Directors and staff at Design Portfolio wish Fr. Leslie and all parishioners at St. Joseph a wonderful Christmas filled with peace and love, and a happy and healthy New Year



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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). A PDF of the newsletter can be found under "communication".