

# ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

**Fr. Leslie Knight**  
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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.

**Miss Bernadette Rossiter**  
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## 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 15 December 2019

### UPCOMING MASSES

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

##### FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 14	6.00 p.m. Fred Greenfield RIP <i>J Greenfield</i>
Sunday 15	8.30 a.m. Willie Burns RIP 10.30 a.m.
Monday 16	9.15 a.m. David Balmer RIP
Tuesday 17	9.15 a.m. Rob Brazier RIP
Wednesday 18	NO MORNING MASS
Thursday 19	9.15 a.m. Willie Burns RIP SCHOOL MASS
Friday 20	9.15 a.m. Willie Burns RIP 3.00 p.m. (until 4.00 p.m.) Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament
Saturday 21	NO MORNING MASS 9.45 a.m. to 10.15 a.m. CONFESSIONS 5.00 p.m. (until 5.50 p.m.) CONFESSIONS ALSO EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT

#### FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A)

##### FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 21	6.00 p.m. Deceased members of the Conville and Wignall families.
Sunday 22	8.30 a.m. Ammanuel Rassam RIP <i>A Rassam</i> 10.30 a.m. For Parishioners

##### PLEASE NOTE

Monday 23 10.00 a.m.  
Funeral Mass for Sheila Slade. Sheila was a parishioner for many years until her husband Tony died. Please come if you can to pray for the family and represent our parish.  
*Thank you.*

##### PLEASE NOTE.

**Confessions before Mass every Saturday**  
~  
**5.00 p.m. – 5.50 p.m.**  
**Confessions and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament every Saturday**

## 3rd Sunday of Advent



Every year *at this time* we are asked  
*to escape* from  
the tumult of our hearts  
*to put aside* our weighty cares  
*to leave* our wearisome toil,  
*to enter* for a while  
into the inner chamber of our souls,  
*to listen to God's Word.*

The Word – *calling us*  
through the mist  
of ignorance and apathy  
*to be silent,*  
*to listen*  
to the sound of stillness,  
and *to see*  
in the Child  
born of Mary  
*the Word*  
*who became flesh.*

from the writings of Basil Hume



## Annual Christmas Hamper Raffle

This is our big fund-raising event of the year, but we need you to make it a success. All you have to do is put £5.00 in an envelope (the Welcomers will be happy to give you an envelope), put your name and phone number on the outside, and the winner will be drawn in the week before Christmas.

Please do all you can to help, and to spread the word to friends and family. We'd really like to make this a bumper fund-raiser if we can.

*God Bless and please take and complete as many envelopes as you can. There is a box at the back of the church for the completed*

## Christmas Hamper

The Classic Christmas Hamper contains all the luxury essentials for a grand festive season. Each indulgent treat has been carefully hand-picked to ensure unrivaled quality and taste, delighting friends, family and colleagues. Toast the occasion with Lanson Champagne and enjoy the exceptional Minters Fine Foods Christmas Pudding, Grandma Wild's Luxury Mince Pies, Christmas Wreath Biscuits from Chloes, Ardens' Mini Chocolate Panettone and so much more.

To accompany this vast food and drink offering is a hand-woven basket with rope detail handles, perfect to store winter blankets for the family. Whether you choose to surprise a friend, treat your family or send to staff or customers, this delightful Christmas Gift Hamper is sure to impress. Weight 8kg.



## **Eucharistic Ministers for This Week's Masses (14/15 December 2019)**

6.00 p.m.	Ann Howarth Stella Walker Carol Turnbull A N Other
8.30 a.m.	John Spinks Jan Jarvis Lyn Birnie A N Other
10.30 a.m.	Dominic De Albuquerque Tyrone Sequeira Sarah Barber A N Other

## **Readers For This Week's Masses (14/15 December 2019)**

6.00 p.m.	Rose Mulvey
8.30 a.m.	Kevin Jackson
10.30 a.m.	Peter Sanders

## **Eucharistic Ministers For Next Week's Masses (21/22 December 2019)**

6.00 p.m.	Carol Turnbull Stella Walker Ann Howarth A N Other
8.30 a.m.	Mary Allum John Spinks Jan Jarvis A N Other
10.30 a.m.	Will Jackson Sarah Barber Hyacinth Albuquerque A N Other

## **Readers For Next Week's Masses (21/22 December 2019)**

6.00 p.m.	Stephen Howarth
8.30 a.m.	Gerry Sarah
10.30 a.m.	Paula Sanders

## **Mass Intentions**

Over the years the number of people asking for a Mass for a deceased family member, friend or intention has decreased. Each one of us will be in need of prayers when we leave this world. Our Mass, the sacrifice of our Redeemer on Calvary, is the greatest and most powerful prayer to help us on our journey into God's presence. In the book of Maccabees "It is a Holy and wholesome thought to pray for our dead that they may be loosed from their sins". Please do give this some serious thought.

**ALSO DON'T FORGET TO PRAY FOR YOUR PRIESTS WHO HAVE GONE HOME TO ETERNAL LIFE. ALSO YOUR RELATIONS, FRIENDS AND PARISHIONERS.**

## **Sickness**

We pray for our sick in our parish: Daniella DiLisio, Simone Austin, Jacqueline Birnie, Nora McPherson, Mano Subryan, Beryl de Prazer, Diana Pearce, Greg Thomas, Liz Kent, Alan Bailey, Brian Donoghue, Patricia Green and Mary Lunny. 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.**

## **Anniversaries**

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

Bridget Cannon, Louise Baker, John Collins, Frank Calabritto, Dr. John Pritchard, Marie Klein and Joan Wilkinson.

## **Priests of our Diocese**

Fr. William Guinevan (1954)

**May these and all the faithful departed Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory and Grace.**



Welcome to all our parishioners, visitors and our young people to our Sunday celebration. We are now in the third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete Sunday) which means rejoice. In Advent we celebrate three comings of Jesus i.e. Majesty, Mystery, and History.

Majesty is when He comes at the end of time and at our death as judge. Mystery is His coming here and now in the Sacraments especially the Holy Mass and in all of us. In History, His birth in Bethlehem.

Today we rejoice that the celebration of His birth is near. The prophet Isaiah says to us, "courage, do not be afraid, look your God is coming." The joy that fills our hearts today is only a foretaste of that which we are to experience when Jesus comes in Glory.

In the Gospel Jesus offers himself as the one who comes to heal and forgive. The love of God which he offers to sinful mankind is the sign that the kingdom is at hand. In these last few days of Advent, let us look into our hearts to see our need for healing from our sins. For the times that we make for ourselves as we search for happiness and little time if any for Jesus who is always available in our churches. Our attitude to those we meet and even within our families. Are they really reflecting the person of Jesus who is love and mercy? For us who really have Good News to spread, are we reluctant to do in case people reject us. We pray to Mary our mother to accept God's will in our lives as she did. To help us to have the humility to seek from her Son his mercy and forgiveness and to allow him to enter our hearts with gratitude and love so that we come to Christmas filled with wonder joy and thanksgiving.

Every blessing and have a great Sunday with your families and a wonderful week.

## **Christmas Mass Times**

### **Nativity Of The Lord**

#### **FIRST MASS OF CHRISTMAS**

Tuesday 24 6.00 p.m.

#### **CHRISTMAS DAY**

Wednesday 25 8.30 a.m.  
10.30 a.m.

*Fr. Leslie wishes you all a happy and holy Christmas.*

## **Newsletter Over Christmas**

Next week, 22 December, will be the last newsletter of the year. Newsletter production and printing will resume for the week ending 11/12 January 2020. We wish all parishioners a happy and holy Christmas and a wonderful New Year.

## **Catholic Papers**

Unfortunately, at the end of the year, we will no longer be selling Catholic papers at the back of the church. This is due to the publisher changing their payment system, meaning that we no longer would be compensated for unsold copies and thus we would be running at a continual loss.

However, if you wish to continue to purchase a paper, you can take out an annual subscription or apply online - forms are available at the back of the church.

## **Christmas Hamper**

A big thank you to those who have purchased tickets and returned them for the Christmas Hamper Draw. The draw will be made on the fourth Sunday of Advent after the 10.30 a.m. Mass. Envelopes are still available at the back of the church (Narthex) and hopefully in the next week we can break through our £1,000 target. But we will need your help!

## **Altar Servers**

Altar Server training will begin in the New Year. If you wish to become an Altar Server at St Joseph's please give your name to Mrs Gilligan. Thank you

## **Sheila Slade RIP**

Prayerful sympathy to the family of Sheila Slade whose Funeral Mass will take place at St. Joseph the Worker on Monday 23 December at 10.00 a.m. May she Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory. Please do try and come to pray for Sheila - a long-term member of our parish family.

## **Stewards Of The Gospel**

Today each family will receive one copy of a document detailing our discussions which has been forwarded to the Diocese for their response at Easter. We ask you to read and make any notes you wish to make for a future discussion in late January - date and time to be advised. This document is the work of our partnership with our sister parishes of Ongar, Dodinghurst, Ingatstone, Stock, and Hutton & Shenfield. The future provision of our Diocese is commended to our prayers and encouraging our young people to respond to God's call to the priesthood and religious life.

A presentation will be made at each Mass today to update parishioners on progress. The full document is available to read on the website.

<http://www.stjosephshutton.org>

This document is the plan that we are presenting to Bishop Alan, on behalf of the partnership. Please take time with it - there is a lot to read and take in. Please let your Steward of the Gospel or Chair of the Parish Council have any comments - positive or otherwise.

## **Lunchtime Recital**

As a preparation for Christmas, Michael Frith will be performing La Nativité du Seigneur by Olivier Messiaen on Wednesday 18 December at 1.00 p.m. - 2.00 p.m. The Birth of the Lord is a major work for organ by Olivier Messiaen (1908 - 1992) and consists of nine meditations on various aspects of Christmas: some are portraits of the characters in the narrative - the Shepherds, the Angels, the Wise Men, the Virgin and Child - while others are reflections on the meaning of Christmas - the Incarnation of the Word, God's eternal purposes, our adoption by grace, and God dwelling in and among us. Please do join us afterwards in the SONG SCHOOL for some festive Mince Pies.

## **The Word of God**

In this year of the Word of God, please pick up a free copy of Matthew's Gospel. We invite you, together with your family, to read a couple of verses each day and reflect on it. Hopefully you will be able to discuss the section you have chosen with your families.

Bible Alive is also available in the Narthex.

## IN TODAY'S GOSPEL

John the Baptist is in prison. He has been imprisoned by Herod Antipas and we know that death by beheading awaits him. Strangely, John now seems to have doubts about Jesus. Is Jesus really the Messiah? His former conviction seems to have gone. He who so confidently proclaimed the imminent coming of the Messiah is now confused. What has happened to John?

John stressed the coming of judgement. He believed that the Messiah would bring retribution. He has heard, however, that the way of Jesus is different and this is the reason for his confusion and for his question. In his message back to John, Jesus reassures him. Jesus heals the blind, the lame, the lepers, the deaf, and the dead are raised. Above all the good news is preached to the poor.

The message of Jesus stands in some contrast to that of John the Baptist. The Gospel passage, after this apparent reprimand to John, sees Jesus praise him. The final words of Jesus are very significant. John is the greatest of the prophets, and yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. Those who welcome into their hearts the good news of Jesus know something which surprised John. They know they are forgiven through the death of Christ. They know that a new time and a new world has arrived. Good news indeed, and good reason to celebrate the coming of Christ at Christmas!

*'John is greater than the other prophets for this reason: the other prophets predicted to John that someone was to come, but John pointed out with his finger that he had indeed come, saying: "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world." And he reached not only the rank of a prophet but even to that of Baptist, by baptizing his Lord. This heightened his significance. He thereby fulfilled the prophecy of Malachi in which an angel-messenger is foretold. John belonged to the order of the angels not by nature but by the importance of his task. It means he was the messenger who would announce the coming of the Lord.'* (St. Jerome)



## Finance News

For the week ending 7/8 December 2019 you gave £304.96 of which £70.50 was Gift Aided.

The Christmas Hamper raised £215.00 last week, making the total to date £695.00. Still some way to go to our target of £1,000!!

*Thank you and God Bless.*

## 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



## The Pope on Twitter



*"Like a shepherd He feeds His flock, in His arms He gathers the lambs, carrying them in his bosom, leading the ewes with care" (Is 40:11), so the Lord comforts us*

May Our Lady of #Loreto help us to walk the path of peace and fraternity based on acceptance and forgiveness, respect for others, and on love; may she grant families the blessing of life; and may she bring help and comfort to those in need.

The human person is always sacred and inviolable, in any situation and at any stage of his or her development. If this conviction falls, there is no solid and permanent foundation for the defense of #HumanRights.

Corruption undermines the dignity of the person and shatters all good and beautiful ideals. All of society is called upon to make a concrete commitment to combat the cancer of corruption which, with the illusion of quick and easy profits, in reality impoverishes everyone.

## Joy

*"The blind see again, and the lame walk, ... and the good news is proclaimed to the poor."*

Matthew 11:5

God of all,

You sent your Son to be with us, and bring good news to those who are poor. Work through us now and lead us to reach out to those who are in need so that together we may proclaim the good news in all that we do. Amen.

## Advent Week Three: Joy

The week begins with Gaudete Sunday. This is the turning point in Advent where we move from hope and preparation to rejoicing. Gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin. The spirit of the Advent celebration lightens. This week is a time to be joyous because salvation is at hand.

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society works in over 110 schools, supporting 2500 children and young people. Every day we see the difference our work can make to children and those closest to them and it is a great joy to see a child become more resilient, content and able to cope with life.

*Brentwood Catholic Children's Society*



## Pope Francis's Marian enrichment



**Francis prays before a Marian icon**



During the last few days of Advent, please consider praying the Rosary.

## International Prison Outreach

Thank you to all the parishioners who donated so very generously to last weekend's appeal for bibles, Bible Alive magazine, rosaries and other religious materials requested by prisoners in this country and across the world. An amazing £391.90 was raised which has now been sent to IPO on your behalf. Thank you to Fr Leslie for supporting this appeal. If parishioners would like to know more about the work of this important charity please go to: [www.alivepublishing.co.uk](http://www.alivepublishing.co.uk) and follow the links Outreach and then Prison Outreach for further information.

## Nazanin Zaghari-Ratliffe

Thank you for signing the card to support Nazanin's release from the Evin prison in Iran so that she can join her husband, Richard and her daughter Gabriella in their family home in London very soon. It was full of prayers and good wishes. The card has now been posted via Amnesty International to Richard. *Stephen and Ann Howarth*

## Christmas Gift To Your Priest

The envelopes are available at the back of the church. This gift forms a major part of your Priest's income for the year. *Thank you and God Bless.*

## Children's corner

### Welcome to children's corner.

Welcome to our children's corner. Have you noticed the Stations of the Cross in the school playground?

We invite parents and children to say this prayer together. God of mercy and forgiveness, you ask us to listen to your son, Jesus Christ. Open our ears to hear your word and fill our hearts with your love so that we may change our lives and the lives of others. *Amen*

### IN THE GOSPEL TODAY

John wants to know if Jesus is the Saviour sent from God. Jesus says to look at what he does. Jesus heals people who are blind, deaf and lame, and he brings the Good News to people who are poor.

### A PRAYER TO SAY

Dear Father in heaven, thank you for sending Jesus to us to spread your kingdom of health and happiness. Help us to make the world a better place by being thoughtful and caring. *Amen.*

# Christmas Greetings

Why not send your Christmas greetings to your friends and fellow parishioners by placing them in the newsletter?

Please send your greeting to: [ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk](mailto:ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk) and 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.

**Fr. Leslie wishes all the parishioners at St. Joseph a Merry Christmas and a very happy and healthy New Year in 2020.**



**Christine and Ian Restall and family wish Fr. Leslie and all our friends and parishioners a wonderful Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.**



**Jo, Greg, Alex and Charlie Thomas wish Fr. Leslie and all the St. Joseph parishioners a joyful Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.**



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



**The Peachey family (Julia, Phil, Johnnie and Lola) wish Fr. Leslie and the whole St. Joseph parish a very special Christmas and a happy and healthy 2020.**



**Jan Jarvis wishes all parishioners at St. Joseph's a joyful Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year.**



**Catherine, David, William, James, and Verity would like to wish Fr. Leslie and all the parishioners a very happy and Holy Christmas.**



**Sharon, John, Flory & Tilly Ruffles would like to wish Fr. Leslie and all the Parishioners, friends and their families at St. Josephs, a very Happy & Holy Christmas along with Good Luck and Good Health for 2020.**



**The Jackson Family wish Fr. Leslie, friends and all parishioners a happy, holy and peaceful Christmas, and every blessing for 2020.**



**Jean Dunne wishes Father Leslie, and all friends and parishioners at St Josephs, a very Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.**



**James, Sarah, Kevin and Jessica Barber wish Father Leslie and everyone at St. Joseph the Worker parish a very Happy Christmas and all the best for 2020.**



**Chris Bailey wishes his friends and Fr. Leslie a joyful Christmas.**



**COME ON GUYS! CAN WE FILL THE BACK PAGE?**

## **Brentwood Catholic Children's Society**

Children and families from Essex and East London have direct therapeutic support to our highly experienced counselling team. We provide support directly to children, adolescents on a 1:1 basis or the whole family. We help children with various reasons including anxiety, emotional health, bereavement, behaviour, bullying, family separation and illness. Sessions take place during the day or after school at our counselling suites at our offices in Rayleigh. There is a sessional charge but support may be given if required. If you feel your child may benefit from our services or you would like more information, please contact Sarah D'Lima - [sdlima@bccs.or.uk](mailto:sdlima@bccs.or.uk) or 01268 947061.