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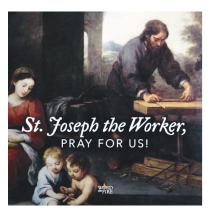
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Mission Statement

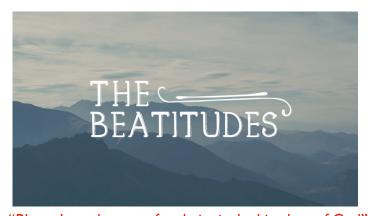
To have Christ at the centre of our lives, enabling us to grow in faith as a community where all feel welcome, loved and valued.



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 13 February 2022



"Blessed are the poor, for theirs is the kingdom of God"

IN TODAY'S GOSPEL

The Beatitudes occur only in Matthew's and Luke's Gospels. Matthew's version is delivered on a mountain (just as Moses delivered the Ten Commandments) and Luke's version on plain or level ground. There are many comparisons to be made. Luke's version doesn't have the 'poor in spirit' - simply 'the poor' - and omits the Beatitude about the meek inheriting the earth. His version also has a set of 'woes', which highlight the downside of being rich, well fed, socially affirmed, etc.

Mining the Scriptures for hidden depths yields fruit and many blessings. The Beatitudes, be they Matthean or Lucan, do a variety of things. They shed light on the actions and attitudes characteristic of the Christian life. They're the paradoxical promises that sustain hope amid tribulations. They're also the very heart and essence of Jesus' teachings and reveal his face, character and personality.

Jesus lived the Beatitudes; he incarnated them, if you like. Perhaps he is the only one who ever has, for to live them is to be perfect as the Father in heaven is perfect (Matt. 5:48).

Mind you, given that in his lifetime St. Francis was called the 'Second Christ', it's likely that he came close, alongside other great saints, especially Mary, the Mother of God.

However, the Beatitudes aren't just for the saints, but for all of us. They contain both promises of what we shall become, and a revelation of what we have begun to be, albeit in perhaps a somewhat hidden way.

One way of living the Beatitudes and putting them into practice is to memorize them, to become as familiar with them as with the Our Father or Hail Mary. This straightforward step will help us take them to heart and cherish them during our daily lives. St. Augustine said, 'We all want to live happily; in the whole human race there is no one who does not assent to this proposition, even before it is fully articulated.'

I thank you, Father, for everything that gives me happiness. I ask you to purify my heart so that I may know the blessing and grace of putting the Beatitudes and Sermon on the Mount into practice.

PLEASE NOTE

Upcoming Masses

SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

FEBRUARY

Saturday 12 6.00 p.m. Mass

People of our Parish

Sunday 13 10.30 a.m. Mass

For all ministers who ministered in the parish during the pandemic.

WEEKDAY MASSES

9.00 a.m. June Threadwell RIP Tuesday 15

Thursday 17 9.00 a.m. Mass

Thomas Abraham (Sheena Abraham)

9.00 a.m. Mass Friday 18 Saturday 19 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.

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C) THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

6.00 p.m. Mass Saturday 19

> John Anderson (sick) 10.30 a.m. Mass

Roy Gonsalves RIP

* 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.

<u>Anniversaries</u>

Sunday 20

We pray for the anniversary of all our relatives and friends, especially those whose anniversary occurs at this time. We pray for: Theresa Deeks, Elizabeth Guilfoyle, David Hills, Patricia Todd, Patrick Fatherty, Irene Finch, William Woods, Patricia Lowen, Gerald James, Irene Huggins, and John Williams. Priests of our Diocese: Fr. Charles Snell (1940), Fr. John Joyce (1947), Fr. Thomas O'Connor (1956), and Fr. Archibald O'Brien (1961).

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

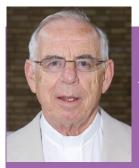
Church Cleaners - We are desperately in need of cleaners to clean God's House. We gather on Thursday at 10.00 a.m. -11.00 a.m. Please Help.

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: willajackson789@btinternet.com

Full instructions will be given.



Welcome to our parish family and visitors to our Sunday Celebration today.

Just a reminder that our newsletter is printed a week in advance. In other words, next Sunday's newsletter (19/20 February) will go to the printers on Friday 11 February. Therefore Mass intentions for week beginning 19/20 February need to be in by 11 February should you wish to have them printed in the newsletter. apologise if this seems complicated. We are indebted to Ian Restall and his company for producing our and printing our newsletter free of charge over many years.

The February edition of Bible alive is on sale in the Narthex. This is a wonderful little book to pray the scriptures with your family.

In today's gospel Jesus declares four times 'Blessed are you.... '

Blessedness is a state in which we find our inner state because of our inner joy and peace that comes from righteousness in God's sight. In the first 'Blessed are you who are poor' refers to those who are economically or materially poor. They are Blessed here not because of their poverty but because of their inclination to trust in God. However, here 'poor' refers to the disciples who had left everything to follow Jesus. The second beatitude 'Blessed are the hungry for you will be satisfied'. Here Jesus was well aware of hunger but He wanted to awaken His disciples to the needs of those whose lives are threatened by a lack of food. He wanted to remind them that their following included sharing of their goods, especially food. The third 'Blessed are you who are weeping for you will laugh' Jesus is not talking about the different kind of weeping. Here He is speaking for those who weep for the sake of the gospel. Remember Jesus was talking to his disciples who were following Him with absolute detachment and were feeling the pain of sacrifice and detachment. To such disciples it was not the joy of laughter but pure gladness and joy. The fourth 'Blessed are you when others hate you, and exclude you' Again, directed at the disciples who were devoted to His teaching. Then the four woes are directed at those who are opposed to the 'great reward in heaven'. The message for us is that the blessings and woes remind us of the choice we make as His followers between the two ways of life. To follow Jesus is a choice. We pray today that our Lord will satisfy our deepest longings and protect us from being swamped by what our world offers.

May God bless our families.

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

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

Collection Baskets

Mary Brooks

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.

BCYS Summer Lourdes Pilgrimage 2022: 23 – 30 July 2022.

Applications are now open for our summer pilgrimage to Lourdes for those in Years 11-13, with those of school leaver age (18+) invited to join us as young leaders. This is one of our most popular events and after a two-year gap we are excited to be returning next year. The week is spent travelling alongside the main Diocesan pilgrimage as we assist the elderly and infirm with going to Masses and services, as well as visiting shops and cafes within the town. For those travelling with the BCYS the week will also include a retreat, reconciliation service, as well as social events and a party. Please see www. bcys.net/events/sl22/ for more information including visas, vaccinations and how to apply.

Candles

Lighting candles has restarted – Please be careful when sanitizing your hands – that you don't overdo them especially if you are lighting a candle. (Sanitiser and flames do not go together!). If you can use the QR for your candle donation, that would be wonderful.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage in 2022

The Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage, led by Bishop Alan, will take place from Sunday 24 – Friday 29 in Lourdes. It will be the first time in three years that the diocese has returned to Lourdes. Brochures for the pilgrimage, which will include costs, will be available soon. If you would like further information now, please contact Cathy O'Connor, the Administrative Director: cathy@dioceseofbrentwood.org or 07813 710070.

God Gives You Forgiveness

For if you forgive others, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. – Matthew 6:14
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, and mind, and you shall love your neighbour as yourself. – Matthew 22:34-39



Baptism

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

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*.

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.

National Day of Prayer & Fasting For Life

We ask you to join us each month in prayer and fasting. Fasting - Fast from all food except bread and water for a day or fast from a particular food or luxury e.g. Chocolate, alcohol, cigarettes, iPhones, TV. Fast from whatever you can, given your state of health etc., but make sure it is something that involves a sacrifice to yourself. Prayer - we ask you to say a Rosary (or an extra one if your already say a daily rosary). You could also make an effort to go to an extra Mass/go to the church for adoration. You can even pray before a closed tabernacle "And He said to them: This kind (or demon) can go out by nothing, but by prayer and fasting" (Mark 9:29). Please pray and fast for the end of Abortion and Euthanasia on the eve of the Anniversary 25th of the founding of God Counsel Network (www.goodcounselnetwork.com) St. John Paul II. A great prayer for life is urgently needed.

Synodal Church

There will be a parish meeting to share ideas about 'The Journey Home'. The Lord gathers all nations together into the eternal peace of God's kingdom (Isaiah 2:1-5).

We have a role to play in discussing and living out God's call for his people. A synodal church: communion, participation and mission. Over the month of December we collected parishioners views on their dream for the future church. Come, Holy Spirit..... "To inspire people to dream about the church we called to be." Please be involved! Pope Francis called the church to embark on this synodal path. We look forward for your support as you listen to the Jesus Fidei (sense of faith) in the people of God that our blessed mother and St. Joseph may have experienced as they prepared to bring Jesus into the world. We realise we have hectic lives, and this is another thing to do. We support your efforts on this journey.

Supporting Children's emotional health and well being

As we begin the huge task of dealing with the after-effects of the pandemic on the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people in our diocese, our message to families is simple "We are here for you if and for as long as you need us." If you are a young person in need of help or know someone who would benefit from our specialist professional support, please contact BCCS. Visit our website at www.bccs.org.uk Contact us: headoffice@bccs.org Childcare, Little Wheatley Chase, Rayleigh, Essex, SS6 9EH Please see poster in the notice board outside the church Damian Dillon, Community Engagement Officer, ddillion@bccs.org.uk

Repository - help needed

The Repository is opened up before and after Saturday Mass by Mandy but we urgently need someone to do the same at the 10.30 Mass. Please! Full training given. It really is very simple and will help our parish community immensely. Thanks in advance. Just let Fr. Leslie know if you can spend a little time to help or email Mary direct from our website.





Pope on Twitter



Amid so much bad news, there are good things. Today I would like to mention two: one, in Morocco, where an entire people worked to save a child, Rayan. Thank you to these people for their witness. The other one, happened here in Italy, in Monferrato: John, a Ghanaian boy, 25 years old, a migrant, fell ill with a terrible cancer and wanted to go back home to embrace his father before dying. The whole village took up a collection so that he could die in his father's arms.

Today is the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation. This practice, unfortunately widespread in various regions of the world, demeans the dignity of women and gravely undermines their physical integrity.

The Lord climbs into the boat of our lives when we have nothing to offer Him; to enter our voids and fill them with His presence; to make use of our miseries to proclaim His mercy

Often, like Peter in the #GospeloftheDay (Lk 5, 1-11), we experience the disappointment of trying so hard and not seeing the desired results. But it is precisely that empty boat, the symbol of our incapacity, that becomes the pulpit from which Jesus proclaims the Word.

Finance News

For the week ending 6 February 2022 you gave £195.00 of which £44.00 was through Gift Aid.

Second collection for Lourdes Sick and Helpers: £170.00 with £5.00 via 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.

CAFOD <u>5k Walk Against Hunger</u>

This could be the only Lent challenge you need!

There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex so people can let us know if they are participating.

Willa and Kevin Jackson will be walking to Shenfield, stopping for refreshments and walking back as part of their 5km Walk Against Hunger on Tuesday 1 March following 9.00 a.m. Mass. Please sign up on the list at the back of the church if you would like to join them, with a donation to CAFOD.

Making your donation by Standing order

If you are able, please support our parish of St. Joseph by giving by standing order, and if you are a tax payer, please gift aid your offering. For more information contact Fr. Leslie or Chris Brooks on 07747148048.



Why do all witches wear black? So you can't tell which witch is which!

PLEASE NOTI

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.

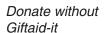
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PLEASE USE QR CODES FOR YOUR GIVING INSTEAD OF CASH

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 £5.00



Donate £3.00







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

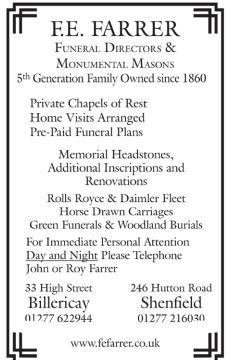
What are they and how do they work?

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.







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".