

# ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

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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.



## THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

### 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 20 March 2022



For three years now I have come in search of fruit on this fig tree but have found none.  
So cut it down. Why should it exhaust the soil?

He said to him in reply, 'Sir, leave it for this year also, and I shall cultivate the ground around it and fertilize it; it may bear fruit in the future. If not, you can cut it down.'

#### IN TODAY'S GOSPEL

Disasters and tragedies have a way of focusing our minds and grabbing our attention. Think of how the collapse of the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York on 11 September 2001 focused the entire world's attention.

There is, for sure, a morbid streak in human nature, a voyeuristic tendency to dwell on the misfortune of others in a way that is neither healthy nor helpful. Seasoned traffic officers, for example, complain bitterly of the phenomenon of 'rubbernecking', when traffic slows down as motorists gawp at the aftermath of a crash scene, despite knowing full well that tailbacks and congestion will follow.

In the ancient world tragedies and disasters were construed as a sign of God's displeasure or anger because of sin. The Book of Job captures this well when Eliphaz, one of Job's advisers, chimes in with great earnestness, 'Consider now: who being innocent has ever perished? Where were the upright ever destroyed? As I have observed, those who plough evil and those who sow trouble reap it.' (4:7-8 NIV).

This view is, however, not restricted to the ancient world. It emerged very much in the aftermath of 9/11 and expresses a way of thinking about God and the world which is wrong and distorted. Jesus strongly refuted the idea that those who fall victim to tragic events were especially sinful and taught that we all need to approach life with a repentant and contrite heart. The truth is that evil and terrible things happen to both good and bad people.

Furthermore, those who choose to live a righteous life often have to endure all manner of contempt and suffering, whereas the unrighteous are embraced by the world and enjoy its rewards. This is, without a doubt, one of the mysteries of life. We need to have a deep understanding of repentance as well as a deep grasp of God's forgiveness and mercy. Rooted and anchored in this knowledge we must learn to move through life praying with all our heart, 'Lord, have mercy on me a sinner.'

*I would rather feel penitence than know how to define it.* (Thomas a Kempis)

#### PLEASE NOTE

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## Upcoming Masses

### THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

#### THE WORD OF GOD

#### FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

##### MARCH

Saturday 19	6.00 p.m. Mass Vince Ma RIP IGC Restall
Sunday 20	10.30 a.m. Mass People of the Parish 4.00 – 5.00 p.m. Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

#### WEEKDAY MASSES

Tuesday 22	9.00 a.m.
Wednesday 23	7.30 p.m. Mass (Please note the time)
Thursday 24	9.00 a.m. Mass <b>Feast of Annunciation of the Lord</b>
Friday 25	9.00 a.m. Mass 7.00 p.m. Stations of the Cross
Saturday 26	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.

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (C)

#### THE WORD OF GOD

#### FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 26	6.00 p.m. Mass People of Our Parish
Sunday 27	10.30 a.m. Mass People of the Parish 4.00 – 5.00 p.m. Exposition of Blessed Sacrament

During week beginning 6 March Mass  
was offered for two special intentions  
asked for by Eileen & Dennis Norman.  
During week beginning 13 March  
Mass was offered for Owen Conville  
intentions.

\* 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:** Stations of the cross at 7pm on  
Fridays during Lent. As the church is open all  
day, you will be able to pray the stations of  
the cross Privately on any day. Books on sale  
in the Narthex, Money in the red box.

**PLEASE NOTE:** Newsletter goes to print one  
week in advance.

## 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  
Will: [willajackson789@btinternet.com](mailto:willajackson789@btinternet.com)  
Full instructions will be given.

## 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](mailto:ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk)  
for details.

## PLEASE NOTE

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Welcome to all our parish family and to our visitors this weekend.  
I wish to draw your attention that our newsletter is printed a week  
in advance. For example, today, 7 March, we will be preparing the  
newsletter for the weekend of 19/20 March. Therefore, if you wish  
your Mass intentions to be printed in the newsletter they will  
have to be given to me in advance. Secondly Mass intentions for  
the weekend are usually booked up well in advance but they can  
be said during the week. However many people get upset because  
they can't be present during the week. I am sorry for that but there  
is nothing I can do. Whether you are present or not Mass will be

offered for whatever you have requested. I as your parish priest have to say a Mass every  
weekend for my parishioners. It is an obligation I have to keep. We only have two Masses as  
our Mass attendance is low. Now that restrictions have been lifted, we need you to return  
to our Sunday Holy Mass unless you are housebound or suffering from an illness. If you can  
go on holiday or freely go out for a meal, then I feel you should certainly put God first and  
foremost in your lives.

The catechism of the Catholic Church says 'The liturgy is the summit towards which the  
activity of the church is directed; it is also the font from which all her power flows.. (1074)  
The liturgy is also a participation in Christ's own prayer addressed to the Father in the  
Holy Spirit (1073). The whole liturgical life of the church revolves around the Eucharistic  
sacrifice and the sacraments (1113). The catechism goes on to say 'The church celebrates  
the sacraments as a priestly community structured by the baptismal priesthood and the  
priesthood of the ordained ministers' (1132).

We look forward to welcoming more of our parishioners back to our parish family in the  
future.

In today's readings we are reminded that Lent is a very important time especially in our first  
reading of the call of Moses. On one occasion God reminded Moses that the ground he was  
standing on was 'Holy ground'. We need to remember that we are always walking on Holy  
ground, because God is everywhere. If God is one with his people, He is also one with all  
the people in the world. We must take our world seriously. Jesus said 'You must love one  
another as I have loved you'.

During Lent we must revise one thing within our understanding of our own faith. Faith is  
based on wonder. Faith is based on awe. The Gospel warns us to make the best use of time.  
We are each a fig tree planted by the Lord. He gardens us, He nurtures us, He cares for us  
with Word Sacraments and the grace to seek His presence in others. We are living God's  
time, not our time. How well are we using this time? That is the challenge of The Gospel  
today. It also reminds us time is short. We must make the best use of our time now today.  
Remember the fig tree was given another year. Our time could be this Lent.

May God give us the courage to use his time wisely. May we bear fruit.

Every blessing on you all.

*Fr. Leslie*

## 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.*

## EASTER COLLECTION for your priest

Please pick up an Easter Collection envelope from  
the back of the church towards your priest  
income. This collection forms a major part of his  
salary. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

## Hot Cross Bunraiser

Raise vital funds with the Lent classic of a hot  
cross bun. Perfect for a coffee morning after  
Sunday Mass or any time during Lent.

You could put out a bowl for donations, set up a  
JustGiving page, or order a contactless machine  
from us at [www.cafod.org.uk/contactless](http://www.cafod.org.uk/contactless)

Ask some parish friends to help out. If your parish  
has a volunteer rota for organising tea after Mass,  
see if they can help host a hot cross bunraiser for  
CAFOD this Lent!

## Holy Week Services

### Maundy Thursday 14 April

Mass is at 7.30 p.m. followed by prayer at the altar  
of repose till 9.00pm.

### Good Friday 15 April

Veneration of the cross will take place at 3.00 p.m.  
(only touch the cross).

Stations of the cross will take place at 7.00 p.m.

### Holy Saturday 16 April

Confessions from 10.00 a.m. - 10.30 a.m.

### Easter Vigil Saturday 16 April

The most important service of the church's year  
8.00 p.m. and First Mass of Easter.

### Easter Sunday 17 April

Mass will be 8.30 a.m. and 10.30 a.m.

### Friday obligation

A reminder that as Catholics we are obliged not to  
eat meat on Fridays.

## Mary Rudin RIP

Please pray for the repose of the soul of Mary  
Rudin RIP, Jan Jarvis's sister. The funeral Mass will  
take place at 11.00 a.m. on Monday 11 April at  
Assumption of Our Lady Church, Maldon. May she  
Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory. Please keep Jan in  
your prayers.

## Coffee after 10.30 mass

There is a list at the back of the  
church for volunteers to host a coffee  
morning after mass.



## During Lent

We asked you to walk 3 kms to 5 kms for all who are Hungry, for CAFOD. There are 200 million children whose lives are at risk from poverty and malnutrition. Please give your donation to Willa Jackson.

Also every Sunday during Lent we have exposition of the Blessed Sacrament between 4.00 p.m. and 5.00 p.m. Come and relax in the presence of Jesus with your children and young people for as long as you wish.

Also on Fridays we have the devotion of the Stations of the Cross at 7.00 p.m. There are Stations of the Cross booklets on sale at the back of the church should you wish to say them at home. Also Confessions on Saturdays between 10.00 a.m. and 10.30 a.m., or by request before Mass. May this season of Lent be for all of us a time of conversion and renewal, as we prepare for the Holy Week services from 10 - 17 April. Encourage one another as a family to make this a Holy Lent, as we encounter the Crucified and Risen Lord.

## CAFOD 5k Walk Against Hunger

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.

## First Holy Communion

For those children who are currently in school Year 3, we will be beginning a new First Holy Communion course in the autumn, and we will be announcing more information about this shortly. Please note that the course in the autumn will only be for children who will be in school Year 4 or above from September 2022. If your child will be entering school Year 3 in September, they will have to wait until they have entered school Year 4 in September 2023 before being able to join the First Holy Communion programme.

## 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](mailto:josephbeathe@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

## MISSIO

The Spring 2022 edition of 'Mission Today' is available for Red Box holders to collect from the table in the church porch. There is also a leaflet with information about the life and legacy of Pauline Jaricot, who will be beatified this year 200 years after establishing the Association for the Propagation of the Faith (now Missio). Missio is the Pope's personal charity and the Church's official charity for overseas mission in the developing world.

If you do not have a Missio Red Box and would like one, please speak to me. Alternatively, please consider donating directly online by visiting the website: [www.missio.org.uk](http://www.missio.org.uk)

There will be a second collection to support the work of Missio towards the end of Lent.

Thank you for your support, *Clare Barton.*

## Reader Training

Training for new Readers and refresher training for existing readers will take place on Saturday 19 March 4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. in the church. Please email Willa Jackson - [willajackson789@btinternet.com](mailto:willajackson789@btinternet.com) for more details and to confirm attendance.

## 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.

## 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.

## Baptism

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

## 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



## 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/](http://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 over-do 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 July 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](mailto:cathy@dioceseofbrentwood.org) or 07813 710070.



## Pope on Twitter



#Lent is a favourable time to seek out - and not to avoid - those in need; to reach out - and not to ignore - those who need a sympathetic ear and a good word; to visit - and not to abandon - those who are lonely.

Temptations often appear seemingly in the form of good: the devil uses deception, he arrives "with an angelic face". If we give in to his flattery, we end up justifying our falsity, masking it with good intentions.

I would like once again to urge the welcoming of the many refugees, in whom Christ is present, and to give thanks for the great network of solidarity that has formed

With an aching heart I add my voice to that of the common people, who implore the end of the war. In the name of God, listen to the cry of those who suffer, and put an end to the bombings and the attacks!

## Finance News

For the week ending 6 March 2022 you gave £195.00 of which £22.00 was through Gift Aid.

We also received an anonymous donation of £60.00.

*Thank you and God Bless*

For the week ending 13 March 2022 you gave £160.00 of which £42.00 was through Gift Aid.

The Second Collection, CAFOD for Ukraine, raised £370.00 with £185 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.*

## Anniversaries

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

**We pray for:** Andrew Corbett, Edward (Ted) Knight, Easter Gilmore, John Ives, Edwin Costin, Catherine Steetin, Hilda Calbritto, Noreen Farquarson.

**Priests of our Diocese:** Fr. Sidney Williams (1925), Canon Arthur Holmes (1958), Fr John Sherlock (1964), Mgr Canon Alfred Gilbey (1998), Fr Denis Hall (2013)

**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.**

Light

# Laughter

If Athletes get athletes foot, what do elves get?

Mistle-toes!

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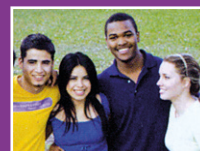


### CATHOLIC AND HAVE LOST TOUCH?

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



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

Donate £3.00



Donate £5.00



Donate £10.00



Donate £20.00



#### 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 £3.00



Donate £5.00



Donate £10.00



Donate £20.00



#### Donate without Giftaid-it

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.*



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[www.bennettsfunerals.co.uk](http://www.bennettsfunerals.co.uk)

*If you wish to  
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[ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk](mailto:ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk)*



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