

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

Fr. Leslie Knight
The Presbytery
17 Highview Crescent, Hutton
Brentwood, Essex CM13 1BJ
T: 01277 221917
M: 07730 409784

www.stjosephshutton.org

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
St. Joseph the Worker
Primary School
Highview Crescent, Hutton
Brentwood, Essex CM13 1BJ
T: 01277 227282

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 February 2019

UPCOMING MASSES

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (C)

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 2	6.00 p.m. For Parishioners
Sunday 3	8.30 a.m. John O'Regan RIP 10.30 a.m. Vince Ma RIP Design Portfolio

NEXT WEEK'S MASS INTENTIONS

See inside pages for updates.

Sacrament Of Reconciliation (Confessions)

Every Saturday 9.45 a.m. to 10.15 a.m. or by request. This service has been suspended until further notice while Fr. Leslie is indisposed.

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Previously every Friday 3.00 p.m. – 4.00 p.m. This has been suspended until further notice while Fr. Leslie is indisposed.

IN TODAY'S GOSPEL

Jesus came to fulfill the law and the prophets, and in our Gospel today we witness him declaring this very truth. After reading from the prophet Isaiah – Isaiah 61:1-2 to be precise – he no doubt shocked his hearers by saying, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing"

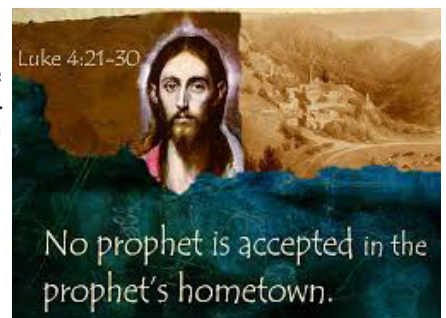
For Jesus the Hebrew Scriptures weren't a dry and dusty scroll or manuscript, to be read at a synagogue service, but the living, breathing and active word of God. His message was very simple: on that day, before their very eyes, God's word was fulfilled. The Spirit of the Lord was truly upon him, he was and is the Lord's anointed, and his mission was to proclaim freedom for the prisoner, sight for the blind, release for the oppressed and the arrival of the year of the Lord's favour.

All was going so well until someone in the crowd, no doubt echoing what many were thinking, asked: "Is not this Joseph's son?" Jesus must have realized the passive aggression and cynicism behind the question because he referenced the widow at Zarephath and the leper Naaman, the Syrian, clearly indicating for whom he had come - the widows, the lepers, the outsiders. Jesus' whole ministry would be for the least of these. It was these words of inclusion, Jesus' own interpretation of his ministry, that elicited a very quick transition from awe to rage, from acceptance to rejection, from receptivity to outright murder in the hearts of those who heard his words.

Remembering the role of the Old Testament prophets is important because prophecy is not merely about predicting the future but discerning God's will, challenging the status quo, pointing to what God is doing right here and right now. The cliffhanger in today's reading is that the crowd almost threw Jesus off a cliff, but his time had not come, and Luke records that he walked right through them and went on his way.

Through the grace of our baptism we are called to be prophets - we have received the grace of priest, prophet and king - and this prophetic ministry invites us to listen to what the Spirit is saying today.

Lord, may your spirit come upon me: may I preach the good news to the poor, proclaim freedom to captives, recovery of sight for the blind and announce that every day is a day of God's mercy, love and favour.



Word Cloud

This Word Cloud was produced from a number of comments sent in by you to the Stewards of the Gospel team. We think it captures the spirit, faith and love of our Community perfectly. We hope you do too!



Brentwood Catenians

Our mission statement is - strengthening family life through friendship and faith. If there are any gentleman interested in the Catenian Association please contact Patrick Keogh our membership officer on 211774.

Parish Representatives

Parish Hall Booking Secretary:

Natalie Gunter - 01277 225564
(evenings): 07824 996 188 (day)

Health and Safety Officer:

Natalie Gunter - 01277 225564
(evenings): 07824 996 188 (day)

Safeguarding Officer:

Willia Jackson

Steward of the Gospel:

Mary Brooks

Parish coordinators:

Jan Jarvis - 01277 200 278

Head Usher:

Tim Murphy

Finance Chair and Gift Aid:

Chris Brooks

Parish Pastoral Team:

Chris Brooks

Missio:

Clare Barton

Eucharistic Ministers For This Week's Masses (02/03 February 2019)

6.00 p.m.	Ian Restall Bill O'Regan Gaye O'Regan
8.30 a.m.	Jan Jarvis Mary Allum Lyn Birnie
10.30 a.m.	Kathy Hillhouse Chris Brooks Mary Brooks

Readers For This Week's Masses (02/03 February 2019)

6.00 p.m.	Marian Anderson
8.30 a.m.	Alan Bailey
10.30 a.m.	Willa Jackson

Eucharistic Ministers for Next Week's Masses (09/10 February 2019)

6.00 p.m.	Ewa Kania Ian Restall Carol Turnbull
8.30 a.m.	John Spinks Mary Allum Angela Mahoney
10.30 a.m.	Willa Jackson Sharon Ruffles Kevin Barber

Readers For Next Week's Masses (09/10 February 2019)

6.00 p.m.	Ann Howarth
8.30 a.m.	Kevin Jackson
10.30 a.m.	Paul Downey

Mass Intentions

During Fr. Leslie's absence, if you wish to make a Mass Intention, please refer to a member of the Parish Pastoral Team. Thank you.

Anniversaries

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

We pray for:

Thomas Scannell, Agnes Young, Mary Tuffin, and Sarah Postoj

Priests of our Diocese

Fr. Francis Richardson (1937), Fr. Alan Wilcox (1988), Canon Bernard Manning (1956) and Fr. Eric Bindloss-Smith (1981)

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

Remember

To have a Mass offered for your loved ones. One day we too will be a Holy Soul depending on others to pray for us. Book of Macabees – "It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for our dead that they may be loosed from their sins".

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 and Alan Bailey.

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.

A Reminder

We are asked to refrain from eating meat on Fridays. To do so is an act of self-discipline, and a witness to our faith.



Welcome to our parishioners and visitors to our Sunday celebration.

It is important that we are seated in the church before Mass begins as well as remaining quiet. We should be preparing ourselves for the celebration of the Paschal Mystery. We do this by our Penitential Rite before we listen to the word of God.

Pope Benedict XVI says "Every child who is born brings us God's smile and invites us to recognise that life is his gift, a gift to be welcomed with love and preserved with care,

always and every moment. God entrusts every child who is born to his parents: so how important is the family founded on marriage, the cradle of life and love. The house of Nazareth where the Holy Family lived is the model of simplicity, patience and harmony for all Christian families. I pray the Lord that your family too may be welcoming places where these little ones grow in good health and also in faith and love of God".

Today's Gospel passage is a clear reminder that when God's messengers speak the truth in love, they risk rejection and opposition. Jesus in the synagogue faces such rejection and not because he is a local young man of Nazareth, but because his biblical message about God's universe, love and salvation contains a truth that the audience cannot deny, and that angers the religious and political leaders. He is immediately considered dangerous and subversive. The readings remind us that our call to discipleship, like that of Jeremiah and Jesus, must be rooted in love. Secondly, the reading also assures us that God never abandons his faithful messengers when they speak the truth in love. Thirdly, just like Jeremiah, Jesus and Paul, we too are challenged to live our calling as Christians even if, in doing so, we may risk our comfort, rejection, and even our lives.

Have a great Sunday with your families and a wonderful week.

Fr. Leslie Update – 1

Following his recent fall, Fr. Leslie will be convalescing in Littlehampton until the beginning of April at the earliest, so please keep him in your prayers. During Fr. Leslie's absence the Parish Pastoral Team will ensure that the parish continues to run as smoothly as possible; please contact Chris Brooks or other members of the team if you require assistance (see the front of the newsletter for more details). Weekend Masses will continue as normal, although weekday services will not be held until further notice. Please pass any Mass intentions to Ingatestone whilst Fr. Leslie is away. Thank you.

Mass Update

Masses have been offered up to Wednesday 23rd Jan, weekend Mass intentions will continue to be honoured at St. Joseph's. However those weekday Masses printed in last week's newsletter and those intentions agreed for future dates will not be said until Fr. Leslie's return to the parish. If anyone would like to rearrange their Mass intention at another parish please see Jan Jarvis, Michael Wild or Marian Anderson. God Bless and keep me in your prayers. *Fr. Leslie.*

Stewards of the Gospel

We are conducting a small parish survey and The Stewards of the Gospel would like to hear from you.

Do please let the Stewards of the Gospel know your motivations, concerns, fears and hopes for our parish. Please put your thoughts on paper and hand to Fr. Leslie or contact Chris or Mary Brooks.

Save The Date - 1

The Bishop will be making his Parish Pastoral Visit on Sunday 22 September 2019. It's a long way off, but is a firm date for your diary.



BCCS Anniversary Charity Ball

The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society is holding an Anniversary Charity Ball to celebrate the 35th Anniversary of its founding. The Charity Ball is their largest and most glamorous event of the year and takes place at The Rayleigh Club, Hullbridge on Saturday 9 March. Tickets are on sale now, costing £55 per person. As tickets for this event sell out quickly, please contact Julie asap to avoid disappointment: 01268 784544/ 0791 227 7413/jabbott@bccs.org.uk



“Seven days without prayer makes one weak”

Fr. Leslie Update – 2

Fr. Leslie is convalescing at St. Joseph's Nursing Home, 41 East St, Littlehampton BN17 6AU. If you wish to send him a card, then please do so. I'm sure he will be pleased to hear from you. He is not on email, as you know, so if it is easier for you to send good wishes by email, send it to me with Fr. Leslie in the Subject bar, and I'll make sure he gets to see your message. ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk He is a little down at the moment (not surprising given the nasty fall he had) so I know he will be pleased to hear from you all. He is not receiving any visitors at the moment though as he is still in some pain and not at all comfortable.

World Youth Day



Pic (left) shows some of the Brentwood Youth Group, led by Fr. Dominic Howarth, visiting Panama Cathedral which was freshly consecrated by Pope Francis during the World Youth Day event in Panama. World Youth Day 2019 was the 16th World Youth Day held and was celebrated from 22 to 27 January 2019.



Above, Pope Francis celebrating Mass with hundreds of thousands of young pilgrims in Panama on Sunday, January 27, winding up a 5-day visit for World Youth Day. The next World Youth Day will be in Lisbon in 2022.

Rosary

This is a wonderful prayer when we reflect on the life of Jesus as we pray to Mary our Mother.

It is a relaxing, repetitive prayer which helps us to relax and be at peace.

The Church's devotion to Mary is intrinsic to Christian Worship. We honour Mary with special devotion. Let this be also our devotion. It can also be a great family prayer.

The Sacraments

In the New Year we ask the Grace of God to help us to reflect on the past and show us the way forward. God's Word is at the heart and at the root of history. The Word is Jesus and He became flesh. We pray to see the presence of Christ in each one of us and in our troubled and confused world.

May I suggest that we reflect this year on the help that we have to recognise the above, namely the Sacraments? Perhaps as a family we can make part of our prayer once a week to recite and reflect on our Baptismal Promises; to go to confession at least once a month; to receive Jesus in the Eucharist sometime during the week; if we know of anyone who is really sick then invite them to receive the Sacrament of the sick; to renew marriage vows; and have a quiet weekend away once a year.

Sacraments are given to us to help us on our Journey of Life and to keep us close to Jesus. And as we approach World Youth Day, pray for our young people who will be going to South America and those who are at home.

Votive Lights

Please please be careful when placing votive lights on the stand. Please don't crowd around and please do be careful if you take down some used cartridges. Already we are getting wax on the tiles (which were expensive) despite the white protection cover. **Please be careful.**

Brentwood Catholic Youth Service - Youth Mass

You are invited to join us for our Youth Mass on the first Wednesday of every month. The Youth Mass is held at Brentwood Cathedral on the first Wednesday of every month, with Mass starting at 8.00 p.m. followed by refreshments in the Cathedral conference rooms. This is a great chance to meet other young Catholics from around the Diocese. You are always welcome. More info at www.bcys.net or follow us on Facebook, Twitter. May I ask our parents to mention this to our young people?

Recently Pope Francis and Bishops from around the world have held a Synod in Rome on young people. Pope Francis asked you to ask yourselves "Who is Jesus Christ for you?"

200 Club

Enrolment into the 200 club continues apace such that we only have 10 spaces left. If we were to fill these 10 "vacancies" then the prize-money each month will rise to £50, £30 and £20 for first second and third prizes respectively. Application forms/standing order forms are at the back of the church. **Hurry hurry hurry!**

“Store the Bible in your heart,
not on a shelf”

St. Joseph Friendship Group

We resume our meetings on Friday 1 February and every 1st and 3rd Friday in the month between 2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. in the parish hall. We are always open to any suggestions of what you would like to see happening at these afternoon sessions. OPEN TO ALL AGES. Why not pop in for a cup of tea and a chat. You will be made very welcome. Any enquires contact Jan Jarvis on 200278

Altar Servers

Over the years our parish has been blessed with wonderful, committed Altar Servers. Serving at the Altar is not just a hobby that we do each week. It is part of who we are - following Jesus Christ. Serving at the Altar is a privilege - something we do out of love for him. Let others see what a difference our faith makes to our lives. As Altar Servers let us be a people of faith and strong followers of Jesus, let us respond generously to God's call. We require more Altar Servers at each Mass. Please contact Fr. Leslie.

Transport Rota

We have many older and lonely parishioners who find it difficult to get to Mass or Church social occasions. We would therefore like to start up a Transport Rota and I would urge you to add your name to the list at the back of the church or email ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk

Obviously the more volunteers we get, the lesser the burden on individuals.

It's a great way to assist the parish and to help some of our more senior parishioners enjoy all that the parish has to offer.

Save The Date - 2

Our celebrations to mark our 60th anniversary will be held on Saturday 13 July 2019, starting at 6.00 p.m. We hope to have the Bishop in attendance too, but we are currently awaiting confirmation. Watch this space! And make sure 13 July is in your diary!



Finance News

For the week ending 26/27 January you gave £249.54 of which £33.00 was gift aided.

Donations this week totaled £40.00

If you are a Tax payer, please sign a Covenant Form so that we can claim back 25p of every £ that you give in your weekly offering.

Please consider helping with our Parish maintenance, by possibly:

- ♦ Gift Aiding your giving;
- ♦ 200 Club;
- ♦ Raising your giving;
- ♦ One-off donations.

Many thanks and God Bless.

If you pay income tax and have not signed a Gift Aid form, please do so. Elsewhere in this newsletter you can read of the huge benefits to your parish.



Pope Francis

The Pope on Twitter



The secret to navigating life well is to invite Jesus on board. The helm of life should be given to Him, so that He can direct the route.

Meekness and tenderness: these human virtues seem small, but they can overcome the most difficult conflicts.

I thank God for having given us the opportunity to share these days together and to experience once more this World Youth Day. My thanks go to all those who have supported us with their prayers, and who have helped by their efforts and hard work!

Go forth and bear witness to what you have seen and heard, not with lots of words but with simple, daily actions. I don't know if I'll be present at the next WYD, but Peter will certainly be there, and he will confirm you in the faith.

Light
Laughter

Helvetica and Times New Roman walk into a bar. "Get out of here" shouts the barman. "We don't serve your type!"

Once my dog ate all the Scrabble tiles. For days he kept leaving little messages around the house!

Children's corner

IN THE GOSPEL TODAY

Jesus surprises his childhood friends and neighbours, teaching them in the synagogue. Jesus reminds the people about the prophets who spread the message about God's love. They don't believe Jesus is the Son of God and they get angry with Jesus.

A PRAYER TO SAY

Dear Jesus, I believe in you and love you with all my heart. Help me to share your love with everyone I meet. Amen.

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.

Contact: "Coming Home", CEO, 114 West Heath Road, London NW3 7TX
Tel: 020 8458 3316. e-mail: info@comehomeforchristmas.co.uk



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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".