

# ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

## PARISH NEWS | APRIL 2012

### VOCATION PRAYER

Lord give me the gift of a generous heart to follow your will as I journey the path of life. You set before me the vocation of priesthood, religious life, single life and marriage. Grant me the grace and generosity I need to answer your call. Amen.

### CONTINUING POPE BENEDICT'S LETTER ON CHARITY AND TRUTH THE FUNDAMENTALIST INTERPRETATION OF SACRED SCRIPTURE

The attention we have been paying to different aspects of the theme of biblical hermeneutics now enables us to consider a subject which came up a number of times during the Synod: that of the fundamentalist interpretation of sacred Scripture. The Pontifical Biblical Commission, in its document *The Interpretation of the Bible in the Church*, has laid down some important guidelines. Here I would like especially to deal with approaches which fail to respect the authenticity of the sacred text, but promote subjective and arbitrary interpretations. The "literalism" championed by the fundamentalist approach actually represents a betrayal of both the literal and the spiritual sense, and opens the way to various forms of manipulation, as, for example, by disseminating anti-ecclesial interpretations of the Scriptures. "The basic problem with fundamentalist interpretation is that, refusing to take into account the historical character of biblical revelation, it makes itself incapable of accepting the full truth of the incarnation itself. As regards relationships with God, fundamentalism seeks to escape any closeness of the divine and the human ... for this reason, it tends to treat the biblical text as if it had been dictated word for word by the Spirit. It fails to recognize that the word of God has been formulated in language and expression conditioned by various periods". Christianity, on the other hand, perceives in the words the Word himself, the Logos who displays his mystery through this complexity and the reality of human history. The true response to a fundamentalist approach is "the faith-filled interpretation of sacred Scripture". This manner of interpretation, "practised from antiquity within the Church's Tradition, seeks saving truth for the life of the individual Christian and for the Church. It recognizes the historical value of the biblical tradition. Precisely because of the tradition's value as an historical witness, this reading seeks to discover the living meaning of the sacred Scriptures for the lives of believers today", while not ignoring the human mediation of the inspired text and its literary genres.

### 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.

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

Welcome to our parish of St. Joseph the Worker

[www.stjosephshutton.org](http://www.stjosephshutton.org)

### MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

HOLY WEEK

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD (B)**

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 31	6.00 p.m.	Des O'Reilly	K. O'Reilly
Sunday 1	8.30 a.m.	People of the Parish	
	10.30 a.m.	Andrew Corbett R.I.P.	B. Rossiter
Monday 2	9.15 a.m.	Gladys & Philip Clarke R.I.P.	T & J Grimes
Tuesday 3	9.15 a.m.	Mary Ward Intention	
Wednesday 4	8.30 a.m.		

### EASTER TRIDIUM

**PLEASE TRY AND CELEBRATE THESE THREE VERY IMPORTANT DAYS!**

Thursday 5 April	8.00 p.m.	Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper with Watching before the Blessed Sacrament until 11.00 p.m.
Good Friday 6 Apr	9.10 a.m.	Walk of Witness from Hutton Free Church to Shenfield Green (Coffee and Hot Cross Buns afterwards)
Day of Fasting and Abstinence	3.00 p.m.	Solemn Liturgy of the Passion of the Lord
Holy Saturday	8.00 p.m.	Solemn Liturgy of the Pascal Vigil and First Mass of Easter
		Peter Anderson R.I.P. J & M Anderson

### THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD

Sunday 8	8.30 a.m.	People of the parish
	10.30 a.m.	

### LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICES

The Season of Lent is a time of preparation for the great feast of Easter. During this time we are called to prayer, penance and Almsgiving. The Brentwood Deanery is offering you the following Services of Reconciliation in several parishes:

Monday 2 April at 7.30 p.m. Brentwood Cathedral

There will be several priests available at each of the Services for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated at St. Joseph's on Saturday mornings from 9.45 a.m. to 10.15 a.m. during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

**Do Remember** Lent is a time to return to God with our whole heart. It is a time of grace.

**A Lenten Prayer:** Father open up my heart to the grace of this Holy Season of Lent. Create in me a new and softened heart which weeps more readily for my sin but also rejoices in my salvation. Amen.

### PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK IN OUR PARISH

Nicholas Sharkey, Daniella DiLisio (aged 16), Paul Denton, Don Whittle, Simone Austin, Anita Czupeynski, Mick O'Dowd, Bernard Gordon, Annie Baker, Mary McKenna, Mary Ward, Jacqueline Burnie, Maureen Flaherty, Pauline White, Mairead O'Driscoll, Maud Barry, Nora McPherson, Ethel Benneworth, Eamonn Brennan and Diane Griffiths. Our Lady of Lourdes intercede for them. If there are any changes please let Fr. Leslie know.



### SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

For those who for some reason are unable to receive Holy Communion I offer this prayer: O Jesus, I turn toward the Holy Tabernacle where you live hidden for love of me. I love you, O my God. I cannot receive you in Holy Communion. Come nevertheless and visit me with your grace. Come spiritually into my heart. Purify it, sanctify it, render it like unto your own.

### ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for those who have died and whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Josephine Connolly, Eileen O'Connell, and Gladys Clarke. Priests of our Diocese Pope John Paul II (2005), Fr. Thomas Adkins (1937), Fr. Ronald Roberts (1983) and Canon Charles Loughran (2006). For these and all our deceased parishioners, relatives and friends, may they Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory and Grace.

### BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY

Once again we, as a Parish, will be taking part in this Deanery-wide sponsored walk and fund raiser for the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. The 20th anniversary annual sponsored walk for us will be from Saint Joseph the Worker to Brentwood Cathedral. We will meet at 11.45 a.m. to leave at 12.00 for a gentle stroll, led by Fr. Leslie, to the Brentwood Cathedral Social Centre. Refreshments and a light snack will be provided when we reach the Cathedral, along with a "well done" certificate. If you will be joining us, please contact Ian Restall on 01277 223078 or email [ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk](mailto:ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk). Sponsorship forms are available at the back of the Church.

### EASTER LEAFLETS

Thank you to those who have already taken their share. A few still remain in the narthex. Thank you again!

### FINANCE MATTERS

Income for 25 March:	£352.57 of which £34.00 was Gift Aided
Offertory for 18 March:	£619.40 of which £87.00 was Gift Aided.
Donation from 200 Club:	£1,291.34
Expenditure:	
Boiler service, replace leaking radiator, new water heater in Sacristy	£1,183.20
New Hoover	£269.99
Donation to Columban Fathers Appeal	£200.00



Fr. Leslie writes

Welcome to our parish of St. Joseph the Worker

Today is Palm Sunday, the beginning of Holy Week. From ancient times the palm tree, because of its height and graceful trunk, was considered a princely tree and its branches became a symbol of history and were also used for decoration.

Victorious Roman soldiers carried palm branches when parading in Rome, and the palm was given as a victory emblem at public games.

All four gospels describe a "grand entrance" of Jesus into Jerusalem on his final visit there. But only John has the detail about the palm branches – the symbol from which this Sunday has received its popular name.

As far back as the fourth century, Christians in Jerusalem re-enacted this event in the place where it actually happened. They gathered on the Mount of Olives in late afternoon and, carrying palm branches, they went in procession through the gates of the City to the Church of the Resurrection.

The custom of re-enacting Christ's entry into Jerusalem gradually spread to churches around the world. The palm branches were blessed and carried home by the faithful as a symbol of Christ's presence in the place where they lived.

**The Holiest week of the year begins today. But the world does not stop. Everything goes on in the regular manner – TV programmes, work.....so if I want this to be a Holy Week, what do I do? I decide.**

St Rose of Lima said "Apart from the Cross, there is no other ladder by which we may get to heaven!"

On Holy Thursday we pray especially for our priests. They are called to humble service in a unique and special way. Thousands of priests and bishops all over the world follow Jesus's example, unworthy as they are, during Holy Thursday service. We pray that this gesture of love and service is for them a real sign of their love and devotion to God and his people.

Thank you and God Bless everyone.

Fr Leslie



May the gift that is Jesus live in your home and in your heart throughout the year

**WALK FOR WATER WITH CAFOD**

Walk for Water with CAFOD this Lent – 2 ½ mile leisurely walk plus trail for children, around Hanningfield reservoir on Friday 13th April to show solidarity with the 783,000 people that don't have access to clean water and sanitation. Suggested £5 donation per adult, children free. Meet at the visitor centre (Hawkswood Road, Downham, Billericiay, Essex CM11 1WT) from 1.30 pm for a 2.00 p.m. start. No need to book, just turn up or phone the CAFOD Brentwood office on 020 8502 9722 with any queries.

**GOOD FRIDAY**

At 9.10 a.m. there will be a Walk of Witness from Hutton and Shenfield Union Church to Shenfield Library – and Coffee and Hot Cross Buns afterwards.

**LETTER FROM CAFOD – GIVE IT UP LENT FAST DAY RAISED £682.21**

On behalf of all our partners and the communities they work with, I want to thank you and all your parishioners for your generous support of our Lenten Give it up! appeal.

Your generous support - doubled this Lent by the Government's UK Aid match funding - means we are able to drill more boreholes, build more latrines, help more families grow nutrition gardens so they can feed themselves and earn a living. These are just some of the examples of what your donations will do. Zimi, 10, from Zimbabwe told us, "Water is like a gift from God." As Catholics, we believe that everything we have is a gift from God and we are called to share it with those in need. Thank you for the prayers and gifts the parish have offered in support of our work this Lent. Please go to [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk) for more Lent appeal updates.

**MARRIAGE IS UNIQUE AND THERE IS NO NEED TO REDEFINE**

If you agree there is an on-line petition you can sign at [www.c4m.org.uk](http://www.c4m.org.uk)

This link is for the petition for the definition of marriage to remain the same, as discussed recently by Archbishop Carey. Over 60,000 people have signed so far.

The petition reads "I support the legal definition of marriage which is the voluntary union for life of one man and one woman to the exclusion of all others. I oppose any attempt to redefine it".

After Easter there will be a more detailed leaflet available from the Archbishops on the Government's consultation itself, for distribution in parishes, to assist Catholics in making their own response to the consultation.

**Children's Corner**

**A Prayer to say**

*Dear Jesus, Judas was your friend, but he told your enemies where to find you. It is not good to betray your friends. I promise always to be faithful to my friends, not to tell lies, or blame them for things they did not do. I pray that my friends in turn will also care for me.*

Amen



Jesus is taken away to be killed. He dies for us so that we may be free from our sins.

**SUGGESTIONS FOR PERSONAL PRAYER**

- ✚ Prepare a place with a few symbols to create a special place – a candle, a bible, a cross.
  - ✚ Set a special time each day and be faithful to that time. Decide on a time for your reflection and prayer – 15 mins, 30 mins or less.
  - ✚ Take a small scripture passage or a verse from the Psalms and savour it in your hearts.
  - ✚ Be faithful and thankful to the Sacraments regularly.
- "Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life:  
You have the message of eternal life" (Jn 6: 63-69)

**ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH CLUB**

Every first Friday in the month, from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. in the parish hall. Do call in, all ages welcome.

**URGENT HELP REQUIRED**

Help is needed to make tea and coffee after the 10.30 mass on Sundays. Could you spare an hour once every five or so weeks? If you think you can help please call Teresa on 01277 233540.

**PARISH ALTAR SERVERS**

Our parish desperately needs young people to come forward to train to serve Jesus, through your priest. We encourage our young people to train for other things and team sports, which is good. However, we all need to ask the Lord what can I do, what am I called to do in my parish to thank God for all the blessings he has given to me, and how can I help to draw closer in holiness through an active part in our liturgy. This goes for all ministries, Readers, Choir members, Eucharistic Ministers, Musicians, Welcomers, Ushers – ALL these and more are ways of being unselfish in our lives. Pope John Paul II said that involvement in the life of the Church would keep young people close to Jesus.

I ask you the parents to discuss this with your children and young people. *Thank you.*

**BRENTWOOD CATHOLIC CHILDREN'S SOCIETY**

Are holding a Charity Golf Day on Monday 25 June – see poster in porch. For further details please contact Julie Abbott on 01268 784544 or 07912 277 413.

**EASTER OFFERING**

This is your gift to your priest and forms a large part of his income for the year. If you pay by standing order you will need to pick up an envelope.

Thank you

**EASTER READERS & EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS ROTA**

Please sign up for Ministries at the Passion Sunday and Easter Services. Thank you.

New rotas for April to September will be prepared shortly, so please email or telephone Willa with any unavailable dates, 01277 215846 or [willajackson789@btinternet.com](mailto:willa.jackson789@btinternet.com)

**LETTER FROM MISSIONARY SOCIETY OF ST. COLUMBAN**

We are writing to thank you most sincerely for the cheque for £200.00 received safely this morning in lieu of our annual mission appeal. It is very kind of you to send a donation for the work of the Columban Fathers and we are most grateful for your generosity.

**200 CLUB**

Thank you to all who subscribe to our 200 Club. If you do not participate and would like to, there are forms at the back of the Church. The cost is just £24.00 per year and you will be eligible to win a monthly cash prize.

**Winners:**

- December 2011. 1st D. Creedon. 2nd A. McCabe. 3rd I. Loughland
- January 2012. 1st J. Jarvis. 2nd J. Hay. 3rd S. Morris.
- February 2012. 1st Paul Creavin. 2nd M. Wild. 3rd W. O'Regan
- March 2012. 1st M. Yates. 2nd C&M Fitzpatrick. 3rd N. Falco.

**FROM THE JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP**

Many thanks to all of you who attended the Lenten lunch on Friday 16 March, held in aid of CAFOD. We raised an amazing £136.00 which, with the matched funding from the UK Government means we have raised £272 in total. Thank you all for your support which is helping those in the greatest need in our world.



**ST JOSEPH'S PRE-SCHOOL**

St Joseph's Pre-school is seeking to employ an early years practitioner to provide support to a child with specific needs. Previous experience is desirable but not essential as training will be given. The chosen candidate will need to be flexible with working hours. Expected hours of work are two mornings per week term time. Please forward your C.V. together with covering letter to 15 Lodge Close, Hutton, Essex, CM13 1SW attention Mary Brooks MA (Supervisor), for further information please call 07864 914667. The closing date for applications is Thursday 5 April 2012.



### 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](mailto:info@comehomeforchristmas.co.uk)



## Just £5 per month,

paid by Standing Order, will help the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society enormously in their work with the schools and young children in our Diocese.

The Society has been supporting local children and families since 1984. Its mission and values are as important today as they ever were. Please sign up today and become a special friend.

A standing order form can be obtained from Father Leslie, Ian Restall or John Tobin

([ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk](mailto:ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk)) Thank you.



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- Driving - on excursions or to appointments
- Gardening
- Fundraising

From our volunteers...

- "The Marillac is such a rewarding place to spend a little of my time each week. With new people to meet and something to get involved in for everyone - you soon feel that you're helping to make a difference to others, whilst doing something positive for yourself, too."
- "We have been working here for over 12 years, and helping others less fortunate helps us to appreciate how lucky we are to be fit and healthy. It's good to be here."

The Marillac is a residential home for younger adults with physical and/or neurological disabilities. We are based in Eagle Way, Warley, Brentwood opposite the Ford's building.

Volunteering can be undertaken midweek, at weekends and in the evenings - even if you are only available to come in during term time.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering at the Marillac, please contact Amanda our Volunteer Co-ordinator on 01277 220276 or [amandat@marillac.co.uk](mailto:amandat@marillac.co.uk)



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Ian Restall on 01277 223078  
[ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk](mailto:ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk)

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".

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust - Registered Charity No. 234092