

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

PARISH NEWS 2 FEBRUARY 2014

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 THE ENCYCLICAL LETTER OF THE SUPREME PONTIFF FRANCIS THE ECCLESIAL FORM OF FAITH

22. In this way, the life of the believer becomes an ecclesial existence, a life lived in the Church. When Saint Paul tells the Christians of Rome that all who believe in Christ make up one body, he urges them not to boast of this; rather, each must think of himself "according to the measure of faith that God has assigned" (Rom 12:3). Those who believe come to see themselves in the light of the faith which they profess: Christ is the mirror in which they find their own image fully realized. And just as Christ gathers to himself all those who believe and makes them his body, so the Christian comes to see himself as a member of this body, in an essential relationship with all other believers. The image of a body does not imply that the believer is simply one part of an anonymous whole, a mere cog in a great machine; rather, it brings out the vital union of Christ with believers, and of believers among themselves (cf. Rom 12:4-5). Christians are "one" (cf. Gal 3:28), yet in a way which does not make them lose their individuality; in service to others, they come into their own in the highest degree. This explains why, apart from this body, outside this unity of the Church in Christ, outside this Church which—in the words of Romano Guardini—"is the bearer within history of the plenary gaze of Christ on the world"—faith loses its "measure"; it no longer finds its equilibrium, the space needed to sustain itself. Faith is necessarily ecclesial; it is professed from within the body of Christ as a concrete communion of believers. It is against this ecclesial backdrop that faith opens the individual Christian toward all others. Christ's word, once heard, by virtue of its inner power at work in the heart of the Christian, becomes a response, a spoken word, a profession of faith. As Saint Paul puts it: "one believes with the heart . . . and confesses with the lips" (Rom 10:10). Faith is not a private matter, a completely individualistic notion or a personal opinion: it comes from hearing, and it is meant to find expression in words and to be proclaimed. For "how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without a preacher?" (Rom 10:14). Faith becomes operative in the Christian on the basis of the gift received, the love which attracts our hearts to Christ (cf. Gal 5:6), and enables us to become part of the Church's great pilgrimage through history until the end of the world. For those who have been transformed in this way, a new way of seeing opens up; faith becomes light for their eyes.

EATING IN THE 50S

Following on from our piece last week, here are some more suggestions from a parishioner to add to the list:

- Salad consisted of a lettuce leaf and half a tomato which your mum had cut in zigzags.
- Sunday tea consisted of tinned spam or corned beef, which no-one eats now.
- We never realised that tinned peaches were actually the same thing as the peaches which grew on trees, because they tasted nothing like them!!

Thanks for your contribution. Any more???



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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Brentwood, Essex CM13 1BJ
T: 01277 212591 (Session time only)
www.stjosephspreschoolbrentwood.co.uk

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 1	6.00 p.m.	Anthony Sweeney RIP	M Connaughton
Sunday 2	8.30 a.m.	Sophia Jarvis RIP	J and J Jarvis
	10.30 a.m.	People of the Parish	

FEAST OF ST. ANNE LINE

Monday 3	9.15 a.m.	Annie Baker RIP	Friendship Club
Tuesday 4	9.15 a.m.	Monica White and family	M Swift and L Kent

FEAST OF ST. AGATHA

Wednesday 5	8.30 a.m.	John McHugh RIP	
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FEAST OF ST. PAUL MIKI AND COMPANIONS

Thursday 6	9.15 a.m.	Josephine Millett RIP	J and S Parker
Friday 7	9.15 a.m.	Brian Duggan RIP	Liz Kent

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 8	6.00 p.m.	Donald Grant RIP	M and J Anderson
Sunday 9	8.30 a.m.	People of the Parish	
	10.30 a.m.	Win Rhodes RIP	P and M Barlow

EVERY SATURDAY AFTER MORNING MASS WE HAVE EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT DURING THE SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION FROM 9.45 A.M. TO 10.15 A.M.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR THIS WEEKEND'S MASSES

6.00 p.m.	8.30 p.m.	10.30 a.m.
Stella Walker	Ken Eady	Dom D'Alberquerque
Paul Bolton	Pat Green	Chris Brooks
Marian Anderson	John Spinks	Mary Brooks

READERS FOR THIS WEEKEND'S MASSES

Imogen Creavin	Gerry Sarah	Sheila Jones
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EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES (1/2 FEBRUARY)

Adam Kania	Mary Allum	Marina Moffat
Carol Turnbull	Joan Parker	Pat Burton
Maurice Roche	Catherine Bray	John Tobin

READERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES (1/2 FEBRUARY)

Frank Dodson	Carol Giles	Willa Jackson
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ANNIVERSARIES

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

Thomas Scannell, Agnes Young, Mary Tuffin, and Sarah Postoj. Priests of our Diocese: Fr. Eric Bindloss Smith (1981), Fr. Francis Richardson (1937), and Fr. Alan Wilcox (1988).

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SICK IN OUR PARISH

Nicholas Sharkey, Daniella DiLisio, Paul Denton, Don Whittle, Simone Austin, Anita Czupeynski, Jacqueline Birnie, Maureen Flaherty, Pauline White, Mairead O'Driscoll, Nora McPherson, Diane Griffiths, Mary Dillane, Vince Vitali, Mary Boyer, Mano Subryan, Kathleen Green, Beryl de Prazer, and Mary Sheehan. Our Lady of Lourdes intercede for them. If there are any changes please let Fr. Leslie know.



MARRIAGE GUIDANCE

25% of surveyed couples say they are Happily Married. So what about the other 75%? You CAN help your Marriage! Retrouvaille helps couples work through difficult times in their marriages. 10s of 1000s of couples have benefited from Retrouvaille. Call or text 0797 338 0443. www.retrouvaille.org.uk

PARKING IN HIGHVIEW CRESCENT

Parents bringing their children to either the Pre-School or St. Joseph Primary School are asked not to bring their cars up Highview Crescent. Recently more cars are coming up and blocking our neighbours' driveways and/or double parking. This causes a lot of concern, naturally. Both myself and the school have the neighbours complaining to us about the situation. We must all work together to address this real and persistent problem. But what causes much sadness is the language some car drivers use when confronted with the situation. We are parents and parishioners of a catholic church and we should remember that when we engage in conversation with other people. Thank you for reading this and hopefully understanding and appreciative of this difficult situation.



Fr. Leslie writes

Welcome to our parishioners on this Feast of the Presentation of the Lord. Under Jewish law a woman was required, after giving birth to a

child, to offer to the Lord in sacrifice a lamb, or two turtledoves, or two young pigeons. Mary and Joseph, by bringing Jesus to the Temple, fulfilled the prescribed legal requirement. At the same time they consecrated Jesus to God. In presenting Jesus, Mary and Joseph were returning to the Lord, with thanksgiving the very gift that he had given them.

Simeon and Anna also gave God worship in their hearts. The spirit rested upon Simeon preparing his heart for the Lord's coming, and causing him to long to set his eyes on the Christ of the Lord. Also Anna was seeking the Lord. She had been in the Temple for years longing and praying for the Lord's coming.

In Mary, Joseph, Simeon and Anna we see so much desire and the longing for the Lord. They rejoiced as they recognised that Jesus was the longed-for Christ. It was the Holy Spirit who gave birth to this desire, longing, recognition and delight in their lives. The Spirit wants to give us a similar longing for his return. The Spirit wishes to purify our hearts from all dullness, indifference and apathy so that we may desire to see the light of Jesus' face and long to set our eyes on his glory when he comes again.

Let us today enter joyfully into the celebration, and together with Simeon and Anna announce salvation to all the world.

Thank you God Bless and have a great week

Fr Leslie



OUR POPE ON TWITTER

1. It is easy to ask God for things; we all do it. When will we also learn to give him thanks and to adore him?
2. Dear young people, let us not be satisfied with a mediocre life. Be amazed by what is true and beautiful, what is of God!
3. Let us pray for Christian unity. There are so many beautiful things which unite us



FINANCE MATTERS

Incoming:

For the week ending 25/26 January you gave £402 43 of which £64.00 was gifted aided. The collection for the Homeless £163 61.

Outgoing:

The heating bill for January for the hall, church and house totalled £580.95. (house £177.21, hall £258.99, church £117.00).

Thank you.



BRENTWOOD DEANERY PASTORAL COUNCIL

The next meeting of the Brentwood Deanery Pastoral Council will be on 18 February. If you have any issues you would like raised at the meeting, please speak to Mary Allum or Margaret Bailey.

EVENSONG AT ST MARY'S, HALL LANE, SHENFIELD - TONIGHT

We are all invited to join the community of St Mary's today at 6.30 p.m. for Evensong. This is a lovely way to end the day and bring Sunday to a prayerful conclusion. I will be unable to attend as I have been asked to say the 6.30 p.m. Mass at the Cathedral. I do hope some of you might like to attend to show our ecumenical support.

KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA CHARITY SUPPER DANCE

The Knights of St. Columba are holding a 50s & 60s Charity Supper Dance on 8 March 2014 at the Cathedral Hall Brentwood. The live vocalist will be Diane Moore. Hot and Cold supper - bring your own drinks. Tickets £20.00 available from Bill O'Regan, Jim Jarvis, and Tim Murphy. Charities include Mary's Meals and BCCS.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The St Joseph the Worker Children's Liturgy group gives the children of our parish the opportunity to hear the Word of God in a friendly and child oriented environment. We are looking for additional volunteers to help with the group, which takes place during 10.30am Mass on Sundays (term time only). No experience is necessary and training and materials will be provided. We operate on a rota basis so participation is generally limited to a couple of Sundays each half term.

For more details please contact: Nicky (nicky.morris@acegroup.com), Hector (nesteaa40@hotmail.com) or Mary (at pre-school), or any of the group in person after Mass.

OUR POPE

Fresh from being on the cover of Time Magazine and being voted their Man of the Year, the Pope now makes the cover of Rolling Stone magazine, together with a very informative interview. What next for the Bishop of Rome?



FLK

- Remember to pray for our housebound parishioners who carry the cross of loneliness.
- They are so very important to us as they pray for us.



Children's Corner

A Prayer to say

Dear Jesus, as you grew up, you became wise and responsible, and God looked after you. I pray that I also grow up to be wise and responsible so that I can do great things like you when I am older.
Amen.

RELIGIOUS POEM COMPETITION - FREE TO ENTER

And a £250 prize to the winning entry, paid to our church. Can you help? We are looking for a winning poet from St Joseph the Worker Church.

We are approaching the closing date of the Religious Poem Competition, but it's not too late for parishioners to enter. St Joseph the Worker Church could win a £250 donation if the winner is one of our parishioners. Anyone can submit up to three poems for the competition. There's no age limit and no entry fee.

The poem can be a prayer, words for a hymn, a description of an uplifting moment, a religious experience, about a person or your church, explained United Press Publications Executive, Julie Embury. It can be rhyming or free verse, historic, romantic, factual, or personal - anything you like, as long as there is a religious theme. For more information, visit www.unitedpress.co.uk. Judging will take place in February 2014 and the winner will be announced in March.

UP FOR A CHALLENGE????

BBC Songs of Praise is looking for a church family to take part in some filming over the Summer. The BBC are searching for a family that is open minded, game for a laugh, and happy to try out new activities; and who is open about their faith and happy to be filmed as part of their church community. Ideally, you will be a family with a mixture of ages: for example, grandparents, parents, and teenage children. The filming will involve members of the family getting involved with a variety of wide-ranging pursuits: anything from, for example, a bike ride, to going on an afternoon retreat! It's not essential to be experienced in any of the activities, in fact, being a beginner or a bit rusty could be part of the fun!

Filming will be approximately six days in total, although not all members of the family will be required for every filming day. It is likely that we will need to come to your home and church for some of the filming.

Filming will take place between March and May 2014. You don't need to be available for the whole of this period: filming dates can be flexible.

Interested families need to contact Amy Ryninks from Songs of Praise as soon as possible by email: amy.ryninks@bbc.co.uk or on 0161 335 8427. In your email please give us your full name, contact details, and a brief description, and - if possible - a photograph of your family. Thank you so much - we are really looking forward to hearing from you!

Please note: after initial contact by interested families, a member of the Songs of Praise team may ask for further information about your family (either by phone or email) if they think you may be suitable. Following this, we will then make a final decision about which family we decide to film and feature in the programme. Songs of Praise transmits on a Sunday evening on BBC ONE. As well as music, the programme features stories and interviews, and the family chosen will appear over a number of episodes as they try different activities.

THE ST BAFINABAS SOCIETY - (FORMERLY THE CONVERTS* AID SOCIETY) A VACANCY - DIRECTOR REQUIRED

The Society requires a Director, to develop its pastoral and material provision for former clergy, ministers and religious of other Churches who have become Catholics. The present Director retires this year. The post is based in Oxford. Single accommodation is possible. Salary is negotiable. For detailed Job and Person specifications please contact: Father Robin Sanders, St Barnabas Society 4 First Tum, Wolvercote OX2 8AH. Telephone: 01865 513377 or Email: secretary@stbarnabassociety.org or Visit www.stbarnabassociety.org.uk

STEPPING STONES

Stepping Stones is a new initiative which aims at giving support and information to those who are feeling low, anxious, depressed, or just needing a little more support than usual. It will take the form of a small relationship based monthly group run at Pilgrims Hall Brentwood by a trained Christian counsellor. The cost will be 15 per two hour group session (refreshments provided.) This includes written materials and folder.

For more information or a free assessment date for suitability please phone 0781 5862642. Please make your application as soon as possible so that you can join the next available course. Pilgrims Hall Christian Centre

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

A couple of Neighbourhood Watch meetings have been booked for this year. They will be held at St. Peters Church, Claughton Way, Hutton on Friday 7 February at 19:30 and Friday 16 May at 19:30. This is a great opportunity to meet your local police officers, raise your concerns and issues within your local area and to hear updates of crime, trends and hopefully some good news!

CATECHISTS

An evening for Catechists will take place on Wednesday 26 March at 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Please let Sister Nuala know if you wish to take part. We are also looking for new Catechists to offer themselves in this wonderful ministry. Please give this a thought.

ST. JOSEPH BAZAAR 2014

A very big thank you to the young mums who are prepared to run a Bazaar for us later this year. Thats good news for the parish and a good way to start 2014!



Jesus parents, Mary and Joseph, bring Jesus to the Temple so that he can be presented to the Lord. Though Jesus is still a child, both Simeon and Anna realise who Jesus is: the Son of God. They thank the Lord for sending Jesus and tell everyone they meet the good news.

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



david hennon counselling services

Are you feeling generally low in mood and unhappy or struggling with a particular concern or worry? Are you suffering in silence, unable to share your anxieties, fears or worries?

I may be able to help.

All matters of our psychological wellbeing, including unconscious processes may be better understood and worked through with therapy.

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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".