

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER



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.

Fr. Leslie Knight

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

Miss Bernadette Rossiter

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

St Joseph's Pre-School (Brentwood)

Highview Crescent, Hutton
Brentwood, Essex CM13 1BJ
T: 01277 212591 (Session time only)
W: stjosephspreschoolbrentwood.co.uk

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.

Welcome to our parish news of St. Joseph the Worker 7 December 2014

Upcoming masses

SEASON OF ADVENT

Second Sunday of Advent (B)

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 6	6.00 p.m. Cornelius Sheehan RIP
Sunday 7	8.30 a.m. People of the Parish 10.30 a.m. Arnold Wilson RIP

FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Monday 8	9.15 a.m. Graham Thompson
Tuesday 9	9.15 a.m. Holy Souls
Wednesday 10	8.30 a.m. Holy Souls
Thursday 11	9.15 a.m. November Dead
Friday 12	9.15 a.m. Michael Dunne RIP

FEAST OF ST. LUCY

Saturday 13	9.15 a.m. James Brooks Int
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Third Sunday of Advent

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 13	6.00 p.m. Achille D'Agata RIP
Sunday 14	8.30 a.m. Fr. Daniel Sherry RIP 10.30 a.m. People of the Parish

PLEASE NOTE. During Advent there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 8.30 a.m. Monday thru Saturday except Wednesdays.

ALSO: Sacrament of Reconciliation every Saturday between 9.45 a.m. and 10.15 a.m. with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament which follows Morning Mass.

Coffee/Tea On Thursdays

Please note that after the 9.15 a.m. Mass on Thursdays, there is coffee/tea in the parish room (off the Sacristy)



GRAND CHRISTMAS HAMPER PRIZE DRAW

Three great prizes this year:

First Prize:
Inside a white wicker basket there's a range of delicious Christmas delights.



Second prize:

A gardener's trug full of Winter in Venice toiletries



Third prize:
A magnificent Christmas candle



All you need to do to enter is to write your name and phone number on an envelope, put £5 inside, and hand it to Fr. Leslie. That gets you one ticket in the raffle. Two envelopes (with £5 in each) gets you two tickets, and so on. Draw will take place on Sunday 21 December after 10:30 mass.



Eucharistic Minister and Readers

This week

Eucharistic Ministers at today's Masses

18.00	Gabrielle Regan Bill Regan Ewa Kania
8.30	Margaret Bailey Ken Eady Mary Allum
10.30	Dom. D'Albuquerque Willa Jackson Marina Moffatt

Readers at today's Masses

18.00	Marian Anderson
8.30	Kevin Jackson
10.30	Willa Jackson

Next week

Eucharistic Ministers at Masses 13/14 December

18.00	Maurice Roche Carol Turnbull Marian Anderson
8.30	Lyn Birnie John Spinks Jan Jarvis
10.30	Chris Brooks Mary Brooks Willa Jackson

Readers at Masses 13/14 December

18.00	Pat Creavin
8.30	Gerry Sarah
10.30	Peter Sanders

Anniversaries

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

We pray for:

Ellen Burnham, Peter Heron, Michael Dunne, Win Rhodes, John O'Herrilly, Tilly Brooks, Edie Thomas and Margaret Walsh.

Priests of our Diocese:

Fr. Michael Healey (1967), Fr. Bernard Pownall (1918), Fr. John Lane (2008), Fr. Godfrey Pye (1990), Fr. George Carolan (1924), Fr. William Evers (1960) and Fr. Francis Kerrigan (2002).

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

Sickness

We 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, Mary Boyer, Mano Subryan, Kathleen Green, Beryl de Prazer, Mary Sheehan and Irene Wilson.

Our Lady of Lourdes intercede for them.

If there are any changes please let Fr. Leslie know.



We welcome you to St Joseph the Worker in this lovely Season of Advent. Today's Liturgy of the Word is a call to repentance. In the reading from Isaiah we are given a beautiful image of God as he expresses his concern for the people. "Console my people, console them, says your God. Speak to the heart of Jerusalem and call to her that her time of service is ended, that her sin is atoned for".

Isaiah is asking the people to prepare for the Lord, and uses the image of the mountain and the Valley as he urges them to make level the obstacles that keep them from God. They need to make way for God to enter their lives. He compares God to a shepherd who feeds his flock and carries them in his arms. Such is God's love for his people, that he

does not wish anyone to stray from his immense love. As Isaiah called the people to prepare their hearts for the coming of the Lord, so we are called today to level the rough areas of our lives and allow ourselves to be embraced in the arms of the shepherd who feeds his flock and gathers the lambs in his arms.

In the gospel we are introduced to John the Baptist, one of the key advent figures. He repeats Isaiah's call to "prepare the way for the Lord". Repentance is at the heart of John's message and today we are challenged to listen and respond to his call as we prepare the way of the Lord's coming into our lives.

The people respond to his call asking for baptism and confessing their sins. Let us reflect this week on our own baptism and how our lives are witness to John's call to inner conversion as we await the coming of the Lord.

During this Advent season a question we may consider might be "how might my thoughts, words and actions become more rooted and be transformed by God's living word".

Thank you and have a great Sunday.

Pope Benedict said "Only when we meet the Living God in Christ, do we know what life is"

Action By Christians Against Torture (Acad) Christmas Card Campaign 2014

"Keep in mind those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them" Hebrews 13.3

As you may recall, last year, as a result of the Greetings Card Campaign in support of ACAT (Action by Christians Against Torture) parishioners sent 126 cards to vulnerable prisoners in many different countries of the world.

Greetings cards for prisoners under threat of torture (with supporting case studies) are on sale at 30p each after every Mass this weekend, the second Sunday of Advent (Saturday 6 December and Sunday 7 December).

Thank you in anticipation of your kind and generous support.

Stephen and Ann Howarth

CAFOD Ebola Crisis Appeal

CAFOD is part of the Disasters Emergency Committee which has launched a joint Ebola crisis appeal. During the season of Advent we have decided to donate all money collected in the CAFOD Connect2 box in the church porch to CAFOD's Ebola crisis appeal (instead of to the Connect2 El Salvador project). Please give as generously as you can.

CAFOD World Gifts

Have you thought about giving someone a CAFOD World Gift this Christmas? Have a look at the catalogue in the church porch or go online at worldgifts.cafod.org.uk to see a wonderful range of gifts that can help transform the lives of those living in poverty.

Thank you for your support,

Cathy Waterhouse and Clare Barton

Advent Carol Service At St John Payne School.

You are warmly invited to attend the annual Advent Service on Thursday 18 December at 7.30 p.m. in Aquinas Hall (Upper School Hall). Please come along and join in with a festive celebration and preparation for the coming Christmas season as we await the coming of our Lord at Christmas. The Service will be led by students and staff at the school and refreshments will be served afterwards. If you have any queries, please contact the School Chaplain - Hannah Abrahams - on 01245 256030 or email office@sjp.essex.sch.uk.

Brentwood Catholic Children's Society - Tree of Angels

In remembrance of a loved one, bccs invites you to dedicate a symbolic angel on their Christmas Tree of Angels. This will remain a symbol of remembrance throughout this holy season of joy. The name of each person remembered will be entered into a Book of Remembrance, which will be professionally bound and placed on display in the Chapel at Childcare House.

We would be delighted if you could join us at Our Tree of Angel Service which will be held at Our Lady of Ransom Church, Rayleigh on Sunday 7th December at 4pm.

For further information or to make a dedication, please contact Julie Abbott on 01268 784544/jabbott@bccs.org.uk Adult Education

Save the Date

St. Joseph's welcomes back the Question of Faith team on 21 January 2015. It will be a second chance to explore and ask questions about our Faith. More details will follow early in the New Year.

Youth 2000 New Year Retreat: "Take Heart". 29 Dec 2014 - 1 Jan 2015 An Epic Event To Kick Off The New Year!

If you're 16-35 & would like a fun & meaningful way start to 2015, then TAKE HEART is for you.

This 4 day London event is @ Maria Fidelis Lower School, North Gower Street, NW1 2HR. It will be jam packed with engaging talks, workshops, prayer, live music & social times... There will be laughter, prayer & most importantly an Encounter with our Great & Loving God!

Check it out on: www.youth200.org | our Facebook Page | follow @youth200uk on Twitter, or contact the National Office: 0207 221 2124 or info@youth2000.org for more information

Celebration Of The Sacrament Of Reconciliation

This will take place at the Cathedral on Wednesday 17 December at 7.30 p.m. There will be a number of priests present. Please use this opportunity to spiritually prepare for the feast of Christmas. Christmas starts with Christ

Newsletter

The last newsletter over the Christmas period will be on Sunday 21 December. The newsletter will resume again on weekend of 10/11 January 2015. Our deepest thanks to Ian Restall and his staff who put the newsletter together each week. Sometimes we forget the hard work that goes into the production of the newsletter each week. On behalf of all the parishioners, thank you.

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Christmas Offering Envelopes

Please pick up a Christmas offering envelope if you give by standing order, or by loose plate. If you give by envelope there will be a special envelope in your box. This Christmas offering is your gift to your priest and forms a major part of his income. Thank you and God bless.

Red Box Holders

Your calendars from Missio are available for you to collect from the table in the Narthex.

In Conversation With Bishop Alan

What inspired Bishop Alan to become a Priest? Come and hear his story at a unique evening for young adults in the Diocese. Open to everyone aged 17-35, especially those discerning a vocation to Priesthood and the Religious Life. "In conversation with Bishop Alan". Thursday 18 December, 7.30 p.m. - 10.00 p.m. at the Cathedral House Conference Room, Ingrave Road, Brentwood, Essex CM15 8AT. The evening includes a fish and chip supper, and is free. Please register by emailing frdominic@brentwoodvocations.org, or calling Fr Dominic, Vocations Director, on 01268 281732 www.brentwoodvocations.org

Preparing for Christmas Through the Advent Season

Amid the frenetic preparation for the celebration of the birth of our Saviour, let us make time spiritually to welcome Jesus into our hearts and lives.

- ♦ Morning Mass is celebrated each morning here at St Joseph's. In the city you may be near a church which has midday Mass.
- ♦ Celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation. This Sacrament can be celebrated in any church of your choosing or here at St Joseph's on Saturday mornings after morning Mass.
- ♦ Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every morning except Wednesday before morning Mass. Parents, on your way to school do call in for a few moments with your children.
- ♦ You are invited to enter into a deeper relationship with Jesus through prayer. Besides the celebration of the Eucharist, you could purchase "Walk with Me" Advent reflection, easily put into your pocket.
- ♦ "Bible Alive" can also help you explore the wonderful Advent readings each day through God's word.
- ♦ The Rosary - a prayer to Mary on the life of her Son. Perhaps the intention can be for "the Conversion of England"
- ♦ Advent talks with other faiths - see notice board at the back of the church. Whichever way you choose to celebrate the Season of Advent, we pray that we may draw ever closer in mind and heart to Jesus, our Saviour and Redeemer. So that on Christmas Day our gift to Jesus is our unending love.

Adult Education

"Journey of Faith" - Tuesday 9 December 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Sr. Angela Morris CRSS. Cathedral Conference Centre. For booking contact 01277 265255 or are&fm@dioceseofbrentwood.org

An Excellent Christmas Present!

Instead of sending cards to parishioners, why not wish them your Christmas Blessings through our newsletter? Donations will go to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society. Send your Christmas wishes to ia.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk or hand them to Fr. Leslie, with your donation. **Thanks in advance, and a Happy and Holy Christmas to you all.**

Welcomers Rota

I shall be shortly working on the new Welcomers' Rota for the Sunday 10.30 a.m. Mass from the beginning of January 2015 to the end of June 2015, therefore

If you would like to join our small group please give your name, contact details and any dates that you will be unable to Welcome that you are aware of to Father Leslie or Marion Barlow on 01277 217606; OR marlow28@talktalk.net

St. Joseph's Friendship Club

We meet every 1st and 3rd Friday in the month in the Parish Hall between 2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. Please do call in for a chat, all ages welcome.

Finance matters

For the week ending 29/30 November 2014 you gave by way of the Plate £348.58 of which £48.50 was Gift Aided.

Thank you and God bless

Other points.

May I remind new parishioners that we ask you to sign a Gift Aid form if you are a UK taxpayer

Our 200 club will cost you £2.00 a month (£24 per year) and by participating you could win a monthly cash prize.

These are two ways to help our parish funds, perhaps you have some more ideas?



Pope Francis

@pontifex



Advent increases our hope, a hope which does not disappoint. The Lord never lets us down.

Slaves no more. We are all brothers and sisters

Love is the measure of faith.

The Church is called to draw near to every person, beginning with the poorest and those who suffer.



How does Good King Wenceslas like his pizzas?

One that's deep pan, crisp and even!

What is the best Christmas present in the world?

A broken drum - you just can't beat it!

Children's corner

In The Gospel Today

John appeared in the desert, baptising people and teaching them. He told them that if they turned away from their bad ways God would forgive them. Many heard him, believed what he said and were baptised in the River Jordan. John wore clothes made from camel hair and ate locusts and wild honey.

A Prayer to Say

Father God, we ask you to forgive us for the bad things we sometimes do. Help us to always think of others and try our best to be kind, even when it is difficult. Amen.

Each week we ask parents to say this prayer with your children. Please make sure you pick up a copy.

ST. JOSEPH

THE WORKER

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS COME ON – LET'S FILL UP THIS BACK PAGE!

Fr. Leslie wishes all the parishioners at St. Joseph the Worker a very Happy and Holy Christmas, and a Happy and Peaceful New Year. And thank you for all your help and support throughout the year.

Christine and Ian Restall wish Fr. Leslie and all their friends and parishioners at St. Joseph a very happy Christmas and we hope you all have a great time with your families and friends at this very special time.

Jan and Jim Jarvis wish Fr. Leslie and all their friends at St. Joseph a very Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year. God Bless to you all.

Wishing all of our friends and parishioners a very happy and holy Christmas. From Catherine, David, William, James and Verity Bray

Margaret and Chris Bailey wish Fr. Leslie, friends and parishioners a Peaceful and Happy Christmas and Good Wishes for the New Year

The Jackson family wish all their friends and parishioners a peaceful Christmas spent with loved ones and a happy and healthy 2015. God Bless You All. Willa, Kevin, Timothy & Owen

Freda Hagerty wishes Fr. Leslie and all her friends a very happy Christmas and a peaceful and healthy New Year

Alan and Una Bailey and Beryl de Prazer wish Fr. Leslie and all Parishioners a Happy, Holy Christmas and New Year

Joan and Simon Parker wish Fr. Leslie and all their friends and fellow parishioners at St. Joseph the Worker a very happy Christmas and a happy and healthy New Year

Sheila, Alex and James wish Father Leslie and all the Parishioners, School and Pre-School a Joyful Christmas and Peaceful 2015

Best wishes for Christmas and the New Year to Father Leslie and all friends and parishioners at St. Josephs, from Jean Dunne and family.



Christmas Fair

Many thanks to all of you who came along last Saturday, and helped to make the Fair a successful day raising £1,300 for Parish Funds. We could not have put on such event without your support and would like to thank you all for your generous donations over the last year especially the last minute rush of bottles!

In particular we would like to thank those people who ran a stall or helped us in the setting up and clearing away.

Amanda, Domonique, Lucy and Stella

