

# 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 10 December 2017

### UPCOMING MASSES

#### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

##### FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 9	6.00 p.m.
Sunday 10	8.30 a.m. Michael Dunne RIP 10.30 a.m.
Monday 11	9.15 a.m. R and J Jayaram RIP
Tuesday 12	9.15 a.m. Janet, Ken and Mark Kotulski family
Wednesday 13	NO MORNING MASS
Thursday 14	9.15 a.m. Veronica Austin RIP
Friday 15	9.15 a.m. Helen McCarthy RIP
Saturday 16	NO MORNING MASS

#### THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)

Saturday 16	6.00 p.m. Margaret Toher RIP
Sunday 17	8.30 a.m. Mary Swift RIP G Sarah 10.30 a.m.

THE CHURCH WILL BE OPEN EVERY DAY AS USUAL FOR PRIVATE PRAYER.

### Advent Service Of Reconciliation

Will be held at the Cathedral on Tuesday 19 December at 7.30 p.m. There will be several priests present. This is a Spiritual way to prepare to celebrate the feast of the Nativity of Our Lord Jesus Christ.

### Parish Co-Ordinators

Jan Jarvis and Michael Wild have kindly agreed to be our Parish Co-ordinators. If a problem arises in the Parish for any reason contact Jan on 200278 or Michael on 222304

### Bible Alive And Word Alive

Bible Alive and Word Alive are on sale at the back of the church. These are daily Scripture readings to help us grow our knowledge

### Campion School Party

The Campion School are holding their annual Senior Citizen's Party on Sunday 17 December 2017 between 1.30 p.m. and 6.00 p.m. Our Parish has been allocated 15 spaces. If any of the parishioners would like to attend they need to provide their contact details on the sign-up sheet that I have put at the back of the Church. Transport is available for those that require it. The list will be at the back of the Church until Sunday 26 November.

*if you have one of these*



*please return it without delay*

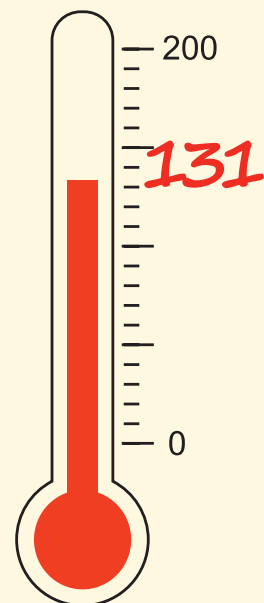
*if you have one of these...*



*also please return it without delay!*

**there are more envelopes at the back of the church if you need them**

*Christmas Hamper envelopes returned so far*



## ANNUAL CHRISTMAS HAMPER RAFFLES

This is St. Joseph's big fund-raising event of the year, but we need you to make it a success. All you have to do is to put £5.00 in an envelope (the Welcomers will be happy to give you an envelope), put your name and phone number on the outside, and the 2 winners will be drawn in the week before Christmas, when Fr. Leslie is back amongst us.

Please do all you can to help, and to spread the word to friends and family. We'd really like to make this a bumper fund-raiser if we can.

And this year not just one hamper, but two.

God Bless and please take and complete as many envelopes as you can. There is a box at the back of the church for the completed envelopes.

### Eucharistic Ministers for this week's Masses (9/10 December)

6.00 p.m.	Marian Anderson Ann Howarth Pat Creavin
8.30 a.m.	Margaret Bailey Mary Allum Lyn Birnie
10.30 a.m.	Marina Moffat Kathy Hillhouse Dominic D'Albequeque

### Readers for this week's Masses (9/10 December)

6.00 p.m.	Marian Anderson
8.30 a.m.	Gerry Sarah
10.30 a.m.	Willa Jackson

### Eucharistic Ministers for Next week's Masses (16/17 December)

6.00 p.m.	Carol Turnbull Paul Bolton Stella Walker
8.30 a.m.	Mary Allum Lyn Birnie Ken Eady
10.30 a.m.	Mary Brooks Chris Brooks Willa Jackson

### Readers for next week's Masses (16/17 December)

6.00 p.m.	Ann Howarth
8.30 a.m.	Kevin Jackson
10.30 a.m.	Marina Moffatt

#### **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.**

#### Anniversaries

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

**We pray for:**

Michael Dunne, Win Rhodes, John O'Helily, Matilda Brooks, Eddie Thomas, Margaret Walsh, Jean Frost, Bridget Cannon and Louise Baker.

**Priests of our Diocese:**

Fr. Geoffrey Pye (1990), Fr. Eamon McGrath (2013), Fr. George Carolan (1924), Fr. William Evers (1960), Fr. Francis Kerrigan (2002) and Fr. Gerald Kerr (1997).

**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, Simone Austin, Jacqueline Birnie, Maureen Flaherty, Nora McPherson, Mano Subryan, Kathleen Green, Beryl de Prazer, Diana Pearce, Janet Holt, Linda Stimpson, and Peggy Ford.

*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**



In the first reading today Isaiah speaks of God who wants to console his people, who comes to change the landscape of our lives with power and tenderness. In the second reading Peter reminds us that God's



time is not our own. While patiently waiting and longing for God to bring completion to all that he promises us, we are called to try and live holy lives, to live at peace with ourselves and others. The coming of Jesus is announced by a messenger, John the Baptist, who prepared the way of the Lord as Isaiah foretold. His witness to the truth changes the lives of those who hear what he has to say:

"In this time of Advent, we ask the Lord to free us from all that would hinder our following him more closely, so that we too might be messengers of the good news for others."

It is so good to be back among you all. At present I have to be very careful for the next three months. I wish to thank you all for the prayers and good wishes as well as those from our children. I ask you to pray for Fr. Tony McEntee who is very seriously ill in hospital. Father Tony was the former parish priest at Colchester before his move to Halstead.

Have a great Sunday with your families and do pray around the crib that Jesus will keep us faithful to him.

#### **St Mark's Gospel**

Many scholars believe St. Mark's Gospel was the first to be written. It is the shortest gospel, containing only sixteen chapters, but, like many short things, it packs quite a punch. There is a noticeable and palpable sense of urgency in the narrative. Mark is a man on a mission to tell the story of Jesus, the man on the mission. He certainly hits the ground running in these opening verses of his wonderful Gospel.

One of the striking verses today is John the Baptist's promise that while he baptized with water, Jesus would baptize in the Holy Spirit. Have you been baptized in the Holy Spirit? Of course, by God's grace we received the Holy Spirit when we were baptized (many of us as children, some as adults), but the fullness of the Holy Spirit is brought to completion by the laying on of hands when we receive the sacrament of confirmation. So, in baptism we are baptized in water and the Spirit, and the grace of our baptism is brought to completion when we are prayed over by the Bishop with the laying on of his hands at confirmation.

However, can we be baptized in the Spirit again? The Charismatic Renewal movement points to this grace, a naked grace as it were, which God poured out for the renewal of the Church. But we must always remember that God's Holy Spirit blows wherever it wills, and our being renewed or baptized in the Holy Spirit isn't dependent on belonging to this or that new movement. The criterion for being baptized in the Spirit is wanting to know, deep in our hearts, a renewal and refreshment by God's Holy Spirit. In a very real way this grace is certainly available whenever we renew our baptismal promises but also through seeking from God a fresh outpouring of his grace.

This grace is available to us in a special way during the season of Advent when we draw near to the great truth of the incarnation - the Word made flesh, the Word among us, God made man. For the one who is baptized in the Spirit, these truths are not on ice - cold, impervious and unable to have an impact on our lives. No, on the contrary, they are living, vital, dynamic and reach deeply into our hearts so we proclaim the Gospel of our faith with joy and confidence.

#### **Christmas Greetings.**

Why not send your Christmas greetings to your friends and fellow parishioners by placing them in the newsletter? Please send your greeting to: [ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk](mailto:ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk) and the donation (normally £5.00) to the Secretary 17 Highview Crescent, Hutton as soon as possible. All donations will go to the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society which is our major charity.

**Come on - let's fill that back page!**

#### **Flowers For Christmas – second collection today**

There will be a retiring collection on the weekend of 9/10 December. Your donations would be very much appreciated.

#### **Fr. Leslie Update**

As many of you will know, Fr. Leslie returned to the parish last weekend after his convalescence in a nursing home in Littlehampton. He has been instructed to take it very easy for the foreseeable future and so Fr. Stewart will continue saying Masses at the weekends. However Fr. Leslie has decided that he will start saying some of the weekday morning Masses again.

#### **Bina Southgate RIP**

Bina's funeral will be on Monday 18 December at 11.30 a.m., followed by Cremation at Bentley Crematorium. Bina is the sister of Timothy Murphy. Fr. Dan Mason will be celebrating this Mass.

*May she Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.*

## Paul Denton RIP

Paul's funeral will also be on Monday 18 December. The Mass will be at 2.00 p.m., followed by Cremation at Bentley Crematorium. Paul is the son of Betty Denton. Fr. Philip Denton will be celebrating this Mass.

*May he Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.*

## Tea And Coffee After 10.30 Mass

We urgently need more volunteers to make tea and coffee after the 10.30 Mass on a Sunday. We presently have 4 people on this rota and one of our volunteers will be away from February to April next year. If more volunteers do not come forward, we will not be able to offer refreshments every week, which is a situation we are obviously keen to avoid. If just another 4 people volunteer, each person would be on the rota once every two months. If you would like to help out with this very worthwhile ministry, please contact Gemma Daly on 07813 931169. Thank you.

## Presbytery/Conservatory Update

The total cost of this essential project is £31,213.00. The work will be completed in February 2018 by Anglian Windows and comes with a ten year guarantee. To date two payments have been made on account, these are £3,121.00 and £4,682.00. These are large sums of money so obviously we need the support of our parishioners more than ever. Anything that you can do to help would be much appreciated.

## Stewards Of The Gospel - The Future Of The Diocese

The first proposal concerning the future of the Diocese has now been published. We should have some hard copies at the back of the Church and the document is available on the Diocesan website. (Please see the details in the back of the Narthex) It is important to remember that it is a proposal and not the final decision. I would encourage you to read the document in preparation for a Parish meeting to be held towards the middle of January 2018. Your views are important and can be passed to any member of the Stewardship team or directly to Steven Webb at Cathedral House. We will have to accept that change is coming and that will not be easy. It may affect both the Parish and possibly even the school. We know that in the future there will be more people but fewer Priests. We need to care for our Priests leaving them free to continue to care for their Parishioners spiritually and pastorally. This places the onus on us, the laity, to offer our gifts, time and talents to support the Priest and maintain the Parish community. We will need to show we are a viable community and that we can continue to grow and flourish so that Priests and people can move forward together. It cannot be left to the Priests alone.

You will see that the document is looking at ways to share resources and potentially changing Parish boundaries. If we are challenged to do this, please pray and think how this might best be done. If you have any questions I will do my best to answer them.

<http://www.dioceseofbrentwood.net/departments/development>

Margaret Bailey

## Catholic Schools And Government Policy – This Is Important

Do you support Catholic schools and the right of Catholics to send their children to them? Then we need you to make your voice heard.

The Government is making a critical decision on whether to overturn the admissions cap which prevents Catholic schools from allowing all Catholic pupils to attend. They have acknowledged that this policy discriminates against Catholics and promised to abandon it, now we need you to tell them not to u-turn on their promise to Catholics.

Visit <http://catholicnews.org.uk/education-cap> or search for "Catholic Education" in your search engine to write to the Government and urge them to drop their policy which bans new Catholic schools.

## Eucharistic Ministers And Readers

Eucharistic Ministers and Readers over Christmas and New Year - please sign up on the lists at the back of the church for ministries at the Masses over Christmas and New Year. *Thank you.*

## Christmas Cards To The Parish From The Children

Once again we are asking our children to take a blank card and return it in the next few weeks with a religious Christmas picture and a message for the parish inside. Last year these were given out to all who attended the Christmas Masses and were much appreciated by those who received one. Blank cards are available at the back of the church by the hymn books. Please hand them into the welcomers when they are returned.

## Newsletters Over The Christmas Period

Ian Restall is away on holiday but will continue to prepare and print the newsletters while he is away. The last newsletter for 2017 will be for the weekend of 23/24 December. Then there will be a short break before the first newsletter of 2018 will be for the weekend of 6/7 January 2018.

## Advent

The season of Advent is upon us. It is a time of waiting and expectancy for His second coming as we prepare to celebrate His coming among as a man. Whilst we rejoice and celebrate His coming in history we are very conscious that He will come again. Pope Francis tells us mother church wants us to take time to consider our own death. We think things never change but the day will come when we are called by the Lord. For some it will be unexpected and for others after a long illness. But the call will come. Then the Pope tells of another surprise from the Lord. Eternal life. When we die, says the Pope, we will meet the Lord. Advent in the midst of the Christmas preparation is the time to reflect and make our spiritual preparation for the celebration of Christmas.

## Cake Sale

The cake sale raised £76.00 for Parish funds. *Thank you and God Bless.*

## Finance News

For the week ending 2/3 December 2017 you gave £279.05 of which £48.00 was Gift Aided..

**Thank you and God Bless.**



## Pope Francis

*The Pope on Twitter*



We are all beggars before the love of God, a love that gives meaning to our existence and that offers us eternal life.

Faith becomes tangible when it finds its expression in love and, especially, in the service of our brothers and sisters in difficulty.

Every person is unique and unrepeatable. Let us ensure the disabled are always welcomed by the communities in which they live.

Dear friends in Myanmar and Bangladesh, thank you for your welcome! Upon you I invoke divine blessings of harmony and peace.

## Clearing Leaves

Please, if you are able, do come along and help to clear leaves from the church property. That would be extremely helpful.

*Thanks in advance and God bless*



## Christmas Offering

*The Christmas offering envelopes are at the back of the church. This is an opportunity to make a donation as a sign of your appreciation to your priest for his work among you over the year and also provides a major part of his income. It is your gift to your priest as a thank you. Every blessing on our parish and school family.*

## Friendship Club

Our last meeting of the year will be on 15 December. We shall resume on 1h January 2018. Why not call in for a cuppa and a chat, there is always cake! Our meetings are held on the 1st and 3rd Fridays in the month, in the parish hall between 2.00 p.m. and 4.00 p.m. All ages welcome!

## Children's corner

### In Today's Gospel

A man named John is baptising people in the river. He eats locusts and wild honey. John tells the people to get ready for someone very special who is coming and who is going to baptise with the Holy Spirit.

### Prayer for Today

Dear Lord, help us to be ready to listen to all you have to say to us, when we hear stories from the Bible and when we pray. Help us to behave in the way you want us to. *Amen.*

# Christmas Greetings

*Why not send your Christmas greetings to your friends and fellow parishioners by placing them in the newsletter?*

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**Wishing Fr Leslie and all of the Parishioners a very Happy and Holy Christmas.**

*Catherine, David, William, James, and Verity Bray.*

**A very happy, healthy and holy Christmas to Fr. Leslie and all the parishioners and friends at St. Josephs. God Bless you all.**

*Christine and Ian Restall and family.*

**Chris and Margaret Bailey wish Fr. Leslie, all their friends and parishioners a joyful and holy Christmas and a happy, peaceful 2018.**

**Wishing Fr. Leslie and all parishioners a blessed Christmas. Thank you for all your support over the past few months.**

*Jan Jarvis.*

**The Directors and Staff at Design Portfolio wish Fr. Leslie a speedy recovery and hope that he and the parishioners at St. Joseph enjoy a happy and holy Christmas season.**

*All at DP*

**Fr Leslie wishes all our parishioners especially our sick and housebound a very happy and Holy Christmas as we gather to celebrate the celebration of the birth of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.**

**Sheila, Alex, James, Michela and Andrea wish Father Leslie and all the parishioners of St. Joseph a Peaceful Christmas."**

**Wishing Father Leslie and all friends and parishioners at St. Josephs a Happy and Holy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.**

*Jean Dunne*

**Freda Hagerty wishes Fr. Leslie and all her friends a happy and holy Christmas and a peaceful 2018.**

*Come on~ still some  
space left to fill!  
All proceeds to  
Brentwood Catholic  
Children's Society*

