

# ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

## PARISH NEWS 12 JANUARY 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.

### The fullness of Christian faith - continued

18. This fullness which Jesus brings to faith has another decisive aspect. In faith, Christ is not simply the one in whom we believe, the supreme manifestation of God's love; he is also the one with whom we are united precisely in order to believe. Faith does not merely gaze at Jesus, but sees things as Jesus himself sees them, with his own eyes: it is a participation in his way of seeing. In many areas in our lives we trust others who know more than we do. We trust the architect who builds our home, the pharmacist who gives us medicine for healing, the lawyer who defends us in court. We also need someone trust-worthy, knowledgeable where God is concerned. Jesus, the Son of God, is the one who makes God known to us (cf. Jn 1:18). Christ's life, his way of knowing the Father and living in complete and constant relationship with him, opens up new and inviting vistas for human experience. Saint John brings out the importance of a personal relationship with Jesus for our faith by using various forms of the verb "to believe." In addition to "believing that" what Jesus tells us is true, John also speaks of "believing" Jesus and "believing in" Jesus. We "believe" Jesus when we accept his word, his testimony, because he is truthful. We "believe in" Jesus when we personally welcome him into our lives and journey toward him, clinging to him in love and following in his footsteps along the way.

To enable us to know, accept, and follow him, the Son of God took on our flesh. In this way he also saw the Father humanly, within the setting of a journey unfolding in time. Christian faith is faith in the incarnation of the Word and his bodily resurrection; it is faith in a God who is so close to us that he entered our human history. Far from divorcing us from reality, our faith in the Son of God made man in Jesus of Nazareth enables us to grasp reality's deepest meaning and to see how much God loves this world and is constantly guiding it toward himself. This leads us, as Christians, to live our lives in this world with ever greater commitment and intensity.

### FESTIVE BAPTISM

Sacred oil upon the baby's head  
Defines the truth of God's temple of Glory.  
Made in His image and likeness.  
And then the thought comes, half-formed.  
Fittingly perhaps. Appropriate.  
This Holy Family seeking a blessing  
on life and home.

The parents respond joyfully  
for the Invocation of Mary's prayer  
And gentle not all-comprehending Joseph.  
Channelled through his Infant Christ  
Powerful and vulnerable.

Gathered In the vespers light  
Around the font  
We plea together:  
that the house of Nazareth  
caring, maybe mundane; extraordinary.  
Will always echo In their home.  
Faith filled, maturing wonder.

The Easter candle's exultant flame  
reflects against the crib's lights  
As If to proclaim that this new life is for eternity.  
And then they are gone  
Into the winter evening  
Proudly bearing this amazing gift,  
Of future, already fulfilled promise.

*Fr. Brian*

### 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)  
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T: 01277 212591 (Session time only)  
[www.stjosephspreschoolbrentwood.co.uk](http://www.stjosephspreschoolbrentwood.co.uk)



*Happy New  
Year to all  
Parishoners  
and their  
families*



Welcome to our parish of St. Joseph the Worker

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

**MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS**

**FEAST OF THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD**

**FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY**

Saturday 11	6.00 p.m.	John Wright RIP	Wright family
Sunday 12	8.30 a.m.	Rita Hanley RIP	Liz White
	10.30 a.m.	People of the Parish	

**SEASON OF THE YEAR BEFORE LENT**

Monday 13	9.15 a.m.	Mick O'Dowd RIP	H Wright
Tuesday 14	9.15 a.m.	Michael Swift RIP	Swift family
Wednesday 15	8.30 a.m.	Anna Pendle RIP	
Thursday 16	9.15 a.m.	Win Rhodes RIP	H Wright

**FEAST OF ST. ANTHONY**

Friday 17	9.15 a.m.	Win Rhodes RIP	D Looney (In School Hall – all invited)
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**THE OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**

Saturday 18 9.15 a.m.

**SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY**

Saturday 18	6.00p.m.	Margaret and Alan Cronin RIP	C Turnbull
Sunday 19	8.30 a.m.	People of the Parish	
	10.30 a.m.	Mick O'Dowd 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.

**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR THIS WEEKEND'S MASSES**

6.00 p.m.	8.30.p.m.	10.30 a.m.
Carol Turnbull	John Spinks	John Tobin
Ann Howarth	Ken Eady	Dom. D'Alberquerque
Bill O'Regan	Mary Allum	Willa Jackson

**READERS FOR THIS WEEKEND'S MASSES**

Niamh Creavin	Kevin Jackson	Jessica Barber
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**EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES (18/19 JANUARY)**

Ian Restall	Lyn Birnie	Marina Moffat
Ewa Kania	Joan Parker	Mary Brooks
Adam Kania	Margaret Bailey	Chris Brooks

**READERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES (18/19 JANUARY)**

Paul Bolton	Alan Bailey	John Tobin
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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: James Tobin, Frederick Slaughter, Mary Shaw, Horace Hutton, Harry Ford, Margaret O'Riordan, James Power, George Porter, Arthur Gilbert, Rosemary Walker, and Alfred Said. Priests of our Diocese: Canon Francis Dobson, Fr. John King (2012), Fr. Gilbert Basil Pearson (1947), Fr. Neville Banks (2006 – one time priest of St. Joseph the Worker), and Fr. Kenneth Greenan (1998). 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.



**WELCOMERS ROTA**

I will be working on the Welcomers Rota for the period- beginning of January 2014 to the end of June 2014 for the 10.30 a.m. Sunday Mass, very shortly. If there are any changes in the Welcomers contact details or dates that you are not able to welcome please let Marion know. Also if any parishioner would like to Welcome please either contact Father Leslie or Marion Barlow email marlow28@talktalk.net, or tel:- 01277 217606.

**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

**FINANCE MATTERS**

For the week ending 4/5 January you gave £564.45 of which £55.00 was Gift Aided. Second Collection for Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (Crib Collection) raised £241.02 Thank you and God Bless.



Fr. Leslie writes

Welcome to our parish of St Joseph the Worker and the first newsletter of 2014. I wish to thank all those involved in the Christmas preparation and liturgy especially

Catrina and Mark the organist and all the choir and our children on their first time at the Family Mass on Christmas Eve. Also to the altar servers, welcomers, readers, Eucharistic ministers, ushers, and Tim, for his great help in tidying up after the Masses as well as his cheerful presence at welcoming you all. Also to the church cleaners who clean the church each Friday throughout the year.

In particular I wish to thank Jan and Jim Jarvis, Anne Edwards and their helpers who spent all day in the church erecting the crib and flower arranging. I believe many of you passed comment that it was the best ever. Thank you to one and all, it is very much appreciated.

On a personal note I wish to thank all our parishioners for their support over the year. The parish is the priest's family. Thank you for the many Christmas cards and gifts especially your generous Christmas offering which supports your priest throughout the year. It is always a sign of your appreciation and your affirmation of your priest. Please do pray for me and all the priests in our diocese.

Although the Christmas season is over we should remember to live out the Christmas message throughout the coming year. In particular in our families. Jesus spent 30 years of his 33 years with his family teaching us the importance of family life. Also to open our hearts to make Jesus welcome each day. Today we celebrate the Baptism of the Lord. His baptism is a form of Epiphany – a manifestation of Jesus' identity with mankind. For us baptism is a sacrament by which we become a beloved child of God. So the voice from heaven can be applied to each one of us who are baptised – "You are my beloved son/ daughter; my favour rests on you"

Baptism is also the origin of all ministries in the church. We are called to proclaim the Word and offer service to the community and the world in word and deed as beloved sons and daughters.

*Thank you, God Bless and have a great Sunday.*

Fr Leslie

**FLK**

"God asks little, but he gives so much" St. John Chrysostom



**BIBLE ALIVE**

Bible Alive December edition on sale at £2.25. Day to day readings from Scripture.

**SCHOOL MASS**

The school Mass on Friday 17 January will be held in the School Hall. All parishioners are warmly invited.

**PARENTS FIRST COMMUNION MEETING**

The next Parents First Communion meeting is on Wednesday 22 January at 8.00 p.m. to 9.30 p.m.

**WIN RHODES RIP**



During the Christmas season we had the funeral Mass of Win Rhodes. Win was another person who worked so hard to have our church built. In fact she was the one who suggested naming our church St. Joseph the Worker. May she Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory and Grace.

**Joke Corner**

Overheard by the postman "I came in in the morning and they gave me the sack!"



**POPE ON TWITTER**

1. God does not reveal himself in strength or power, but in the weakness and fragility of a newborn babe.
2. The Child Jesus reveals the tenderness of God's immense love surrounding each one of us.
3. Dear young people, Jesus wants to be your friend, and wants you to spread the joy of this friendship everywhere.



**Children's Corner**

**A Prayer to say**

Father God, thank you for the love you give to all of us. Thank you for giving us Jesus to show us the way to love our neighbour. Help us to please you in the way we live. Amen  
Amen



**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 (nestea40@hotmail.com) or Mary (at pre-school), or any of the group in person after Mass.



**IN THE GOSPEL TODAY**

Jesus came to be baptised by John in the River Jordan. John was surprised, saying that Jesus should baptise him, but Jesus persuaded him. When Jesus came up out of the water the heavens opened and the Spirit of God came down to him in the form of a dove. God's voice was heard saying that Jesus was his beloved Son and he was pleased with him.

**VALENTINE GALA DINNER - WHY NOT TREAT THAT SOMEONE SPECIAL IN YOUR LIFE**

The Brentwood Catholic Childrens Society invite you to join them for a fabulous evening at their Valentines Gala Dinner, being held on Friday 14 February 2014, at Stockbrook Golf & Country Club, Billericay. With tickets priced at 45 per person to include a drinks reception, fabulous gifts, dinner, dancing, live entertainment and much more, this is an event not to be missed! Places are limited and we would recommend you book early in order to secure your tickets. Contact Julie Abbott on 01268 784544 / jabbott@bccs.org.uk

**PAMELA JEAN CHILD RIP**

Pamela Jean Child's funeral service took place last Wednesday at St. Joseph the Worker. Pamela, I believe, lived in Hutton but moved to Great Yarmouth. Anne Baker also died last week. No details yet of her funeral arrangements. May they Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory and Grace.

**A DAY WITH MARY**

At Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 25 January 2014 from 9.45 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. A day of instruction, devotion, and intercession, based on the message given by Fatima in 1917.

**LETTER FROM CAFOD**

Dear Father Leslie. On behalf of CAFOD, thank you very much for the generous donation of £130 sent to us recently for the Connect2 Rwanda Scheme, please accept this as an official receipt.

The monies raised help us to bring an end to poverty in communities in the Rwanda, providing people with the tools and skills they need to build better lives for themselves and their communities.

Thank you for your support and please keep CAFOD and those with whom we work in your prayers.

With best wishes, Mary Matthews CAFOD Brentwood.

**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.

**CHRISTIAN FRIENDS OF ISRAEL**

November 2013 saw the 75th anniversary of the tragedy of Kristallnacht, the Night of the Broken Glass, a defining moment and turning point in Nazi Germany's persecution of the Jewish people. With this in mind we plan our commemoration of International Holocaust Memorial Day (January 27th) which is a joint initiative of the Brentwood Jewish Community/ Tikvah Chadasha (Shenfield, Brentwood and District Synagogue) and Christian Friends of Israel, Essex, supported by Brentwood Council.

This year we have the privilege of hearing firsthand from John Fieldsend, one of the Kindertransport children rescued by Sir Nicholas Winton 75 years ago. John, who was subsequently raised in Britain, will tell his story with a powerpoint presentation in the Council Chamber at Brentwood Town Hall on Thursday 23rd January. Friday 24th January and Saturday morning 25th January - for specific session times and/or to bring a group please contact Moira Dare-Edwards at 11 Porters Close, Brentwood. Essex CM 14 4YB. tel:01277 213243; email: mdareedwards@btinternet.com

**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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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".