

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

PARISH NEWS 17 FEBRUARY 2013

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.

APOSTOLIC LETTER "MOTU PROPRIO DATA"

PORTA FIDEI OF THE SUPREME PONTIFF BENEDICT XVI - FOR THE INDICTION OF THE YEAR OF FAITH

CONTINUATION OF "PORTA FIDEI" (DOOR OF FAITH)

At this point I would like to sketch a path intended to help us understand more profoundly not only the content of the faith, but also the act by which we choose to entrust ourselves fully to God, in complete freedom. In fact, there exists a profound unity between the act by which we believe and the content to which we give our assent. Saint Paul helps us to enter into this reality when he writes: "Man believes with his heart and so is justified, and he confesses with his lips and so is saved".

(Rom 10:10). The heart indicates that the first act by which one comes to faith is God's gift and the action of grace which acts and transforms the person deep within.

The example of Lydia is particularly eloquent in this regard. Saint Luke recounts that, while he was at Philippi, Paul went on the Sabbath to proclaim the Gospel to some women; among them was Lydia and "the Lord opened her heart to give heed to what was said by Paul" (Acts 16:14). There is an important meaning contained within this expression. Saint Luke teaches that knowing the content to be believed is not sufficient unless the heart, the authentic sacred space within the person, is opened by grace that allows the eyes to see below the surface and to understand that what has been proclaimed is the word of God.

Confessing with the lips indicates in turn that faith implies public testimony and commitment. A Christian may never think of belief as a private act. Faith is choosing to stand with the Lord so as to live with him. This "standing with him" - points towards an understanding of the reasons for believing. Faith, precisely because it is a free act, also demands social responsibility for what one believes. The Church on the day of Pentecost demonstrates with utter clarity this public dimension of believing and proclaiming one's faith fearlessly to every person. It is the gift of the Holy Spirit that makes us fit for mission and strengthens our witness, making it frank and courageous.

Profession of faith is an act both personal and communitarian. It is the Church that is the primary subject of faith. In the faith of the Christian community, each individual receives baptism, an effective sign of entry into the people of believers in order to obtain salvation. As we read in the Catechism of the Catholic Church: "I believe" is the faith of the Church professed personally by each believer, principally during baptism. "We believe" is the faith of the Church confessed by the bishops assembled in council or more generally by the liturgical assembly of believers. "I believe" is also the Church, our mother, responding to God by faith as she teaches us to say both "I believe" and "we believe".

Evidently, knowledge of the content of faith is essential for giving one's own assent, that is to say for adhering fully with intellect and will to what the Church proposes. Knowledge of faith opens a door into the fullness of the saving mystery revealed by God. The giving of assent implies that, when we believe, we freely accept the whole mystery of faith, because the guarantor of its truth is God who reveals himself and allows us to know his mystery of love.

On the other hand, we must not forget that in our cultural context, very many people, while not claiming to have the gift of faith, are nevertheless sincerely searching for the ultimate meaning and definitive truth of their lives and of the world. This search is an authentic "preamble" to the faith, because it guides people onto the path that leads to the mystery of God. Human reason, in fact, bears within itself a demand for "what is perennially valid and lasting". This demand constitutes a permanent summons, indelibly written into the human heart, to set out to find the One whom we would not be seeking had he not already set out to meet us. To this encounter, faith invites us and it opens us in fullness.

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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YEAR OF FAITH 2012
2013

MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

RITE OF ELECTION TAKES PLACE AT THE CATHEDRAL. WE PRAY FOR CANDIDATES FOR THE SACRAMENT OF INITIATION

Saturday 16 6.00 p.m. Breda Conville O Conville
AT THE END OF MASS SHORT SENDING OUT OF CANDIDATES FOR THE RITE OF ELECTION ON SUNDAY. LISA THOMPSON, KATIE KENT, NIKKI DA COSTA-SMITH

Sunday 17 8.30 a.m. Doris O'Connell RIP
10.30 a.m. People of the Parish
3.00 p.m. Rite of Election (No Mass) - At the Cathedral

Monday 18 9.15 a.m. Int Molly Newman and Mrs Coffey

Tuesday 19 9.15 a.m. Peter Saville-King RIP

Wednesday 20 8.30 a.m. Denis La Croix RIP

Thursday 21 9.15 a.m. Gary Lestrade RIP

THE CHAIR OF PETER

Friday 22 9.15 a.m. Bridget Brennan RIP

Saturday 23 9.15 a.m. Fr. Trevor Clarke RIP

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 23 6.00 p.m. Harry and Maria Ford RIP Ian and Christine Restall

Sunday 24 8.30 a.m. People of the Parish
10.30 a.m. Patrick O'Neill RIP P Burton

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION (CONFESSIONS) EVERY SATURDAY FROM 9.45 A.M. TO 10.15 A.M., DURING WHICH TIME WE HAVE EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT.

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR THIS WEEKEND'S MASSES

6.00 PM. 8.30 A.M. 10.30 A.M.

Gaye O'Regan Ken Eady John Tobin

Bill O'Regan Carol Giles Chris Brooks

Carol Turnbull John Spinks Willa Jackson

EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES (23/24 FEBRUARY)

Ewa Kania Catherine Bray Marina Moffat

Paul Bolton Lyn Birnie Dom D'Alberqueque

Pat Creavin Pat Green Pat Burton

READERS FOR THIS WEEKEND'S MASSES

Marian Anderson Margaret Bailey Sheila Jones

READERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND'S MASSES (23/24 FEBRUARY)

Frank Dodson Alan Bailey Willa Jackson

WELCOMERS THIS WEEKEND

Tim Murphy

Pat Burton

WELCOMERS NEXT WEEKEND (23/24 FEBRUARY)

Tim Murphy

P. Boyer

NO CHILDREN'S LITURGY THIS WEEKEND – HALF TERM

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, Jacqueline Birnie, Maureen Flaherty, Pauline White, Mairead O'Driscoll, Nora McPherson, Diane Griffiths, Mary Dillane, Vince Vitali, Mary Boyer and Mano Subryan. Our Lady of Lourdes intercede for them. If there are any changes please let Fr. Leslie know.



ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time especially Maria Oakey, Michael Lyons, Maurice Hussey, Dorothy Sutton, Victor Dragoni, Anita Laidler, Kathleen Elliot, Fergal McDougal, Anna Bloomer, Dorothy Hunt and Maurice Mansfield.

Priests of our Diocese Fr. John Joyce (1947), Fr. Thomas O'Connor (1956), Fr. Archibald O'Brien (1961) and Deacon Sydney Lewis (1994).

For these and all the faithful departed by the Mercy of God, May they Rest in Peace and rise in Glory and Grace.

RECENTLY DIED

Leo Patrick Naughton whose funeral service took place last Friday – May he Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory and Grace. Our prayerful sympathy to his daughter Julie Luke.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Knights of St. Columba will lead the Stations of the Cross on Wednesdays in Lent commencing 20 February until 20 March.

FINANCE MATTERS

Period 6 January to 5 February

Payments in: £4,778.09
Payments out: £6,261.87
Standing Orders for same period: £1,813.00
Out: Diocesan Quota for same period: £927.00
Week ending 9/10 February you gave £307.11 of which £54.10 was Gift Aided. **Thank you and God Bless.**



Fr. Leslie writes

Welcome to our parish of St Joseph the Worker.

Today on the first Sunday of Lent, we have the chance to reflect on the temptation of the Lord in the desert. This happens immediately after

the baptism. The gospel shows in Jesus that, as with every baptised person, the temptation to sin is not removed by baptism. The life of the child of God, like the life of the Son of God, is marked by the encounter with all that refuses to acknowledge the God who has marked ownership of the beloved. Discipleship for those who follow Christ is marked continually by the presence of the tempter, who offers other enticements in daily living – and it is to be noted that the temptation comes precisely when we are at our weakest. "During that time he ate nothing, and at the end he was hungry". It is also the reasonableness of the first temptation that is so striking. Jesus is hungry, he has the power to provide food – why not go ahead and do it? Jesus recognises that such a reasonableness is anything but. For us during the Lenten season may we be supported in our temptations by prayer, fasting and almsgiving. These are our weapons against the tempter.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS

Fr Leslie



Celebrating the presence of God in the family



THE SUNDAY OBLIGATION

The precept of the church specifies the law of the Lord more precisely: on Sundays and other Holy Days of Obligation the faithful are bound to participate at Mass..The Sunday Eucharist is the foundation and confirmation of all Christian practices. For this reason the faithful are obliged to participate in the Eucharist, unless excused for a serious reason (for example, illness, the care of infants) or dispensed by their own pastor. Those who deliberately fail in this obligation commit a grave sin. Catechism of the Catholic Church.

POPE ON TWITTER

 During the season of Lent which begins today, we renew our commitment to the path of conversion, making more room for God in our lives. 

FLK

The Lords Prayer is the most perfect of Prayers (St. Thomas Aquinas).



SEASON OF LENT

During lent there will be Stations of the Cross on Fridays at 7.30 p.m. followed by the Sacrament of Reconciliation in the Blessing Sacrament Chapel Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament will be before weekday masses from 8.30 a.m. to 9.10 a.m. except on Wednesdays.

LENTEN LECTURES

Three Lenten lectures at Cathedral Parish Hall beginning at 7.30 p.m. - all are welcome. See notice board in church porch for more details. Remember the Three Pillars of Lent – prayer, fasting and almsgiving. "Walk with Me" books are available – please put £1.00 in paper box.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - FRIDAY 1 MARCH

This is a global ecumenical movement of informed prayer and prayerful action, organised and led by Christian women who call people together on the first Friday in March to observe common prayer. The service is written by a different country every year - this year it is the turn of France and that country then becomes the focal point of the World's prayers. This year's theme is "I was a stranger and you welcomed me". The evening service is held here at St. Joseph's at 8.00 p.m. with refreshments afterwards.

Jan Jarvis Parish Representative.

JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

CAFOD LENT FAST DAY: FRIDAY 22 FEBRUARY

God created a world of abundance with enough food for everyone but we have turned into a world of want: each and every night one in eight people goes to bed hungry due to lack of food. This Lent Fast Day, we're invited to share the abundance of God's creation with our sisters and brothers across the world. So let's hunger for a fairer world by supporting Fast Day and donating what we save. Fast Day envelopes are available in the church this week.

Please give as much as you can.

Thank you very much, Cathy Waterhouse, Clare Barton, Carol Giles



CHURCH CLEANING

Thank you very much to all those that helped with church cleaning on Friday. The end result is a tribute to everyone's hard work. Church cleaning is on Fridays after 9.15 a.m. Mass for one hour. Again thank you.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Our Bishop will make a pastoral visitation to our parish on Sunday, 3 November 2013. On this occasion he will confirm some of our young parishioners. If you wish to be confirmed you must be 14+. Please notify in writing to Father Leslie.

COACH HOLIDAY

Coach holiday available from Monday 2 September 2013 for 5 days. Staying at the Queens Hotel, Paignton, Devon. Full details from 01277 655424

THE KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA

The Knights will be holding a Buffet and Dance at the Cathedral Hall on Saturday 2 March 2013 commencing at 7.30 p.m. Dancing to 60's music with DEANO. Tickets at 17.50 available from Bill O'Regan on 01277 223460 or any member of the KSC. Profits go to various charities including The Brentwood Children's Society and Aid to the Church in Need (KSC National Charity). Bring your own liquid refreshment.

TALKS FOR YEAR OF FAITH

There are a number of these during this most important year. All the talks take place in the Conference Hall at Cathedral House from 10.30 a.m. until 3.00 p.m.

9 March "Vatican II and the Bible" by Father Adrian Graffy

8 June "Vatican II and the Church" by Rev. Dr. Peter Phillips

12 October "Vatican II and Beyond" by the Rt. Hon. John Battle

EWTN CATHOLIC NETWORK CHANNEL

You can find EWTN if you are a side sky subscriber on Channel 589.

If you are not you can ask a local installer to provide you with your own disk (ask for 80 cm size) and receiver. The total cost for the equipment including installation would normally be between 175.00 and 225.00. There would be no monthly cost at all. In this year of faith you will get lots of information about your faith, videos to buy, prayers, liturgy faith discussions, youth programs etc. Why not give it a try? A viewers comment I am a widow of 90 years and would not be without EWTN because I acquired it shortly after my husbands death after almost 63 happy years together and simply could not imagine life without it. Many thanks. C. F. Harrow.

DIOCESAN SPIRITUALITY DAY THE HEALING MINISTRY CHURCH TODAY

Saturday 23 March 2013 at The Cathedral Conference Centre, from 10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. 10.00 per person and bring a packed lunch.

ST. JOHN PAYNE SCHOOL QUIZ - NEW DATE

The quiz scheduled for February had to be postponed due to bad weather. The new date is Saturday 2 March at 7.30 p.m. in the main hall of St. John Payne school. Tickets are £5 per head or £15 per family (2 + 2). Bring your own beverages.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HUTTON AND SHENFIELD

Lent Discussion Groups begin the week commencing 18 February. They are always friendly and interesting. This year's topic is: GLIMPSES OF GOD - hope for today's world. Please sign up in the narthex.

PILGRIMS HALL CHRISTIAN CENTRE SEMINAR ON CHERISHING OUR CHILDREN

The Pilgrims Hall Christian Centre will be running a one day Seminar Cherishing our Children. The day will provide an opportunity for Sunday school leaders, youth workers and anyone else involved with the lives of the children in the church to meet together. An important part of the day will involve giving information and training on the safeguarding of these young lives - a topic high on the agenda in light of recent news events. It would be great if each church were to send at least one representative on their behalf. The day is on Saturday 9 March and the cost is 15. Fr. Leslie has agreed that the Parish will fund the cost of 15.00 if any parishioner would like to attend.

PARISH LENT LUNCH

Friday 22 February at 1.15 p.m. in the Parish Hall. £3.50 including tea and coffee. Raffle - all proceeds to CAFOD.

NEW READERS WANTED

Would you be willing to read at Mass on Saturday evening or Sunday morning? We desperately need more readers at all masses to share in delivering the Word of God. Coaching and practice can be given. Please sign up on the list in the porch if you are interested.

REMINDERS

- Coffee and tea will be served after 8.30 a.m. and 10.30 a.m. Masses
- Please prepare for the Mass quietly
- If you are a new parishioner, pick up a census form at the back of the church
- Gift Aid envelopes are available in the church porch for your collection for standing order forms
- 200 Club entry forms are also available



Children's Corner

A Prayer to say

Father God, help us not to be tempted to do things which hurt you and other people. Help us always to try to do our best.

Amen.

IN THE GOSPEL TODAY

Jesus was in the wilderness for forty days. He ate nothing and the devil tempted him to turn a stone into bread, but Jesus didnt, saying that we do not live by bread alone. Then Jesus was tempted to become ruler of the whole world if only he would worship the devil, but Jesus said that we must worship the Lord God and serve only him. The devil then took Jesus to a high tower on the Temple and tempted him to throw himself off and let Gods angels catch him, but Jesus said that we must not put God to the test.



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".

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust – Registered Charity No. 234092