

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

PARISH NEWS 26 FEBRUARY 2012

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 POPE BENEDICT'S LETTER ON CHARITY AND TRUTH THE NEED TO TRANSCEND THE "LETTER"

In rediscovering the interplay between the different senses of Scripture it thus becomes essential to grasp the *passage from letter to spirit*. This is not an automatic, spontaneous passage; rather, the letter needs to be transcended: "the word of God can never simply be equated with the letter of the text. To attain to it involves a progression and a process of understanding guided by the inner movement of the whole corpus, and hence it also has to become a vital process". Here we see the reason why an authentic process of interpretation is never purely an intellectual process but also a lived one, demanding full engagement in the life of the Church, which is life "according to the Spirit" (*Gal 5:16*). The criteria set forth in Number 12 of the Dogmatic Constitution *Dei Verbum* thus become clearer: this progression cannot take place with regard to an individual literary fragment unless it is seen in relation to the whole of Scripture. Indeed, the goal to which we are necessarily progressing is the one Word. There is an inner drama in this process, since the passage that takes place in the power of the Spirit inevitably engages each person's freedom. Saint Paul lived this passage to the full in his own life. In his words: "*the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life*" (*2 Cor 3:6*), he expressed in radical terms the significance of this process of transcending the letter and coming to understand it only in terms of the whole. Paul discovered that "the Spirit of freedom has a name, and hence that freedom has an inner criterion: 'The Lord is the Spirit and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom' (*2 Cor 3:17*). The Spirit of freedom is not simply the exegete's own idea, the exegete's own vision. The Spirit is Christ, and Christ is the Lord who shows us the way". We know that for Saint Augustine too this passage was at once dramatic and liberating; he came to believe the Scriptures – which at first sight struck him as so disjointed in themselves and in places so coarse – through the very process of transcending the letter which he learned from Saint Ambrose in typological interpretation, wherein the entire Old Testament is a path to Jesus Christ. For Saint Augustine, transcending the literal sense made the letter itself credible, and enabled him to find at last the answer to his deep inner restlessness and his thirst for truth.

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

MASSES AND MASS INTENTIONS

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT(B)

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 25	6.00 p.m.	Pauline Cooper R.I.P.	Gaye O'Regan
Sunday 26	8.30 a.m.	Hilda and Patrick Kelly R.I.P.	M&L Donovan
	10.30 a.m.	People of the Parish	
Monday 27	9.15 a.m.	Alice Wallace R.I.P.	Burton family
Tuesday 28	9.15 a.m.	Michael Haxton R.I.P.	Burton family
Wednesday 29	8.30 a.m.	Gaye Smith R.I.P.	K Knight

FEAST OF ST DAVID – PATRON OF WALES

Thursday 1	9.15 a.m.	Fr. John Meehan R.I.P.	K Knight
Friday 2	9.15 a.m.		
Saturday 3	9.15 a.m.		

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT (B)

First Mass of Sunday

Saturday 3	6.00 p.m.	Peter Anderson R.I.P.	J and M Anderson
Sunday 4	8.30 a.m.	People of the Parish	
	10.30 a.m.	Mary Ellen Turpin R.I.P.	Carol Smith

FRIDAY 2 MARCH IS WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER. CAFOD FAST DAY

LENTEN RECONCILIATION SERVICES

The Season of Lent is a time of preparation for the great feast of Easter. During this time we are called to prayer, penance and Almsgiving.

The Brentwood Deanery is offering you the following Services of Reconciliation in several parishes:

Wednesday 28 March at 7.30 p.m.	Catholic Church in Billericay
Thursday 29 March at 7.30 p.m.	Catholic Church in Wickford
Monday 2 April at 7.30 p.m.	Brentwood Cathedral

There will be several priests available at each of the Services for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated at St. Joseph's on Saturday mornings from 9.45 a.m. to 10.15 a.m. during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Do Remember Lent is a time to return to God with our whole heart. It is a time of grace.

A Lenten Prayer: Father open up my heart to the grace of this Holy Season of Lent. Create in me a new and softened heart which weeps more readily for my sin but also rejoices in my salvation Amen.

EUCCHARISTIC MINISTERS FOR THIS WEEKEND'S MASSES

6.00 p.m.	8.30 a.m.	10.30 a.m.
Ewa Kania	Catherine Bray	Pat Burton
Paul Bolton	Lyn Birnie	Willa Jackson
Pat Creavin	Pat Green	John Tobin

READERS FOR THIS WEEKEND'S MASSES

6.00 p.m.	8.30 a.m.	10.30 a.m.
Steve Howarth	Margaret Bailey	Sheila Jones
Ann Howarth		Teresa Giles

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Giving instruction to our children today are: Mary and Nicky

ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for those who have died and whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially Alma Tinley, Edward Pearce, Audrey Field, and Raymond Bolt. Priests of our diocese Fr. David Chapman (1998), Fr. and John Wall (1952). May they Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory and Grace.

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, Mary McKenna, Mary Ward, Jacqueline Burnie, Maureen Flaherty, Pauline White, Mairead O'Driscoll, Maud Barry, Nora McPherson, Ethel Benneworth, Eamonn Brennan and Diane Griffiths. Our Lady of Lourdes intercede for them. If there are any changes please let Fr. Leslie know.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

For those who for some reason are unable to receive Holy Communion I offer this prayer: O Jesus, I turn toward the Holy Tabernacle where you live hidden for love of me. I love you, O my God. I cannot receive you in Holy Communion. Come nevertheless and visit me with your grace. Come spiritually into my heart. Purify it, sanctify it, render it like unto your own.

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

On 26 February at 3.00 p.m. in our cathedral in Brentwood all our candidates, throughout the Diocese, who are preparing to be received into the Catholic Church at Easter, will assemble for the Rite of Election.

Our Parish has two candidates – Alison Law and Hayley Bliss. Please keep them in your family's prayers.



Fr. Leslie writes

Welcome to our parish of St. Joseph the Worker

In Advent we started to use the New English Translation of the Roman Missal. On the card for the Introductory Rites it says "Before Mass begins, the people gather in a spirit of recollection, preparing for their participation in the Mass". Our Bishop reminds us "The importance and the effect of silence were powerfully demonstrated at the Masses celebrated by the Holy Father during his visit in September 2010; many people commented upon the impact such prayerful pauses made. I am also aware that a significant number of Lay people in our own Diocese have expressed the need for a spirit of recollection not only during the Mass itself but particularly before the celebration starts. It might be helpful to share with you the fact that some parishes achieve this by ringing a bell for silence a few moments before the Liturgy is due to begin. The General Instruction expresses the desirability of silence at the following points;

1. before the celebration itself begins
2. before the introduction to the Penitential Rite
3. at the collect and during the Liturgy of the Word
4. after communion"

I would welcome your suggestions on how we can achieve the above. As a first step I have asked, for example, the welcomers to give out the newsletter and Mass sheets in the porch in order to cut back the talking at the back of the church which is otherwise inevitable. Let me hear from you some other suggestions to achieve the above aims.

Today we celebrate the first Sunday of Lent.

In the gospel we hear that Jesus' public ministry began with a period of testing. He went voluntarily into the desert to engage the devil in several rounds of spiritual combat. Spiritual warfare or combat has always been understood as being integral to the spiritual life. However today, just as sin is relegated to the sidelines of our faith, so too is Satan.

At the centre of our journey of Lent will be the renewing of our baptismal promises. In our prayer affirming our desire to renew these promises, we will be invited to renounce Satan. We renounce a real person. Scripture and the church have taught from the beginning that the devil or Satan is a fallen angel. He was created good by God but became evil by his own doing.

Lent is a time to do spiritual combat. Know that the devil is only a creature and he cannot prevent the building up of God's Kingdom. We also know that in everything God works for the good of those who love him. Our struggle then is not against flesh and blood but against the devil and his spiritual forces.

During this time let us put prayer at the centre of our family life.

Thank you and God Bless everyone.

FR Leslie

May the gift that is Jesus live in your home and in your heart throughout the year



FINANCE MATTERS

Weekend 18/19 February: £351.57 of which n£76.00 was Gift Aided.

Thank you and God Bless



A MESSAGE FROM THE JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

CAFOD Lent fast day Friday 2 March 2012.

This Lent CAFOD invites us to help people living without one of God's most precious resources - clean water. A child under five dies every 20 seconds because of diarrhoea caused by dirty water. For this Lent only the UK Government will match pound for pound every donation given to CAFOD, giving us the chance to help thousands more people gain access to water and other vital services like health and education. Please give as much as you can. A collection will be taken after all masses on 3 and 4 March.



CAN YOU HELP?

Mary Young would like a car lift on one or two days during the week and on Sundays to get to Mass. Her address is Flat 12, Roseberry Court, Rayleigh Road, Hutton. Tel 01277 525 863. She would be most grateful for your support.

LENT 2012

Living the Word of God – A Spirituality of True Self Esteem. A Lecture.

Speaker: Rev Jim McManus CSsR, Author and Lecturer Tuesday 28 February 2012 from 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Cathedral Conference Centre, Brentwood. £5.00 per person.

LENTEN LUNCH

Friday 16 March at 1.15 p.m. in the Parish Hall. Only £3.50 including tea and coffee. Raffle - all proceeds to CAFOD.



50TH INTERNATIONAL EUCHARISTIC CONGRESS. 10-17 JUNE 2012 IN IRELAND

Diocesan preparation – THE THEME OF THE LECTURE WILL BE "The Eucharist: Communion with Christ and with one another".

Tuesday 20 March 2012 from 7.30 p.m. to 9.30 p.m. Cathedral Conference Centre, Brentwood.

The facilitator will be Sr. Nuala Gannon IBVM (Our Diocesan Delegate)

For further information please contact Sr. Nuala on 01277 265219 or email snuala@dioceseofbrentwood.org

STATIONS OF THE CROSS

The Knights of St. Columba will lead Stations of the Cross every Wednesday at 7:30pm in Lent starting 29 February 2012.

JOKE CORNER

A man speaks frantically into the phone, "My wife is pregnant, and her contractions are only two minutes apart!!" "Is this her first child?" the doctor queries. "NO, you idiot!" the man shouts. "This is her husband!"

Children's Corner

A Prayer to say

Sometimes I am tempted to do the wrong thing. You were tempted, Jesus, but chose to do what is right. I know you can help me to make the right choices too. Help me to follow your example.

Amen.

SCHOOL CAPITATION

Parishioners and parents may not be aware that parishes have to pay an annual capitation fee of £10.00 for every Catholic student from a parish attending a Catholic Secondary School.

200 CLUB

A good way to help your parish and you benefit from it too! For a small outlay of £2.00 per month you could win a money prize in the monthly draw. Please see Fr. Leslie. Also if you are a tax payer please do GIFT AID your giving to the Parish, be it by Standing Order or envelope.

KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA – 1

The Knights of St. Columba are holding a 60's Buffet and Dance to raise funds for The Brentwood Catholic Children's Society and Aid to the Church in Need on 3 March 2012 at the Cathedral Hall. Buffet is hot or cold. Please bring your own drinks. Tickets are £17.50 available from any member of the Knights of St. Columba or Bill O'Regan on 01277 223460.

KNIGHTS OF ST. COLUMBA – 2

Promoting Our Faith in Today's World: A conference lead by John Vaughan Neil at the Marillac Hospital Chapel on the 10 March 2012. Full details are on the poster at the back of the church. More information and to reserve your place from Bill O'Regan on 01277 223460.

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH CLUB

Every first Friday in the month, from 2.00 p.m. to 4.00 p.m. in the parish hall. Do call in, all ages welcome.

CEF STUDY DAY

The twelfth Study Day organized by CEF will be on 10 March 2012. It will be given by Dom Henry Wansborough and the subject is The Acts of the Apostles. He has just completed a study of The Acts in the Take and Read series. Entry is free and lunch is provided but donations are always welcome. The Study Days are well worth attending but places are limited and are going fast. For further information please contact Margaret Bailey.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2ND MARCH 2012

On this day millions of women and men from many countries and islands will pause to pray. This year the theme is "Let Justice Prevail". There are two services: 10.00 a.m. at Hutton and Shenfield Union Church, Hutton Mount and 8.00 p.m. at St. Peter's Church, Cloughton Way, Hutton. Refreshments after both services. All are welcome. Please come and support. Next year we will be hosting the event. Jan Jarvis - Parish Representative.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN HUTTON AND SHENFIELD - LENT PROGRAMME

A series of talks conducted by local clergy will be held on Tuesday evenings at Hutton Free Church, Hanging Hill Lane beginning 28 February at 8.00 p.m. They are free of charge and will be followed by refreshments. The theme is "PLACES OF THE SPIRIT".

Further details in the Narthex.

LENT DISCUSSION GROUPS WILL BE HELD IN THE AREA STARTING WITH : "A CHRISTIAN COUNTRY?" **Please sign up in the Narthex where further details can be found.**

Jan Grimes

NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH

Will be held between 10 and 18 March at St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead. Each year the Mill Hill Community prepares for the Feast of St Joseph, their patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their Society and the missionary work of the Church, as well as, for the intentions of all those who support their work. You are invited to send in your petitions and/or to request a Novena booklet (which has recently been updated) to enable you to join in from home by praying the daily Novena prayer, please write to Fr. Denis Treacy MHM, St Joseph's Missionary Society, Suite 7 Queensgate House, 18 Cookham Road, Maidenhead SL6 8AJ, or email novena@millhillmissionaries.com. With every good wish, Fr Denis Treacy MHM, Novena Director

PRAYERFUL SYMPATHY

It's very sad to report that Alice Wallace has died. She was a founder member of the parish and lived recently in Springfield, Chelmsford. May she Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory and Grace. The funeral will take place on 8 March at 11.00 a.m. at St. Augustine's, Springfield, Chelmsford.

CATHOLIC MAGAZINES

We have "Catholic Life" and "Vatican Past and Present" at £3.50 each. Learn more about your church through these magazines.

REFLECTION AND DISCUSSION FOR LENT

We are offering a reflection and discussion time for Lent through to Easter to parents of Primary School children entitled "You, Your Children and their Catholic Faith".

The sessions will be held in the School Quiet Room at St. Joseph the Worker Catholic Primary each Friday for seven weeks, beginning Friday 20 February, from 2.15 p.m. to 3.15 p.m. Parents are very welcome to come to all or some of these sessions, details of which are displayed in the School Entrance area. For further details or enquiries please telephone 223460.

Gabrielle O'Regan/Lynda Norton/Amelia Baker



Jesus went to the wilderness. He was there for forty days and was tempted by the devil. The angels looked after Jesus.

Afterwards Jesus went to Galilee. He told everyone 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



Just £5 per month,

paid by Standing Order, will help the Brentwood Catholic Children's Society enormously in their work with the schools and young children in our Diocese.

The Society has been supporting local children and families since 1984. Its mission and values are as important today as they ever were. Please sign up today and become a special friend.

A standing order form can be obtained from Father Leslie, Ian Restall or John Tobin

(ian.restall@design-portfolio.co.uk) Thank you.



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an hour (or more) each week?

If so, we can offer you the chance to...

- Meet new people
- Make good use of your talents and perhaps discover new ones!
- Make a real difference in your local community

We are looking for people who would like to:

- Spend time reading or chatting to residents, or playing board games or cards
- Help with planned group activities such as quizzes, bingo, craft, crosswords and games
- Driving - on excursions or to appointments
- Gardening
- Fundraising

From our volunteers...

- "The Marillac is such a rewarding place to spend a little of my time each week. With new people to meet and something to get involved in for everyone - you soon feel that you're helping to make a difference to others, whilst doing something positive for yourself, too."
- "We have been working here for over 12 years, and helping others less fortunate helps us to appreciate how lucky we are to be fit and healthy. It's good to be here."

The Marillac is a residential home for younger adults with physical and/or neurological disabilities. We are based in Eagle Way, Warley, Brentwood opposite the Ford's building.

Volunteering can be undertaken midweek, at weekends and in the evenings - even if you are only available to come in during term time.

If you would like to find out more about volunteering at the Marillac, please contact Amanda our Volunteer Co-ordinator on 01277 220276 or amandat@marillac.co.uk

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".