

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

Parish Hutton and Shenfield

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. GARY DENCH

The Presbytery

17 Highview Crescent, Hutton Brentwood, Essex, CM13 1BJ

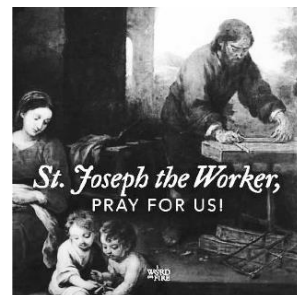
T: 01277 221917

HEAD TEACHER

Mrs. Kathryn Poulter St. Joseph the Worker Primary School

Highview Crescent, Hutton Brentwood, Essex CM13 1BJ T:
01277 227282

web: www.stjosephshutton.org email: hutton@brcdt.org



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 22 December 2024

Although Advent is a time of hopeful expectation of the coming of Christ, this year it is John the Baptist who has featured in all of the Advent readings. Two weeks ago, we heard its proclamation of the imminence of the ushering in of the Kingdom of God and last week we heard a snippet of his preaching. Today we encounter in him in his mother’s womb in the story of the Visitation. On one level this is a story of two mothers, Our Lady and Elizabeth, meeting. But on another it is the story of two sons, Our Lord and St John. St John who, for the past two weeks has been preparing us for Christ’s public ministry, leaps for joy in this story at the presence of his relative. We can learn so much from St John the Baptist in both our manner of always striving to live according to God’s commandments but also in our own joy at the presence of Christ in our lives.

The Christmas Masses have been publicised for the past few weeks. I hope the range of times means that there is a time convenient for as many of our community as possible. At the 4.30pm vigil Mass, we are encouraging our children to come dressed as characters from the Nativity. We have had two wonderful productions put on by the school and so I know that some of the children have their costumes already! The 9.30pm will be the traditional ‘Midnight Mass.’ In the darkness of night, we are celebrating the birth of the Light of the World. The early morning Mass of Christmas Day is(8.30am) quiet and reflective, representing Our Lady cradling her new-born child as He sleeps. In the Mass of the Day at 1030am we are reminded of this child’s Divinity as we continue to celebrate and rejoice.

I wish you all and your loved ones a very Happy Christmas. *Fr. Gary*

Christmas Masses

Christmas Eve

4.30pm - Mass for our Children

9.30pm - Mass during the Night

Christmas Day

8.30am - Mass of the Dawn

10.30am - Mass of the Day

12.00pm - Latin Mass

Maybe you know someone who has not been to Mass for a while? Without nagging them, perhaps this Christmas might provide you with an opportunity to invite them to join us? Christmas is a time for families. And that includes our parish family. Welcome them home to St Joseph’s this Christmas.

Christmas Collections

Priests in our diocese do not receive a salary and have no pension which means, although

basic expenses are covered, their day-to-day living is reliant upon the support of the people they serve. Together, the Christmas and Easter collections form a major part of a priest’s income for the year and also determine his ability to put something aside for his retirement or in the event of sickness. The Christmas offertory collection is your gift to your priest. Thank you for your continued love and support of the work of our parish.

Christmas and Standing Orders

The diocese does not permit any part of the donations of those who give by standing order to go towards the upkeep of clergy for Christmas and Easter. If you give by standing order, you might consider giving an additional donation for the support of your priest.

It is also possible to make an online donation or bank transfer. Please use the parish bank details and mark the reference as ‘Christmas.’

Food Bank

Next Foodbank donation week will be 4/5 January 2025. Please support families in need in Hutton by donating goodies like non-perishable foods and toiletries to our local Community Food Hub. All donations are gratefully received. Thank you.

Our Parish Vision

Our mission statement speaks of Christ at the centre helping us to grow in faith as a community where we all feel welcomed, loved and valued. We all have the opportunity to serve at our parish of St. Joseph in so many ways.

There are many ministers, choir and music, altar serving, readers, eucharistic ministers, (especially to bring Holy Communion to the sick), church cleaners, hospitality and welcome refreshment team.

Hall Hire

The Parish Hall of St Joseph the Worker is available for hire Saturday afternoons 1-4 p.m.

First Holy Communion Children

Please can the parents of First Holy Communion Children sign the weekly signing sheet after Mass today. Thanks in advance.

Pilgrims of Hope

Pope Francis has designated 2025 as a Jubilee Year under the theme of ‘Pilgrims of Hope’.

Newsletter

The newsletter is now produced and printed in the parish office. Any items for inclusion can be sent to Ngozi the Parish Administrator.

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT (YEAR C)

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 21 5.30 p.m.
Holy Souls
Sunday 22 10.30 a.m.
Private Priest intentions

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 23 9.15 a.m.
Bill Drawbridge *R.I.P.*
Tuesday 24 9.15 a.m. *Private Intention*
4.30 p.m.
Ilona Schwartz *R.I.P.*
9.30 p.m.
Deceased members of Dillane family.
Wednesday 25 8.30am *(Mass of the Dawn)*
Private intentions
10.30am *(Mass of the Day)*
12.00pm *(Latin Mass)*
Thursday 26 10.00 a.m.
Moriarty family *R.I.P.*
Friday 27 9.15 a.m.
St. John Apostle Evangelist Feast

HOLY FAMILY FEAST

FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 28 5.30 p.m.
Mgbokwa Julianna Okoro *R.I.P.*
(Anniversary)
Sunday 29 9.15 a.m. *Private intentions*

Anniversaries

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

Anniversary: Mgbokwa Julianna Okoro (28/12/1995).

We pray for Priests of our Diocese.

May all the faithful departed Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

Let us never forget our former priests or parishioners. They were part of our parish family. We pray that they will be part of the church triumphant and pray also for holy souls in purgatory the church suffering and for ourselves on our journey the church militant.

Mass Attendance

Saturday 14 December 5.30 p.m.: 90
Sunday 15 December 10.30 a.m.: 65

For information

Fr. Gary’s day off is on Thursdays.

Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday 21 December 5.30 p.m.
Ewa Kania
Saturday 28 December 5.30 p.m.
Mark Brennan
Sunday 22 December 10.30 a.m.
Blane McKie
Sunday 29 December 10.30 a.m.

“Missio Red Boxes and 2025 Calendar

Please would everyone who has a Missio red box leave it at the back of the church so that I can arrange for it to be counted and returned. Please make sure that your red box is clearly labelled with your name and address. The ‘Mission Today’ Calendar 2025 is available to collect from the table in the church porch.

If anyone who does not have a Missio red box would like one, please speak **Clare Barton**. Missio is the Church’s official charity for overseas mission in the developing world.

200 Club

Each month there are cash prizes to be won through our very popular 200 Club.

All you need to do is to complete a Standing Order Form for £2.00 per month (there are forms for you in the Narthex) and hand it in to Marian Anderson or Fr. Gary. Once completed, you will be entered into a Prize Draw. Three names are drawn each month and cash prizes are £50.00, £30.00 and £20.00 for first second and third respectively. It’s a great opportunity for parishioners to win a cash prize, while 50% of the proceeds goes to boost parish funds. The draw is made at the end of each month so act now to be involved in the next draw!

God’s presence

When a family gathers together for a meal, say grace, i.e. Bless Lord our food which we have received, or a short passage from scriptures. Where two or three are gathered, Jesus is with us. Wherever we go Jesus is always with us. Find time to pray with your children and in the silence experience the stillness and presence of Jesus. When you pass any Catholic Church, make the sign of the cross, to recognize the presence of Jesus, or pay a short visit. Do not lose sight of God’s presence.

Baptism

It is always a pleasure to welcome new members into the Church. Baptism forms can be obtained from the parish office at hutton@brcdt.org.

Standing Orders and Gift Aid

A huge thank you to all who are supporting our parish through standing orders. Standing orders allow us to budget for the year and meant that if, for whatever reason you are unable to come to Mass, then you can still support our parish family. If you would like to set up a standing order, this form needs to be returned to your bank. By gift aiding your donations it means that we are able to claim back an extra 25p from the inland revenue for every £1 you give to our parish, at no cost whatsoever to yourselves. You can find you can find Standing Order forms and Gift Aid forms on the parish website: www.stjosephshutton.org. Alternatively, it can be done online using our details

Account Name: Catholic Church Hutton and Shenfield St Joseph The Worker
Sort Code: 40-13-22
Account number: 61018884

If you use this method, please put your surname and initial as a reference. If you are part of our gift aid scheme, then please add your gift aid number.

By entering this reference our gift aid organizer will be able to make sure that your generosity is increased in line with the gift aid regulations.

Parish Register

Please consider visiting our website <https://www.stjosephshutton.org> to register as a parishioner with us.

St Joseph the Worker Catholic Primary School, Hutton are looking to appoint a deputy headteacher for April 2025.

For more information and a full advert, visit our school website: <https://st-joseph-the-worker-catholic-primary-school.secure-primariesite.net/recruitment-1/>

Applications Close: Tuesday 28th January 2025 at 12pm.

Interviews: Tuesday 11th February 2025 at 9am

Bible Alive

Bible Alive for December is available from the Narthex £3.00 each.

St John Bosco Children’s Camp - summer 2025

Can you volunteer at the St John Bosco Children’s Camp next summer? Applications are now open for anyone aged 17+ to volunteer for a week at the end of July 2025. From helping in the kitchen to running sports and other activities, your skills will mean that 100 children have a wonderful holiday. For most of the children, it is their only summer holiday. The Camp is a special work of Caritas Brentwood. More information - including training date and DBS requirements, along with volunteering FAQs - can all be found at www.boscocamp.co.uk. Applications for children to come to Camp will open in the spring.

Brentwood Directory

The new diocesan directory is now available for purchase. It contains information relating to local churches, Mass times, as well as articles about our newly ordained priests and many other interesting things. All for the very reasonable price of £3.20!

Brentwood Cathedral Carol Service

Brentwood Cathedral Carol Service will take place on Sunday 22nd December at 4pm. It lasts about an hour and a quarter and has some really beautiful music. A reception takes place afterwards in the Cathedral Hall.

Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage

The Diocesan Lourdes Pilgrimage, led by Bp Alan, will be from Friday 18 July - Friday 25 July 2025. The flights will be Southend to Lourdes. Details, including how to book, will follow. We hope you will join us.

Wishes from Fr Leslie:

“Fr Leslie wishes all the families at St Joseph a very Happy and Holy Christmas especially all who are housebound and our prayers and thoughts of all who have lost a loved one this year and in past years. Have a lovely Christmas”



Little Joke

Are you a victim of faulty double-glazing?

You could be entitled to condensation ...

Readers

Saturday 21 December	5.30 p.m. Mark Brennan
Saturday 28 December	5.30 p.m. Natalie Colema- Dale
Sunday 22 December	5.30 p.m. Peter Sanders
Sunday 29 December	5.30 p.m. Paul Downey

Refreshments after 10.30 Mass

There will be no refreshments after 10.30 Mass on Sunday 29 December. Refreshments will resume on 05 January 2025. Please sign up to help on the list at the back of the church, new volunteers are always welcome.

Newsletters. Finance News - 1

For the week ending Sunday 15 December, the Plate Collection totalled - £210.00
Thank you and God Bless.

Finance News - 2

Please support the work, running and mission of the Parish by setting up a Standing Order via your on-line banking. Our Bank details are:
HSBC Plc, High Street, Brentwood, Essex
Account name: Catholic Church Hutton & Shenfield St Joseph The Worker
Sort code: 40-13-22
Account Number: 61018884
Thank you.

Mass intentions

Please don’t forget to have a Mass said for the response of the soul of a family member, friends or someone who is sick or for a private intention. One day we will need people to pray for us. “Ask a holy priest to pray for the dead that they may be released from their sins” (from book of Maccabees). The celebration of Mass is the most powerful prayer as we represent the earth and resurrection of Jesus.

Intentions: Christmas intentions of all parishioners.

Adoration and Confessions

There’s no Holy Hour or confessions on 28th December 2024.

Sick parishioners

Please pray for our sick parishioners and those in care homes.

A Christmas message from the staff and trustees of Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society:

We would like to wish everyone across Brentwood Diocese a very happy and blessed Christmas. As we come to the end of our 40th anniversary year, we would like to thank everyone who has supported our work by making a donation at one of the parish crib scenes across the Diocese over the years. This steadfast support has allowed us to give hope to thousands of children, young people and families by offering them the specialist care they need. Thank you all.