

# 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

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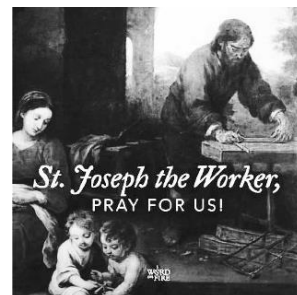
HEAD TEACHER

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## 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 26 January 2025

The 25<sup>th</sup> January is the Feast of the conversion of St Paul. He began his career as one of the Church’s most vicious persecuted. He finished it as one of the Church’s most gifted and celebrated missionaries, giving his own life for Christ who saved him from a life of error and misguided hatred.

Thinking about conversion in hindsight can sometimes make the ‘time before’ seem as though it were time wasted. But that same consideration in hindsight can help us to see God’s grace at work even in the mistakes and sins of our past. God doesn’t make us sin, but He is able to bring good out of bad situations. A series of even the most unfortunate events can bring someone to the point where they are ready to say ‘yes’ to God and all He wants to do through them and for them. This should be a source of encouragement for all of us, whether or not we feel we have a lot to make up for. God will make things right. And He will do so simply because He loves us.

This Love prompted God the Father to send His only Son into the world to redeem it. This love transformed that world. This love was what Our Lord sent the disciples out into the world to preach. This love transformed St Paul’s life forever. And, perhaps on a smaller scale, it can transform us too. We can know about Christ’s love more deeply. We can be inspired by that same love. We too can be a small link in a chain of unlikely and/or spectacular events that can bring someone else to the point of saying ‘yes’ to God and His love.

May St Paul pray for us all. May God bless you this coming week. Amen. *Fr. Gary*

## Crib Offerings

Our crib will remain up until the 2nd of February, which is the feast of the Presentation of Our Lord in the temple. The offerings in our diocese go towards the wonderful work of the Brentwood Catholic Children’s Society.

## Newsletter

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

## 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.

## 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](mailto:hutton@brcdt.org).

## 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’.

## 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.

## Parish Register

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

## Word on Fire UK Bible Conference | February 2025

If you want to gain a deeper appreciation of the Bible and the Catholic faith, come and join Bishop Robert Barron and thousands of other Catholics from across the UK for the national conference Evangelisation & Culture: The Bible. Tickets are available for the Friday and Saturday or just a day pass for the Saturday.

**Date:** Friday 21<sup>st</sup> - Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2025.

## THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

(Year C)

### FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 25	5.30 p.m.	Pro Popolo	
Sunday 26	10.30 a.m.	Bill Brennan	<i>R.I.P.</i>

### WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday 27	9.15 a.m.	<i>Private intention</i>	
Tuesday 28	9.15 a.m.	Holy Souls	
Wednesday 29	9.15 a.m.	<i>Private intention</i>	
NO MASS ON THURSDAY			
Friday 31	9.15 a.m.	<i>Private intention</i>	

### PRESENTATION OF THE LORD

#### FIRST MASS OF SUNDAY

Saturday 1	5.30 p.m.	James Kirkpatrick	<i>R.I.P.</i>
Sunday 2	10.30 a.m.	<i>Private intention</i>	

### Anniversaries

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

### 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 18 January 5.30 p.m.:		123
Sunday 19 January 10.30 a.m.:		87

### For information

Fr. Gary’s day off is on Thursdays.

### Eucharistic Ministers

Saturday 25 January	5.30 p.m.	Catherine Bray
Saturday 1 February	5.30 p.m.	Bill O’Regan
Sunday 26 January	10.30 a.m.	Blane Mckie
Sunday 2 February	10.30 a.m.	Sarah Barber

**Location:** Excel Centre, East London

**Speakers Include:** Bishop Robert Barron, N.T. Wright, Professor Tracey Rowland, Archbishop John Wilson and more.

For more information and to register, please visit: [wordonfire.org/the-bible-event](http://wordonfire.org/the-bible-event).

### 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](http://www.stjosephshutton). 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.

### 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.

### Brentwood Catholic Youth Service - Summer Lourdes Pilgrimage, 19th - 26th July

The Pilgrimage is open to anyone in school year 10 and above. Join the BCYS for our annual pilgrimage to Lourdes, supporting the adult pilgrimage in a week of prayer, service and fun!

All details can be found at [www.bcys.net/events](http://www.bcys.net/events). Funding and bursary opportunities are available.

*Please be aware that applications close time on the 31<sup>st</sup> January.*

### Mary's Meals

Mary's Meals would like to thank everyone in the parish for their generosity in response to our Foreign Currency initiative. It raised a terrific £389.44 which means Mary's Meals will be able to feed 20 children one good meal every school day for a whole year because of your support. Please continue to pray for the work of Mary's Meals. God bless you all.

### Secondary School Link Adviser Opportunity

The Diocese of Brentwood is seeking to appoint a Secondary School Link Adviser who is a practising Catholic, to support the Diocesan Board of Education and its family of schools. This is likely to be a part-time post of either 3 or 4 days a week. Further details and an application form can be obtained by emailing: [victoriabarnes@dioceseofbrentwood.org](mailto:victoriabarnes@dioceseofbrentwood.org)

The closing date for applications is midday on Tuesday 25th February 2025.

Interviews will be held on Tuesday 4th March 2025.

**Start Date:** Ideally from 1st September 2025 depending on current contractual arrangements.

### Church Lighting Appeal

As you may have noticed we have a number of lightbulbs out in the church. It is more cost effective to replace all the lightbulbs at once with more energy efficient, long-lasting LEDs. The lightbulbs cost £15 each, and we'll need 60 of them, plus the cost of the cherry picker required to install them.

Can you help by sponsoring one or two lightbulbs? If yes, put £15 cash or multiples of £15 in an envelope marked 'Lighting'. If you are a taxpayer, please add your name and postcode so that we can claim gift aid for your donation.

Alternatively, please donate using the bank details listed in the newsletter, referring your donation as 'Lighting'.

If you are a taxpayer and have not completed a gift aid form, they are accessible on the church porch. Thank you for your help.

### Brentwood Catholic Children's Society (BCCS)

is delighted to host a Shrove Tuesday Afternoon Tea at the Roslin Beach Hotel in Southend-on-Sea on Tuesday 4th March 2025. Guests are kindly invited to arrive for 1pm to be greeted and seated in good time for tea between 1.30 and 3.30pm. This event is open to all and promises to be a lovely afternoon celebration. Tickets are £35 per person and are available to purchase via the BCCS webpage <https://www.bccs.org.uk/get-involved/events/> If you have any dietary requirements, please contact Julie once you have purchased your tickets, at [jabbott@bccs.org.uk](mailto:jabbott@bccs.org.uk) so that we can note these. Guests will be seated at tables of 12 so if you are coming in a group, do please email Julie to let us know your preferred seating arrangements.

### Jubilee 2025 - Pilgrimage to Italy

The jubilee year 2025 is inviting us to visit a holy place and obtain plenary indulgence by entering through the holy door. The parish of OUR LADY AND ALL SAINTS is arranging a pilgrimage to Italy visiting the holy places along with some tourist attractions. We will visit THE VATICAN, ROME, ASSISI, PADUA, VENICE & PISA. DATE: 30TH AUGUST-4TH SEPTEMBER 2025 (6 DAYS). Superior 4\* Hotel Accommodation. Adults and children over 9 years: £775; Children (2-9 years): £730. Single room supplement £220. For more details and to book your place, email: [frsabupariyadan@brcdt.org](mailto:frsabupariyadan@brcdt.org).

### Lost Property

There are a number of items of lost property in the narthex including an asthma pump, pair of glasses, hat gloves and water bottle. Please check and retrieve the items that may belong to you. Anything left by 03 February will be disposed of. Thank you.

### Foodbank Collection

Usual info for Foodbank collection on 01/02 February.

if you have any strong re-usable carrier bags the Foodbank would appreciate these also. They are very grateful for all our donations.

### Parish Social with Disco 01 March

We are holding a Parish Social with Disco on 01 March, 6.30 to 9.30pm in the Parish Hall, organised by Lesek; one of our parishioners. Adults £10, children free. Wine and soft drinks will be available to purchase or bring your own drinks/snacks. Due to space for the dance floor capacity in the hall is limited to 100, so please buy your ticket in advance to ensure your place for this popular event. Tickets will be available after Mass from 01/02 February.

### Readers

Saturday 25 January	5.30 p.m. Marian Anderson
Saturday 1 February	5.30 p.m. Hannah Ola
Sunday 26 January	10.30 a.m. Rara Sanni
Sunday 2 February	10.30 a.m. Cianna Dareal

### Refreshments after 10.30 Mass

There will be refreshments after the 10.30 Mass Sunday January 26, and everyone is welcome. 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 19 January, the Plate Collection totalled - £345.00

### 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.

### Adoration and Confessions

Saturday 10.30 - 11.15 a.m. or on request before Mass or any other time.

### Sick parishioners

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

### Keep a Flame Burning (Ex. 27:19-20)

Our sanctuary always burns to honour Christ and His presence in the Blessed Sacrament. It represents Our Lord among His people, and the fulfilment of His promise that he will be with us always. Would you like to sponsor a light in memory of a loved one or for a specific intention? Please contact Ngozi who will make a note of the date.

This week the sanctuary lamp burns in loving memory of Trevor Gould RIP.

### Bible Alive

Bible Alive for January is available at the Narthex for £3.00 each.

## A Little Joke

What do sprinters eat before a race?

**Nothing; They fast!**