



ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE PARISH BULLETIN

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Registered Charity 234436



Fr. Pat (pfcp44@yahoo.com) Fr. Tiernan (tiernanpc@gmail.com)

Masses: Sunday: (7pm Saturday) 8am, 10am, 12noon, 1.30 (Polish), 7pm.

Holydays: 6.30pm vigil, 9.30am, 11am, 6.30pm

Weekdays: 9.30am, 6.30pm. **Saturday:** 9.30am, 7pm. **Bank Holiday:** 9.30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday 10-10.30am, 6.30 -6.45pm

Weekdays: immediately after Mass (on request)

11th June 2017 – Feast of the Holy Trinity Brothers and Sisters, We Wish You Happiness *(cf. Today's second reading)*

You may be aware that this week-end our neighbouring parish – St. Gabriel's – is marking with a special mass the Golden Jubilee of the opening of their church. The Cardinal Archbishop will be the principal celebrant, and I myself hope to be there to represent St. Joseph's Parish.

The occasion is in a way also a special occasion for us, as the link between our parishes goes back a long way. The first Passionist to come to England did so in 1843. That was Fr. (now Blessed) Dominic Barberi. It was he who received Henry Newman into the church, and our hope is that both of them will be canonised in the near future. In 1858 the Passionists took responsibility for the Parish of St. Joseph's. At that time it extended almost to Barnet in the north, Palmers Green in the east and Kilburn in the west – but of course it was largely farmland with isolated villages dotted about. As the population grew many other parishes were separated off from St. Joseph's. In 1928 the first St. Gabriel's church was built, as a chapel of ease, in Hatchard Road, and in 1938 the area which now makes up much of St. Gabriel's Parish was handed over to the care of the Diocese. I am pleased to say that the link between the Parishes has always remained very strong. No doubt that fact that it is names after a Passionist Saint has something to do with that.



Which brings me to an explanation of our photos. Having checked out with Fr. Ugo that they have no relic of St. Gabriel in their church, I thought it would be an appropriate way for us in St. Joseph's to mark the occasion by presenting them with such a relic, set in an appropriate reliquary. I am happy to say that through Passionist contacts in Italy I have been able to acquire a first class relic. The photo to the right is the reliquary, with the relic inside, and the other photo is a close-up of the relic itself, set in a little case. On all our behalves I will be presenting them to Fr. Ugo on Sunday morning. On behalf of our Passionist community here, and on behalf of all our parishioners I take this opportunity to congratulate St. Gabriel's Parish on the occasion of their celebrating the Golden Jubilee of their beautiful church. We pray at this time that St. Gabriel will continue to keep a watchful, loving eye over the young parish of St. Gabriel's,

and particularly their young people. May they all follow Christ with the same devotion and fidelity as did St. Gabriel.

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We pray for those who have died recently - Maurice Kennedy, James Wilson, Elena Mondal, Hugh Meehan, Bridget Mian, Michael Kelly; **we remember those whose anniversaries occur** – John & Agnes Fitzpatrick, Mrs Nell Benstock, Mr Danny Benstock, John Woodcock, Mary O'Shea, Bill, Mollie & Ted Slow.

First Communions:

At the 12.00 Masses on the next two week-ends about sixty of our young people will be making their First Holy Communions. This naturally means that there will be a great increase in the numbers attending those masses. Those who regularly attend the 12 o'clock mass are of course very welcome to come. We just want to forewarn you that the entire front portion of the church will be reserved for the children and their families, and we expect that there will also be much crowding in the rear section of the church. So you might want to consider coming to a less crowded celebration on those two Sundays, but if you're prepared to endure the crowding – and admire the fashion! – you are most welcome to attend.

Group A will be having their celebration at 12 o'clock Mass next Sunday, 18th June. A reminder to them that there will be a practice for them at 11.30am this coming Saturday 17th. Group B will be having their celebration at 12 o'clock Mass on the following Sunday, 25th June, with their practice session at 11.30am on Saturday 24th.

Shared International Lunch:

If you were one of the unfortunates who missed out last Sunday, then you missed a really enjoyable and much-appreciated Parish occasion. Sincere thanks must go to Paola and Roxane, the organisational brains behind the whole operation. But also sincere gratitude for the many people who contributed food and drinks for the occasion – too much for any one individual to sample totally, though I did my best! – the quality and quantity was really marvellous. It was lovely seeing people taking some relaxed time to be with one another, with plenty of space for the younger ones to expend their energies. The overwhelming re-action was that this is something we need to repeat – often.

Christian Stewardship:

Last week's collection amounted to £1,794. In addition we receive an average of over £800 per week in standing orders. We are most grateful for your outstanding generosity.

Mary's Meals:

Mary's Meals wants your unwanted clothing and bedding (*no duvets or pillows please*) and will be at our church until 12 noon on Sunday 2nd July to collect them all. Put your clothing/bedding into tied sacks and bring them to Mass where the charity Mary's Meals will be here to pick them up. Amazingly 4 full black sacks of good quality clothing will feed a child one good nutritious meal every school day for a whole year! Mary's Meals is a charity that sets up school feeding programmes in communities where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education.

Children's Summer Camps:

Bookings are being taken for the SVP John Bosco camps for boys (ages 8-13, weeks beginning 22nd & 29th July) and girls (ages 9-12, week beginning 5th August), near Colchester in Essex. Run with a Catholic ethos, these sports and activity based camps are especially for children who may not have any other holiday this year. See porch noticeboard or visit www.svpboscocamp.org.uk for details. Phone Eileen 020 7272 1263 if interested.

"Called to Serve the Sick Roadshows":

Three evening meetings have been arranged to allow clergy and laity an opportunity to discover and question... *How Catholics can realise their unique vocation of being of service the sick*: at Our Lady and St Michael's, Garston, Watford, Mon. 19th June 7pm for 7.30pm; *How to think theologically about health*: at St Benedict's Abbey, Ealing, Tues. 27th June, 7pm. For registration please email Fr Peter Scott: peterscott@rcdow.org.uk

Spirit in the City Festival:

The annual Catholic festival takes place in Leicester Square Gardens this week-end, on 9th and 10th June, with world-class music, inspiring talks, uplifting performances, family activities, and dancing crowds. Spirit in the City festival has something for all tastes and every age. Each area in the Gardens has its own character and vibe to enjoy with friends and family. All, young and old, are most welcome to join in the celebrations. More information can be obtained at www.spiritinthecity.org.

The Art of Dying Well – New Website:

This is the name of a new website, not in any way morbid, and produced by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, that offers a helping hand to those grappling with issues around death and dying – either one's own, or that of someone close. Based in the Catholic tradition but open to all, it features real-life stories about dealing with the final journey. Expert advice has been sought from professionals in palliative care, ethics, chaplaincy, history and media. Please take a look at the website: www.artofdyingwell.org.