



# 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)

## 8th October 2017 – 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time The Word in Action

Let me immediately rush in to say that I'm not complaining! This past week has been a truly busy and varied one. I worked my way through a parish council meeting, to some delightful sessions with some classes in the school, to the dedication of a flower bed in Waterlow Park to a deceased member of the parish, to preparing a family for a baby's baptism, to doing a house blessing for a young family, to having a class liturgy in the school, to meeting with a person interested in becoming a member of our parish community, to establishing the beginnings of a link between the church and the school with regard to singing, to meeting with a group of our readers and Eucharistic ministers, to a staff mass in the school, to the burial of ashes in Highgate cemetery, to being a background support to a new project for our teenagers. And then on Tuesday ..... Only joking! And that's not to mention the forms! (Come to think of it, I don't think you pay me enough!) And for those of you who may be worrying at this stage, I did get in some golf as well, and watched Ireland beating Moldova – thought I might mention that, as they don't win that often.

Seriously, though, it has been a very encouraging week for me. As I mentioned last week, I am fully aware that we're very blessed as a parish, and I hope you don't hear that as being in any way patronising. And I'm not being Uriah Heepish when I acknowledge that very little of that is down to me. In most of those things I mentioned above I was just a participant, along with people who had gone out of their way to express their faith, and their commitment to others, in practical ways. In that regard I want to mention in particular the event on Friday evening – a first attempt in recent years to provide something for our teenagers. Over the years since I've been here I have constantly heard the wish that "something needs to be done for our young people"; but what, and who's going to provide it, have been the obstacles to getting anything up and running. So I want to say a very public 'thank you' on all our behalves to Emma and Eve for actually taking an idea and running with it. I haven't had a chance to speak with them since, but my impression was that there was an excellent turn-out, and they all seemed to be enjoying themselves. (I'll check later whether they said grace before meals before they got stuck into those pizzas!)

An interesting – and key – aspect of our gospel passage this Sunday – the story of the landlord who equipped his vineyard with every mod-con and leased it out to a number of tenants, who refused subsequently to pay their rent – is that at no stage does Jesus mention any particular tenant. He refers to them as 'they' and they refer to themselves as 'us'. This is not accidental – it is Jesus once again driving home his message that following Him is not about simply being an individual on one's own personal faith-journey, but becoming part of a people, taking corporate responsibility for one another. And we should be able to clearly see that in His followers. It was what our Stewardship Drive earlier in the year was about – not simply paying our way, but taking responsibility together for making our parish a truly fruitful vineyard of the Lord. And we do that best, when we combine the rich treasure-house of talents that make up our parish, and work together to make, not just our parish, but our world, a better place. Anyone good at signing forms??

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**We pray for those who have died recently - John Deane; and we remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time – Dan Murphy, Nicholas O'Neill, David Stirling, Mary Faherty.**

### **Confirmation Program:**

This is the last Sunday for getting application Forms for our Confirmation program - they are available in the porch of the church. All forms need to be returned by next Sunday, 15<sup>th</sup> October, at the latest. We remind you that this program is solely for children either living in the Parish, regularly attending mass in the parish, or attending school in the parish. We also remind all parents concerned, that application forms will not be accepted unless accompanied by a **baptism certificate** – so if you don't have one to hand, then we advise you to immediately set about getting one! For children baptised here in St. Joseph's the date of baptism is sufficient. Preparation for the sacraments is a joint project between the parish and the homes of the students, and hence involves commitment by families as well as our catechists, who voluntarily give of their time and talents. Naturally the children are expected to attend mass each Sunday, and we ask their families to support them by good example.

### **St. Joseph's School Open Mornings:**

St Joseph's Primary School Open Mornings are on Tuesday 17th October & Thursday 16th November. During our open mornings full tours of the school will be available and members of the Senior Leadership Team will welcome prospective parents at 9:15am for Registration and refreshments and will be available to answer any questions after the tours. No need to book, just come along. Should you be unable to attend the open morning, individual tours can be arranged throughout the year by emailing the office with a suggested day and time to [office@st-josephs.islington.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-josephs.islington.sch.uk).

### **Adoremus Liverpool 2018:**

A National Eucharistic Congress is planned for 7-9 September 2018. The highlight of the weekend will be the gathering of 10,000 pilgrims in the Echo Arena on the Saturday, at which the Cardinal will lead us in Adoration, and he and Bishop Robert Barron are scheduled to speak. There will also be a Theological Symposium on the Friday, and Procession and solemn Masses in the Metropolitan Cathedral on the Sunday. Parishes have been given a limited allocation of places which need to be confirmed imminently, so anyone who might be interested on any of the days should contact Fr. Pat **as soon as possible**. More information at [www.catholic-ew.org.uk/Home/Special-Events](http://www.catholic-ew.org.uk/Home/Special-Events) .

### **Christian Stewardship:**

Last week's collection amounted to £1,875. In addition we receive an average of over £800 per week in standing orders. Thanks once again for your continuing generosity.

### **Coffee Morning This Sunday:**

There will be a Parish Coffee Morning this Sunday in the Red Room, immediately after the 10.00 am. Mass. Why not avail of this good opportunity, especially for new Parishioners, to meet fellow members of our Parish? All are welcome to relax for a while in the Red Room and enjoy a cuppa and a chat.

### **Pre-Marriage Course:**

Our next pre-marriage course will be taking place on Saturday, November 18th. This course is open to all those planning on getting married during 2018 – they need not be members of the parish, or be planning on getting married here. Application forms and further details of the course can be obtained by emailing [pfc44@yahoo.com](mailto:pfc44@yahoo.com)

### **Adult Religious Education, and RCIA:**

The RCIA course –principally intended, but not exclusively so – for those interested in becoming members of the Catholic community, will be starting shortly. The course is free, and takes place on Wednesday evenings at 7.00 pm. Anybody interested in taking part should contact Fr. Pat immediately at [pfc44@yahoo.com](mailto:pfc44@yahoo.com) .

### **Parish Bazaar – November 25th:**

We don't seem to be properly back into a new year as yet, and already we have begun the countdown to our Christmas Bazaar – it's only 7 weeks away! We appreciate that people have been very generous over the years in contributing items for the various stalls, and we pray for that to continue. We've had people expressing disappointment that they didn't get to attend because they had already arranged something else for that day. So please put the date in your diary, and if you are able to help out on the actual day, or in the preparations, please contact Cheryl as soon as possible, at [felicitymaynard@hotmail.com](mailto:felicitymaynard@hotmail.com)

### **School Transfer Open Days:**

**St. Aloysius College, Hornsey Lane:** Open Mornings – Tuesday-Thursday, 10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> October, 9:15-10.30am. [www.sta.islington.sch.uk](http://www.sta.islington.sch.uk) 020 7561 7800.

**La Sainte Union,** Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> October, 2.00 – 3.30 pm. School tours from 2 – 3pm. Head's talk at 3.00 pm. [www.lasainteunion.org.uk](http://www.lasainteunion.org.uk) [general@lsu.camden.sch.uk](mailto:general@lsu.camden.sch.uk) 020 7428 4600