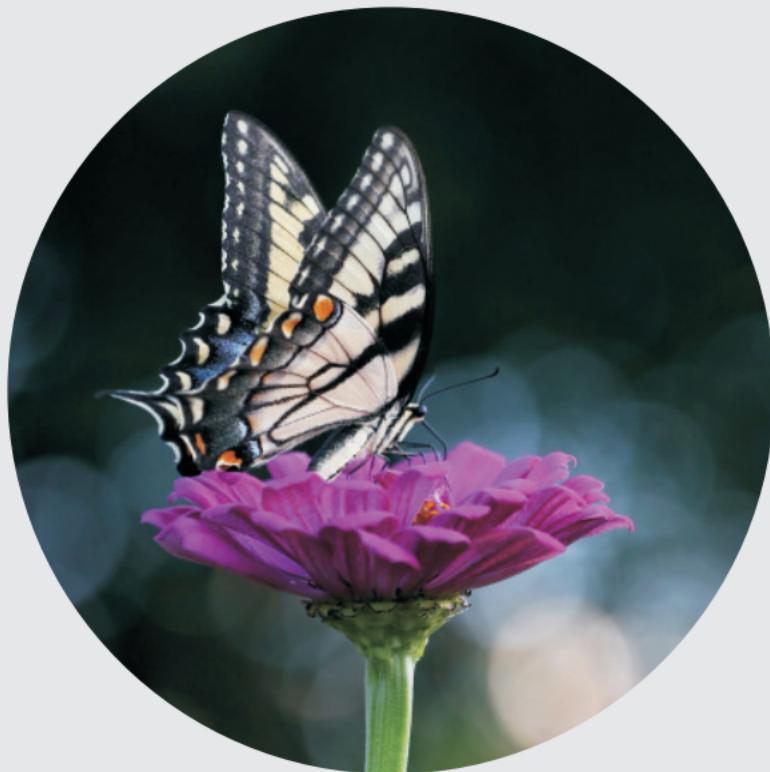


Leave the Light On

A photograph of three lit candles placed on wooden garden steps. The candles are in dark containers with orange labels. They are arranged on three different wooden ledges. The background is filled with dense green foliage and ferns, creating a lush, natural atmosphere.

ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE

2020 Nov 8



In his book *Sacred Fire*, Father Ronald Rolheiser writes of visiting a man dying of cancer. Only in his fifties, he was already in palliative care. But "he was dying in the same way he had lived his life, without bitterness and without enemies." He talked with Father Rolheiser about the loneliness of dying. His one wish for his family was this: "to get this dying thing right for them." Father Rolheiser shares the dying man's words:

"I've had a good life and I've no regrets. I don't think I have an enemy, at least I don't know of one. And I want to do this right. I want to die with dignity that makes my wife and kids proud of me. I want to do this right for them and for everyone else."

He died a few days after Father Rolheiser's visit, and his family and everyone who knew him were deeply saddened. But inside that sadness, there was something else, Father

Rolheiser writes:

"After his funeral, as we walked out of church to a small reception, there was not one person who knew this man well, including his grieving wife and children who, at a deeper level than the sadness of the moment, did not feel freer, less guilty, and more open to life than ever before. He wanted to do his death right, and he did, and that reinforced everything good he had done in his life so that what he wanted to give to us came to us — the goodness of his life he showed in his death . . .

"How we live and how we die leaves behind a spirit, a blessing or a curse, after we are gone ... The final human and Christian challenge of our lives is the struggle to give our deaths away."

*If you look into the distance,
there's a house upon the hill
Guiding like a lighthouse,
it's a place where you'll be
Safe to feel our grace and
if you've lost your way
If you've lost your way (I will leave the light on)
And I know you're down and out now,
but I need you to be brave
Hiding from the truth ain't gonna make
this all okay
I see your pain, if you don't feel our grace
And you've lost your way
I will leave the light on
I will leave the light on
'Cause I will leave the light on.*



ARCHBISHOP'S HOUSE, WESTMINSTER, LONDON, SW1P 1QJ

5 November 2020

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Jesus Christ,

As we enter this second 'lockdown' and loss of communal celebration of Mass, I wish to add these few words.

This is a time for us to show our strength. And by that I do not mean strength in defiance. I mean strength in mutual support; strength in service; strength in perseverance and hope. I mean, then, the strength of our faith in action.

The first act of faith is the praise of God. It is deep and constant prayer. This must be at the root of our lives, as individuals, as families, as

households. I urge you, then, to stay faithful to daily patterns of prayer. Pray privately; pray together at home; come to church to pray; pray without ceasing. I thank God that our churches remain open to be places of peace and prayer, and the live streaming of the Mass, celebrated every day in our churches, is a great help. But that too must be rooted in our own life of prayer.

Only by receiving the living water from the Lord will we pass through this arid time. Indeed, if we stay close to the Lord, we will be changed for the better by this time of crisis.

The second act of faith is humble service. This is the road we are to follow: service of each other; outreach to the lonely; nourishment for the hungry; compassion for the sick, the isolated, the dying, especially those facing death alone, and those who mourn. Let's do it.

These are the strengths we have, the strengths we must contribute to our society's way of life. Only in this day-to-day practice can we shape a different future, a better future, one that is more compassionate, more just, more charitable. This is the future which must come out of this crisis. We cannot just wait to 'get back to normal'. This is a time to rebuild a better family, a better household, a better neighbourhood, a better world.

May God bless and sustain us all in the weeks ahead.

Yours devotedly

**+Cardinal Vincent Nichols
Archbishop of Westminster**



Dear Holy Joes,

On 4th November 2020, Parliament passed

**The Health Protection
(Coronavirus) Regulations 2020.**

These are currently in force up to Wednesday 2nd December 2020.

The regulations preclude gatherings for communal worship, including the celebration of Mass, baptisms and most weddings. St Joseph's church will therefore be closed for all public, communal and congregational worship. In line with the guidelines it will be open, on a limited basis, for private personal prayer.

Whilst the new regulations are in force, the opening times over the coming four weeks of the Lockdown will be:

**Wednesday morning,
for one hour, from 10am to 11am.**

**Saturday morning,
for two hours from 10am to 12 noon**

**Sunday morning,
for two hours, from 10am to 12 noon**

To keep us safe, we will be limiting the number of individuals inside the church to a maximum of 15 at any one time. If there are more than 15 people, you will be asked to wait in a queue outside the church and will be permitted to

enter after one person from inside has left the church.

Large sections of the church will be cordoned off and seating will be limited to one section of the pews only.

The routines of sanitizing, stewarding and social distancing to which we have been accustomed, and which have made our church Covid-secure, will continue to be maintained. If you come to church, please ensure that you have a face covering on at all times, except if you are medically exempt. Hands must be sanitized before entering the church. And please maintain two metre distancing inside the church and in the area just outside.

For Track and Trace purposes, we are required to take your name and a contact telephone number. Or, you can use the NHS track and trace App QR codes upon arrival.

Our diligent Stewards will be on hand to assist and we urge you to follow their guidance as they continue to do their best to ensure that we stay safe and secure in these challenging times.

The Passionist Community at St Joseph's will remember you in their prayers and will continue to offer Holy Mass for your deceased loved ones every day during November– the month of the Holy Souls – but this must take place without a congregation. Do join the Sacrifice of Christ daily in your prayers and especially in Spiritual Communion.

Mass Online.

We will be live streaming
our Masses starting this weekend.

Weekdays 9:30AM
Sundays 12Noon and 7PM

We are both on our website
stjosephshighgate.org.uk

and on our YouTube channel;



St. Josephs Highgate



Since this is our first attempt at doing this,
we ask you to be patient as we struggle
with our weak internet.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

We'll be thinking about...

How do we prepare to come to church?

Is there anything special we do when we pray?



We'll be talking about...

Why do you think the bridesmaids needed oil for their lamps?

What things do we do in church to prepare for Mass?

Can you think of anything you have had to prepare or get ready?



Our Gospel is about...

This week we hear the parable of the ten bridesmaids. Five bridesmaids were ready for the feast and five weren't. Only those who were ready could go to the feast.

This parable helps to tell us "Stay awake and stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming."



We'll be praying for...

We pray that we can be ready for God.

Help and guidance to be prepared



-Sarah Duncan



Welcome

Please Come In

The church is
open for prayer

On Wed. 10AM - 11AM
On Sat.& Sun.
10AM – 12PM

No Congregational worship

Christmas Masses



We are now preparing for our Christmas Masses. To enable maximum attendance in compliance with applicable COVID-19 guidelines, the Parish will offer additional Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. Bookings for these Masses are now open on the Parish's Diocesan website:

<https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/highgate/events/>. Attendance at all Masses remains capped at 90 persons, so please pre-book now for Christmas!

Thank You

We can't exist without the generosity of the people that call Holy Joes home. When we give generously, we share in the true nature of God's abundant love. Last week's collection amounted to £2097. Thank you very much.

Lately Dead
+Jackie Taylor
+Anthony Nolan
+Thomas Goldrick
+Michael Carragher
+ Nora Rodger
+Josephine Talbot

Anniversary
Joseph Keane.
Catherine Gallagher
Tanoo Mylvaganam
Agnes McCormack



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