



ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE PARISH BULLETIN

St Joseph's Church, Highgate Hill, London N19 5NE

Tel. 020 7272 2320

e-mail: joseph.highgate@gmail.com website: www.stjosephshighgate.org.uk

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)

14th May 2017 – Fifth Sunday of Easter

I WISH YOU ENOUGH

When the following story was passed on to me a good while ago by a friend, he told me that it was true – it happened to a friend of his. I have since been able to find various versions of it on the internet, but even if it's only a story, it deserves to be true! The story starts with a conversation that this gentleman had overheard between a mother and daughter as they were saying their good-byes at the airport. The imminent departure of the daughter's flight had just been announced over the public address system. Standing near the security gate, they hugged and then the mother said to her daughter, "I love you and I wish you enough".

The daughter replied, "Mom, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough, too, Mom".

They gave one another a final kiss and a hug, and then the daughter left. The mother walked over to the window where this gentleman was seated. From where he was he could see that the mother wanted and needed to cry. He tried not to intrude on her privacy but she welcomed him in by asking, "Did you ever say good-bye to someone knowing it would be forever?" "Yes, I have," he replied. "But forgive me for asking, why should this be a forever good-bye?"

"I am old and my daughter lives so far away. I have challenges ahead and the reality is - her next trip back will be for my funeral," she said.

"When you were saying good-bye, I heard you say, 'I wish you enough'. May I ask what that means?"

She began to smile. "That's a wish that has been handed down from through generations of my family. I used to hear my parents saying it to everyone". She paused a moment and looked up as if trying to remember it in detail and she smiled even more. "When we said, 'I wish you enough', we wanted the other person to have a life filled with just enough good things to sustain them". Then she shared the following as if she were reciting it from memory.

I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright no matter how grey the day may appear.

I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun even more.

I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive and everlasting.

I wish you enough pain so that even the smallest of joys in life may appear bigger.

I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting.

I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess.

I wish you enough hellos to get you through the final good-bye.

I happened across the above story again this week, and I thought it might be an appropriate one particularly this week-end as a group of our young people are celebrating the Sacrament of Confirmation. We expect them to be full of hopes and ideals for their future. But while we don't want to rain on their parade, we do pray that their hopes and ideals will be realistic. In promising us the Holy Spirit, Jesus didn't want us to think "and that will be the end of all our problems". Jesus knew, better than any of us, that the real world is one of ups and downs, of good and bad, of happy and sad. God gives to each of us according to our needs. It is up to us to use what He gives as well as we can to achieve God's plan in our lives. Instead of praying for more, may we be content in praying for ENOUGH in our lives to do what God asks of us.

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We pray for those whose anniversaries occur at this time – Gerald Murphy, Eddie O'Connor, Gertrude (Duda) Collie, Mary Douglas, Yvonne Emery (Cooke), Joaquim Lobo, Peter & Margaret McMorro, John McIntyre, Billy Nolan, Ted Duane, Charles & James O'Boyle, Colin Langan, Jerry Flynn.

Welcome to Bishop Hudson:

We are very happy and honoured this week-end to welcome Bishop Nicholas Hudson to St. Joseph's Parish for the celebration of Confirmation with 31 of our young people, which is taking place at the 7.00 pm. mass on Saturday. We thank him for including us in his busy schedule and having the time to be with us for this significant celebration with our young people. We trust that his stay amongst us, though short, will be a pleasant one.

Confirmations:

As mentioned above, 31 of our young people will be celebrating the sacrament of Confirmation this week-end. Those of us who are a little more senior might be tempted to think that this is simply another event in the cycle of parish life, but we should be aware that things have changed very much from 'our day'. Nowadays our young people must make a personal choice to seek to be confirmed. They go through a lengthy process of preparation that takes place outside of their formal education, sacrificing their free time. To make those sorts of choices is not easy nowadays. So I really want to first of all congratulate them on their special day, but also to thank them for coming forward and openly professing their faith, and choosing to be key members of the next generation entrusted to hand down Christ's message of love, and peace, and hope for the future. May this Sacrament strengthen and encourage them in the living out of their Christian idealism. Also, a very special word of thanks to Cheryl who has prepared them for this wonderful day, and to the many people who have helped her along the way.

Shared International Lunch:

To celebrate Pentecost, the Catholic Church's birthday, our Parish is organising a Shared International Lunch on Sunday 4 June 2017 at 1pm in the Red Room – and spilling out to the garden. All parishioners are invited to come along and, if possible, contribute a traditional dish from your country and/or some drinks (but not in large quantities). Please note that, on the day, you will only be able to warm up, not cook the food.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School Nursery Places:

If your child was born between 1st September 2013 and 31st August 2014 they can start in our Nursery Class in September 2017 and we offer FREE full time nursery places 8:55-3:15. Please complete an application which - downloadable from our website (the Supplementary Information Form (SIF)) - and if you are applying for a Catholic place, please also complete the priest reference. If this is the case we will also require sight of original Baptismal Certificate and for all applicants the original Birth Certificate which can be dropped in directly to the school office. Forms, Admissions Policy and criteria for offering places at the school, are available to download on the website. <http://www.st-josephs.islington.sch.uk/admissions-2017-2018/>

Christian Stewardship:

Last week's collection amounted to £1,630. In addition in the past month we have received over £5,000 in standing orders. We are most grateful for your outstanding generosity.

Cardinal's Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony Saturday 3rd June 2017 at 3pm.

This annual event will be taking place in Westminster Cathedral. For the past few years members of our Parish have attended this very meaningful celebration. The Archbishop will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2017. If you are celebrating any of the above anniversaries this year, please give Fr. Pat (email or letter) the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email). Fr. Pat will forward any details received to the Diocese, who will eventually issue the invitations directly to the couples involved.

In case you are admitted to hospital.....

(We repeat this notice from time to time as a reminder.) People sometimes have difficulties in making contact with the chaplains in the various hospitals. Data protection regulations mean that your details will not be passed on to the Catholic chaplain, **unless you specifically ask the staff to do so**. Also you are advised to state that you would like the Catholic chaplain to visit you. Many of the hospitals have dedicated chaplains, whose special ministry is being there for the patients when they need them. However, should you have difficulty contacting the chaplain, then please do not hesitate to call upon myself or another of the priests here. All we ask is that you let the patient concerned know that you've asked us to call. It can be a little frightening for some sick people, especially of the older generations, if suddenly a priest turns up at their sick-bed!

Churches Together in Highgate:

Churches Together invites you to join together with Christians from our other Highgate Churches in an ecumenical service this Sunday 14th May at 6.30pm at St Michael's Church, South Grove in Highgate Village. Revd. Mark Davies of Highgate International Church will preach the sermon.