

# ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE PARISH BULLETIN

St Joseph's Church, Highgate Hill, London N19 5NE Tel. 020 7272 2320 Fax. 020 7281 9433

 $e\text{-mail:}\ \underline{joseph.highgate@gmail.com}\ :\ website:www.stjosephshighgate.org.uk$ 

Registered Charity 1173084

Fr. Pat (<u>pfcp44@yahoo.com</u>) Fr. George (<u>gaskoloth@hotmail.com</u>)

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

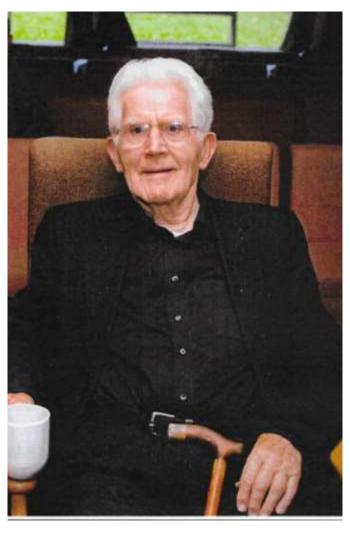
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday 10-10.30am, 6.30 -6.45pm

Weekdays: immediately after Mass (on request)

### 31st March 2019 – 4th Sunday of Lent

## HAPPY 100TH BIRTHDAY!

We are very happy this week-end to 100<sup>th</sup> the celebrating birthday of Fr. Chris. Strictly speaking it should be on Tuesday, but in order to give as many people as possible, and especially members of his family, the opportunity to celebrate with him, it was thought that this Sunday would be a more suitable day. There will be a concelebrated mass at 12 o'clock, at which his Provincial. Fr. John Kearns C.P. will be the concelebrant, principal and one of his students, Fr. Malachy, whom many of you will remember from his years here, will be doing the preaching. You are all very welcome to be part of this celebration. Of course there is no way in which we could within the limited amount of space



available to us, give you any sort of summary of Fr. Chris's life and ministry. We will have to make do with giving some of the key dates and a brief outline of his ministry within the Congregation. Born on 2<sup>nd</sup> April, 1919, in Belfast, he joined the Passionists in early 1939 and made his First Profession on the February, 1940. He was ordained a priest on the 28<sup>th</sup> April, 1945. He was initially involved in the Formation of our students. Later he was stationed in Sutton, Minsteracres and Ilkley, mainly in local ministry, with some preaching of missions. He has been based here in Highgate for almost 40 years. If you want more of the inside stories, then come and listen to Fr. Malachy!

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We pray for those who have died recently – Bridgette McDwyer (funeral 11.00am Thursday 11th April), Nora Flannagan, Tim Moriarty; we remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time – Conor Finnegan, Clifford Lewis, John Tierney, John McCormack, Cyril & Ellen Emery, Gladys Hogan, Paul Love.

#### Fr. Christopher's 100th Birthday:

For this wonderful occasion we want to extend a very special welcome to the various members of Fr. Christopher's extended family who have been able to join us. We're also delighted that so many Passionists from St. Joseph's Province have been able to share in the celebrations.

#### **Mothering Sunday:**

Today is Mothering Sunday and once again we would like to celebrate it, as we did most successfully last year, as a Parish community. You are welcome to attend either of two sessions – after the 10, and after the 12 masses, in the Red Room, and, weather permitting, spilling out to the lawn. It is open to all – you don't have to be a mother yourself – if you ever had a mother you qualify!

#### **Coffee Morning next Sunday:**

Our next coffee morning will be taking place in the Red Room next Sunday, 7<sup>th</sup> April. All welcome.

#### **Youth Group:**

The Youth Group for ages 13-17 years old will reconvene on Friday 5th April. It would be great to see some new faces so please do join us even if you have not been involved before! It will run 7pm till 9pm and please use the entrance on Highgate Hill when you arrive. Further details can be obtained by contacting Mirek on mirek17@hotmail.com

#### **Planned Giving Boxes:**

We will shortly be into a new tax year, when the planned-giving boxes for 2019-2020 come into operation. We invite you to collect your new boxes of envelopes at the back of the church after any of the masses this week-ends. If you haven't had a box before but would like to start now, then please let the people distributing the boxes know, and they will assign you a box number. If you prefer to donate by standing order, forms can be obtained at the back of the church.

#### **Do You Gift-Aid?**

The value of your donation can be increased by 25% at no extra cost to yourself, simply by Gift-Aiding it – if you are a tax-payer. The Parish learns nothing about your private financial affairs. The average weekly collection, between plate and standing orders, is approximately £2200 a week. If only half of that was Gift-Aided, it would mean an extra £275 a week, or £14,300 a year, to Parish funds. We are genuinely grateful to those who have been Gift-Aiding. If you haven't been doing so already, and are in a position to Gift-Aid, perhaps you might think of doing so now. Forms will be available at the back of the church while the planned giving boxes are being distributed, and at any other time from the office, or contact Fr. Pat by email.

#### Cardinal's Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony:

This annual event will be taking place this year in Westminster Cathedral, on Saturday 8th June 2019 at 3pm. The Cardinal will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2019. If you qualify, and would like to attend, please give to Fr. Pat the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email). The actual invitation will eventually come directly from the Cardinal's office.

#### **Christian Stewardship and Lenten Project:**

Last week's collection amounted to £1,372. In addition we receive an average of over £900 per week in standing orders. Thanks also for your magnificent response to our Lenten Project in aid of Fr. Rick's work in Haiti - £702 in total was donated last week, bringing the total to date to just over £2700. We are very grateful for your outstanding generosity.

#### **100 Club:**

The March Draw for the 100 Club was held in the Monastery during the week. The number of entries was 120 and the winners were: £400 Frank Salmon (154), £100 Felicity Juckes (87), Nick Sharp (166). A copy of the results may be obtained from the Parish office on request. Thank you once again to all who support the parish in this way, and especially to everyone who has responded to our recent membership appeal.

#### **Stations of the Cross:**

During the season of Lent there will be Stations of the Cross immediately after the 6.30 pm. Mass each Friday. This is a particularly appropriate form of prayer during Lent, especially in a Passionist church, as it encourages meditation on the profound mystery on the depth of the Lord's love for us as expressed in His passion, death and resurrection. Of course, if the set time is not suitable for you, you can also do this particular form of prayer at any time on your own or with some friends.