

ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE PARISH BULLETIN



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Registered Charity 1173084

Fr. Pat (pfcp44@yahoo.com) Fr. George (gaskoloth@hotmail.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)

15th July 2018 - 15th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Two By Two Equals

It was touch and go as to whether there would be a bulletin this week. For starters, I was away for the past week with the sixth year pupils of St. Joseph's school on their trip to the Isle of Wight, marking the end of their primary school education. I can appreciate that you may be thinking "that's tough on our parish priest – having to go on a school trip in such excessively hot weather" – and I appreciate your concern. I know, it is tough work, but somebody has to do it! In all seriousness, it is an experience that I have been fortunate enough to enjoy a number of times while being here. Apart from the fun end of it, it's an opportunity for me as a governor of the school, to see the fruits of their period of formation and education in St. Joseph's. And I can't really express sufficiently how impressed I've been by the – for their age – maturity of their behaviour, and their understanding of the give-and-take that is necessary if we are to live in a peaceful and caring society. I am confident that if these children continue their personal and social development at the same rate in the next phase(s) of their education, they will certainly be the kind of citizens that this country, and the world, so badly needs. Well done, St. Joseph's!

So, what's the problem – surely I had all day Saturday to get the bulletin ready? But not really. The various sporting authorities don't seem to understand that it's very difficult to write a bulletin, if at the same time you are trying to keep up with tennis matches that go on almost as long as a cricket test – sorry, that's not really fair on the tennis, as there's obviously something actually happening on the tennis court. Oops, I can see some cricket fans getting upset. Sorry! Couldn't afford to hang around and see Serena getting beaten in the women's final, especially as it was clashing with the football, and England's efforts to get the bronze medal, which unfortunately ended in failure. Condolences on the one hand, and congratulations on the other, as England did ever so much better than many people expected.

Which is actually what could also be said of our apostles in our gospel reading this Sunday. It must have been with a great sense of trepidation that they set out with Jesus' instructions ringing in their ears. I couldn't help but think – especially in the context of how I had spent the week – as to how different their reality was. For instance, you don't expect year sixth-year children to go out "two-by-two" – it's not really cool at their age! And you certainly make sure that they carry all that they need for the journey – including bread, and money in their purses. But then, the apostles weren't on a holiday trip. They were people with a mission – their short-term mission of bringing a message of repentance and bringing healing of soul and body – and their longer-term mission of leading the way for those who were to follow – including us.

It can be easy to forget that an essential part of our calling as Christians in that we are people with a mission – to live the message of Christ, and to share it with our world. It may not be a picnic or a holiday at time, but it is the surest way of strengthening our own faith, and renewing our appreciation of the wonderful gift that our faith is, and how important it is to do our part in passing it on to future generations.

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We remember those who have died recently – Hallie Hewitt (Funeral 1.00pm Monday, 16th July), Francis O'Neill (Funeral 10.30am Wednesday, 18th July), Anthony O'Malley (funeral 11.30am Thursday 19th July), Sr. Bernardine Spink OSA (funeral 11.30am Friday 27th July), Jayne Triffitt, Sr. Christina Flannery, Donna Cheaster, Elizabeth Meah; we remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time – Fr. Conleth O'Hara CP, Fr. Theodore Davey CP, Jane, Christopher & Paul McNally.

Afternoon Tea Social, Wednesday, 18th July:

On Wednesday from 2.00-3.30pm we will hold our next afternoon tea and social for those interested — with a particular welcome for senior members of the parish and those who would like to spend more time enjoying the companionship of other parishioners. We hope to continue to run these teas and socials on a monthly basis, on the third Wednesday of each month, so that it won't clash with events in the community centre. If you know of people who might wish to come, perhaps you could speak to them and check if they would like to come, and if they would need help in getting here. Of course, helpers on the day will also be very welcome.

Keeping Our Church Clean:

Our next cleaning day will be at 10am this Tuesday, 17th July (we hope to finish by 1pm). Everyone welcome - suitably fortifying refreshments will be served! Those who can be available on the day can either email roxane.stirling@btopenworld.com or call 020 7263 6831 or just turn up and join the fun.

St Joseph's Primary School After School Club - Playworker:

Due to an increase in demand for After School Club places, St Joseph's School Governors are seeking to appoint Playworkers who have experience and/or qualifications of working with children. We are particularly interested in applicants who have experience in EYFS and/or who have valid qualifications for working in Early Years. Please email the school office for further information or to request an application pack on 020 7272 1270 or email office@st-josephs.islington.sch.uk. The Closing Date is Midday, Monday 9th July 2018 and interviews shortly after. We will offer free After School Club places to children currently attending St Joseph's School. Salary: Range; £7,837 – £8,247. Hours: Monday – Friday 3:00pm - 6:00pm Term-time only.

Christian Stewardship:

Last week's collection amounted to £1,310. In addition to that we receive an average of over £900 per week in standing orders. Thanks again for your generous support of our parish.

World Youth Day 2019:

The next World Youth Day takes place in Panama, January 2019. The diocesan Youth Ministry team will be taking a group of young adults to Panama, from ages 18-35. Any young people in the parish interested in joining the pilgrimage are invited to contact youth@rcdow.org.uk. Bursaries of up to 50% of the cost are available. Spaces are limited, so interested youth are requested to contact Youth Ministry as soon as possible.

Mary's Meals Clothes Collection:

A very big 'thank you' from Mary's Meals for your response to the Rags to Riches collection last Sunday. The parish managed to give 295 kg of unwanted clothes; there were also cash donations of £782.84 making a total contribution of £948.04 – which is a really excellent result! The amount raised will feed 72 children. Not only will they get fed one good, nutritious meal every school day for a whole year, but they will get an education too.

Children's Summer Camps:

Bookings are being taken for the SVP John Bosco camps for boys (ages 8-13, weeks beginning 21st & 28th July) and girls (ages 9-12, week beginning 4th 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 holiday this year. See porch noticeboard or visit www.svpboscocamp.org.uk for details. Phone Eileen 020 7272 1263 if interested.

Adoremus National Eucharistic Congress: 7-9 September:

Apologies to anyone who experienced difficulties booking tickets through the Bishops' Conference online portal at http://unbouncepages.com/adoremus2018/ The issues have now been resolved and bookings can be made until Tuesday, 31 July – this is an absolute deadline. The Friday symposium is fully booked. You can add your name to a waiting list at adoremus@rcdow.org.uk but there is no guarantee of further tickets. There are tickets remaining for the main event on the Saturday, when the internationally-known Bishop Robert Barron will give two keynote addresses and Cardinal Nichols will give a reflection and lead us in Exposition and Benediction. There is a fee of £40 per delegate for the Saturday. There is no fee for the Sunday, but please still submit a booking form online for a place at one of the two Solemn Masses at the Metropolitan Cathedral.

Hope Together gatherings – Monday 16th July & Saturday 28th July

Recent news reports have highlighted the increase in violence affecting young people across London. Are you wondering how you can respond? Is there a way that together we can make a difference? Courtyard, part of the Catholic charity *Million Minutes*, presents 'Hope Together'. These gatherings offer an opportunity to explore the issues and discuss our potential response in supporting our local young people. There are two opportunities to attend: Monday 16th July 7-9pm, St Mellitus, Finsbury Park (N4 3AG) or Saturday 28th July 2-4pm, Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St George, Enfield (EN2 6DS). To register and for more information please visit: millionminutes.eventbrite.co.uk

WE PRAY FOR ... (15th July)

the sick and housebound of our Parish:

Jennifer Roberts, Bridget McDonnell,

Oliver Columb, Isabel Pycroft,

Anthony Boyle, Ita Watters,

Eileen Riley, William Pender,

Clive Nero, Florence Cass,

Chris Beazley-Long, Anne Bergin.

We remember those who have died recently:

Hallie Hewitt,

Francis O'Neill,

Anthony O'Malley,

Sr. Bernardine Spink,

Jayne Triffitt,

Sr. Christina Flannery,

Donna Cheaster,

Elizabeth Meah.

We remember those whose anniversaries occur around this time:

Fr. Conleth O'Hara CP,

Fr. Theodore Davey CP,

Jane, Christopher & Paul McNally.

(15th July)

Our next church cleaning day will be this Tuesday morning, starting at 10am. Everyone welcome, see Bulletin for more information.

On Wednesday afternoon, from 2.00-3.30pm we invite you to an afternoon tea and social, with a particular welcome for the more senior members of the parish. See Bulletin for more information.