



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)

3rd September 2017 – 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor. R.I.P

I received a copy of a very moving letter on Friday, as follows –

My dear Cardinal Vincent,

I would be very grateful if you would convey this short message to the priests, religious and lay faithful of the Diocese, of which I as well as you have been privileged to serve as their Bishop.

At this time, the words I pray every night are never far from my thoughts: "Into your hands, Lord, I commend my spirit". Please tell them that I am at peace and have no fear of what is to come. I have received many blessings in my life, especially from my family and friends. I thank God for the many priests, religious and lay faithful who have helped and sustained me in my Episcopal life. Nor should I forget the many Anglican and Free Church colleagues whose friendship I have valued very much. Above all, as I now commend myself to the loving mercy of God, I ask them all to pray for me as I remember and pray for them.

Fraternally in the Lord,

+Cormac



Hardly had I received the above letter than it was quickly followed by another –

Dear Fathers and Deacons,

I am writing to let you know the sad news that Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor died peacefully this afternoon, surrounded by his family and friends.

Please pray for the repose of his soul. Pray, too, for his family, and those many friends and colleagues from the Diocese and far beyond who mourn his loss.

Information about the funeral rites for the Cardinal will be circulated as soon as possible.

With my good wishes and prayers,

Cardinal Vincent Nichols

Cardinal Murphy-O'Connor was created a Cardinal at the same Consistory as Pope Francis in February 2001. I can do no better than quote Pope Francis' message on this sad occasion –

To Cardinal Vincent Nichols, Archbishop of Westminster

Deeply saddened to learn of the death of Cardinal Cormac Murphy-O'Connor, Archbishop emeritus of Westminster, I hasten to offer my heartfelt condolences to you and to the clergy and faithful of the Archdiocese.

Recalling with immense gratitude the late Cardinal's distinguished service to the Church in England and Wales, his unwavering devotion to the preaching of the Gospel and the care of the poor, and his far-sighted commitment to the advancement of ecumenical and interreligious understanding, I willingly join you in commending his noble soul to the infinite mercies of God our heavenly Father.

To all who mourn his passing in the sure hope of the Resurrection I cordially impart my Apostolic Blessing as a pledge of consolation and strength in the Lord.

FRANCISCUS PP

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We pray for the sick and housebound of our parish - Neil McDonald, Robbie McDonald, Joe Di Leo; we pray for those who have died recently - Barbara Cronin, Enrique Perez, Michael Galvin, Charlotte Fullerton, Kevin O'Hagan; and we remember those whose anniversaries occur – Alice Ryan, Stephen Maughan.

Welcome Back:

It seems only the other day that we were looking forward to the holidays, and here we are having almost already forgotten how we spent them! Anyway, let me take this opportunity on behalf of all the community here to welcome you back, and also to extend a very warm welcome to the many new people who have come to our parish over the past few months. Whether you stayed at home, or travelled, I do hope you had a relaxing and enjoyable time and have your batteries re-charged as we face into a new school year.

I'm particularly happy to welcome among us Fr. Ralph Egan, a Passionist from our Irish/Scottish Province. He has very kindly agreed to help out in the parish during the absence of Fr. Tiernan in Australia. Fr. Ralph (by the way, pronounced Rahlf – not Raif!) tells me that his visit brings back many happy memories of his two year residence here away back in the 1960's – when he was studying in London. I trust that his stay here will help to build a new collection of happy memories. On your, and my own, behalf I want to thank him for his generosity in helping out over the next few weeks.

First Holy Communion and Confirmation:

While detailed dates for the actual beginning of the programs have not been finalised as yet, application Forms for our First Holy Communion and Confirmation programs will be available in the porch of the church from next Sunday. We remind you once again that these programs are 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 children will not be accepted on either program unless the application form is 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 quite a degree of commitment by families as well as our catechists, who voluntarily give of their time and talents. Naturally the children are required to attend mass each Sunday, and we of course expect their families to support them by good example.

Christian Stewardship:

Last week's collection amounted to £1,315. In addition we receive an average of over £800 per week in standing orders. Thanks once again for your continuing generosity.

Back to School/Back to Work Sharing Lunch:

After the magnificent response to the International Lunch we had earlier this year, by popular demand we are having a similar event to mark returning to work/school after the Summer holidays. It will take place after the 12 Mass next Sunday, 10th September. All parishioners, longstanding or newly arrived, young or old, 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.

New Foundation Degree for Catholics working in Healthcare and those seeking to be Chaplains.

Starting in October, St Mary's University Twickenham is pleased to offer a new foundation degree in Healthcare Ethics, Theology and Care. This is a part time two year programme for those seeking to be hospital chaplains and for people working in healthcare settings, from care homes, to hospices and hospitals. Lectures and seminars take place at St Mary's one evening a week and additional lectures and resources are available online. If you are interested in applying or finding out more please contact matthew.james@stmarys.ac.uk

Parish Bazaar – November 25th:

I know, this might appear a little bizarre to be announcing the bazaar this early, but as this is the only regular fund-raising event we have each year, and also one of our principle social events, it is important that people support it as best possible. We know that people have been very generous in contributing items for the various stalls, and we pray for that to continue, but you will readily appreciate how disheartening it can be for the volunteers who give so generously of their time if on the actual day very few of our parishioners turn up. So please put the date in your diary, and if you able to help out on the actual day, or in the preparations, please contact Cheryl as soon as possible, at felicitymaynard@hotmail.com

Special Meeting regarding Human Trafficking:

We have been asked to draw your attention to an event Caritas Westminster and Santa Marta Group in conjunction with Camden and Islington and Met Police are hosting on human trafficking. The evening will focus on why human trafficking is an issue, and the extent of the problem in London, and talk about practical actions you can take. This event is specifically designed for people living in Camden and Islington boroughs. The event will take place on 19th September, 6.30-8.30pm at Kilburn West Parish, Marian Parish Centre, 1 Stafford Rd, NW6 5RS. Speakers include: Bishop Nicholas Hudson; Michael Duthie - Deputy Director of the Santa Marta Group; Camden and Islington Borough Police; The Metropolitan Police.