



ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE PARISH BULLETIN

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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)

6th November 2016 – 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Something To Chew On/With?

I'm not quite sure where to begin this week, there's been so much happening. Of course we had the celebrations of All Saints and then All Souls Day, both of which have their different traditions – dressing up in scary outfits – and no, I do not regard dressing in black suit and Roman collar as a scary outfit! - on All Saints, and visiting the church and praying for the souls in Purgatory on All Souls. And while we may not view death and purgatory in the same way nowadays as in the past, it is still “a holy and a wholesome thought to pray for the dead”, as the book of Maccabees reminds us. So far we seem to have had less than the normal amount of fireworks so far – OK, I know they're not finished with yet – it would appear that the idea of setting up a fireworks outlet across the road from us turned out to be a bit of a damp squib! (Apologies.) Mind you, I don't think the name helped – “Men Shun Fireworks”.

At a personal level I went through another rite of passage this week – well, to be honest, I'm still going through it, and probably will be for some time yet. So far I had managed to get through life with my own home-grown set of teeth, but this week I took delivery of my first set of dentures. In the scale of things not all that important – I'm sure many of you have had the same experience – but going around with a couple of lumps of plastic, or whatever they're made from, in my mouth takes a bit of getting used to. Despite the encouragement/warning? from my dentist that I must persevere with them – and I will, eventually – I'm not making great headway, and you're not likely to hear me mis-pronouncing my s's and th's this week-end, as the said dentures will be firmly fixed in a glass of water beside my bed! Some things one needs to get used to in private!

Some of you may have noticed that the progress of the painting of the church has almost ground to a halt. At present, and over the next few weeks work continues on the repair and replacement of some plaster-work on one of the cornices on the Dartmouth Park Hill side of the Church. But the painting has been stopped by order of the Diocese of Westminster Historic Churches Committee. It is utterly frustrating, as we, and the architects supervising the job have conscientiously followed every guideline available. We have now received an apology as follows – “*I can only apologise on behalf of the Diocese that you were not given accurate information. I have now checked with the Chair of the Diocesan Patrimony Committee who insists that our guidelines are altered*” but still no permission to still go ahead with the work despite the fact that there is only one way to go – finish the job! Be assured that we are doing everything in our power to have the issue resolved speedily, as every week's delay is simply adding to the cost of an already costly enough project. We can only pray that, as our readings remind us today, that there will be life after death!

Which, of course is the central point of our Gospel passage. As in our world today, at the time of Jesus there were many people who believed that death was the end of everything – no after-life, in other words. In our gospel we have a group mocking the very idea, as their limited minds see the only possibility for a life after death as being simply a continuation of the life here on earth. But, as St. Paul reminds us, “eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor has it entered into the heart of man what things God has prepared for those who love him.” November is a month of hope, and trust in the Lord's goodness, a good that we all hope to share in one day.

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We pray for the sick and housebound of our parish – Frank Domantay; and we pray for those who have died recently – Mr Araya Gerbrab, Brian Rollason, Nora Hirst; we remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time – John O'Brien, Phil O'Keefe, Netta Windle, Peter McCaffery, Tanoo Mylvaganam, Robert Marchant, Agnes McCormack, Rosemary Warhurst.

Coffee Morning This Sunday:

Our next Coffee Morning will be this Sunday, 6th November, in the Red Room, immediately after the 10.00 am. Mass. A good opportunity, especially for new Parishioners, to meet fellow members of our Parish.

November Dead List:

The usual envelopes and sheets for the November altar list of the dead are still available in the porch. Mass will be said each day in November for all whose names are submitted for the list.

Christmas Bazaar - Saturday 19th November:

Our Bazaar this year is on Saturday 19th of November, only **TWO** weeks away. As always we are relying on your generous donations of all the usual goods for the stalls: books, cakes, toys, toiletries, homeware, etc. (but do please remember that health and safety regulations nowadays forbid us to sell second-hand electrical goods, used soft toys or clothing that we cannot guarantee have been disinfected) and of course lots of bottles for the Tombola stall – thank you to the many of you who have contributed already, especially the generous donation of £100 towards expenses received during the week. Please start bringing in goods for stalls **AS SOON AS POSSIBLE** so that we can start sorting. But also we need volunteers to make it all happen, so if you would like to help in any way, either with the preparatory organisation or on the day itself, please contact Cheryl on felicitymaynard@hotmail.com. And finally, we hope you will be able to come on the day and help make this year's Bazaar the successful social event it always is.

Grand Raffle:

Whether you can manage to come to the Bazaar or not, you can still support us by buying tickets for the Raffle - the tickets are now on sale at only £1 each for the Grand Raffle which will be held on the day.

Dates for your Diary:

Other Christmas dates for your diaries: the **Living Crib** will be on Sunday 11th December at 3.00pm, and our evening of **Christmas Readings and Carols** will be on Thursday 15th December at 7.30pm.

Pre-Marriage Course:

Our next pre-marriage course will be on Saturday, November 26th. This course is open to all those planning on getting married during 2017 – they need not be members of the parish, or be planning on getting married here. Application forms and further details of the course can be obtained by emailing pfc44@yahoo.com

Christian Stewardship:

Last week's collection amounted to £1,406. In addition we also receive approximately £1,900 in standing orders each month. The Mission Appeal for the Columban Fathers raised £1,041.88. Thanks again for your continuing generosity.

St. Joseph's Primary School:

If you weren't able to make it to St Joseph's Primary school's open morning in October, fear not – you have another opportunity on **Tuesday 22nd November**. Registration and refreshments from 9:15am. All forms and the Admissions Policy which sets out the criteria for offering places at the school, are available from the school office or to download from the website. <http://www.st-josephs.islington.sch.uk/>

Evening Prayer for Remembrance Sunday:

Join together with other Christians from our Highgate Churches in an ecumenical service for Remembrance Sunday, here at St. Joseph's, next Sunday 13th November at 5.30pm. The service will be led by Fr. Tiernan, and we will be welcoming Rev'd Robert Willoughby from St. Michael's as preacher.

Christmas at the Repository:

Christmas Cards, Advent Calendars, and 2017 Calendars and St. Joseph's Parish Diaries are all now available at the Repository shop at the back of church, as well as the usual range of cards, books and devotional items, and the weekly Catholic papers.

Year of Mercy:

The Cardinal will mark the end of the Jubilee of Mercy in the Diocese by closing the Holy Door in the Cathedral in the context of Vespers at 3.30 pm on Sunday, 13 November. Archbishop Welby will preach.

Towards Advent :

A Festival of Catholic Culture is being held on Saturday 26th November in Westminster Cathedral Hall, Ambrosden Avenue London SW1 1QJ from 10am. Over 30 organisations will be attending and it is an opportunity for them to give an insight into their activities and they will also have many articles for sale. Admission is free. In addition some talks and workshops will be given during the event. Further details are available on 'towardsadvent@blogspot.com'

In case you are admitted to hospital:

In light of data protection please indicate on entering hospital that your details are to be passed to the Catholic Chaplain. Also let them know that you would like the Catholic Chaplain to visit you.