

ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE

www.stjosephshighgate.org.uk

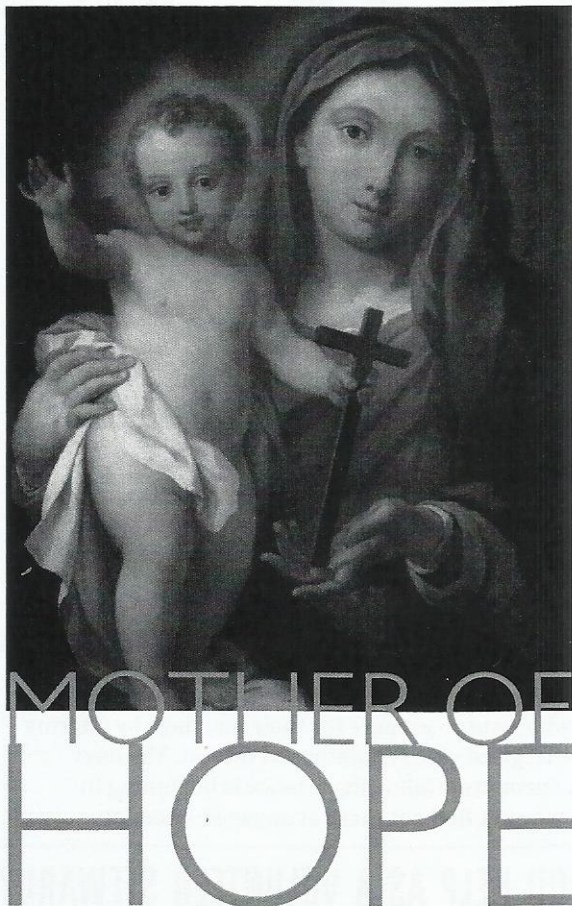
P A R I S H B U L L E T I N

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Registered Charity
1173084

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If there was a time when we need Our Mother of Holy Hope it is in these days of virus and continual change and upheaval to our normal life. She is the perfect mother to turn to with our hope and suffering, she was there to love and cherish our Lord Jesus as a baby and young child, but also to see him die in agony - a mother's most dreaded fear. As a nurse I saw loss in all its heartrending vividness and I pray to the Blessed Virgin Mary for Holy Hope.

I remember my own mother who suffered too, losing first her husband aged only forty, her son in his twenties in a motor cycle accident and then her grand-daughter of two years old with cancer. I believe she had Faith though she didn't talk about it to me. It was her cross and I hope her salvation.

It's so long ago, where have they gone?
That circle of small faces staring up
At their mother's, as she sat with
them kindly and patiently teaching them words I'd
never heard before.
"Hail Mary, full of grace,
the Lord is with thee. . ."
I stood at the door looking in.
She didn't know she was teaching me too.

I took that picture with me, somewhere deep inside to remember on my own after leaving home. I was young too. I learnt the words and said them often. I was not a catholic then but the Rosary was a strange comfort. The gentle mother, who eventually became my mother-in-law is long gone. The little children have become grey haired old men. (It is said time and space have no meaning for prayers.) For me the words still resonate like reflection of eternity in the blue glass beads of my first rosary.

—Maureen

BEYOND ALL IMAGINING

It's all about waiting. . .
And filled with wishes!
That's how I try to control my future!
That drives me more often than not to despair and disappointment!
And I find myself numbed by fear, losses and darkness.

Mother of Holy Hope!
Her life was not entangled with her wishes!
She was so active that she could even hear the whispers of angels.
"I am your slave, may it be done to me according to your word."

She was never on the run!
She was so patient.
She truly believed, something was going to happen where she was.
She dared to stay there!
Around the Promise.
She waited there. . .
With Hope!
It was so open-ended to all possibilities,
Beyond all imagining!
When I come before Her
To celebrate the promise;
All the waves of misery will divide,
And become to me a wall,
On the right side and on the left,
Until the gulf narrows before my eyes,
And we land safe on the opposite shore.

The Passionist Community has been sharing the Catholic Faith and serving the community in Highgate for more than 160 years while the Congregation itself is 300 years old this year. As part of our celebration of the Passionist Tricentenary we are proud to introduce this great devotion, our Founder St. Paul of the Cross had towards Mother of Holy Hope.



**BOOKING
YOUR
PLACE AT
MASS**

Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 7PM, Sunday: 8AM, 10AM,
12 NOON & 7PM, Weekdays: 9:30AM

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Saturday : 10AM - 10:30AM, 6:30PM - 6:45PM,
Weekdays : Immediately after Mass (On request)

Thanks for keeping your Masks on!

Give

Our Annual Planned Giving Drive



Over last weekend and this, the members of the Parish Finance Committee have been on hand to facilitate our annual Planned Giving Drive for St Joseph's. We would like thank you for your generosity.

As we know, the Covid-19 Pandemic has been hard for everyone. During these difficult times, when the church was closed for several months and with reduced attendance, the income that St Joseph's receives has been very significantly reduced. Our church and the Passionist Community that supports us, depend solely on our contributions. It receives no other financial support. As Stewards of St Joseph's, we have a shared responsibility for its continuity and upkeep and a duty to pass it on to future generations.

You can give in several ways. Giving by Standing Order is the best way to support our parish. It improves the regularity and consistency of church income, minimises the security risks involved in weekly cash banking, cuts stationery costs (dated envelope sets are expensive to buy), helps the church to budget and manage its finances more effectively and bank statements provide an independent audit trail for HMRC and the auditors. You can set up a Standing Order by (i) a telephone call to your bank, (ii) online via your bank account, or (iii) by completing a Standing Order Form. Standing Order forms are available with the Finance Committee after Mass. You should take the completed Standing Order form to your bank.

If you have set up a standing order, it would be immensely useful if you could let us know by dropping us an email at SJ.Highgate.FinanceCommittee@gmail.com. It will help us to keep track of incoming funds.

You can make your contribution go further through Gift Aid. If you are a taxpayer, please could you consider Gift Aiding your donation? The government will top up your gift by 25 per cent, meaning our parish will receive an extra 25p for every £1 that you give, at no cost to you. Gift Aid forms are available with the Finance Committee after Mass. For those who collected Gift Aid forms for completion last weekend, please could these be handed in this weekend.

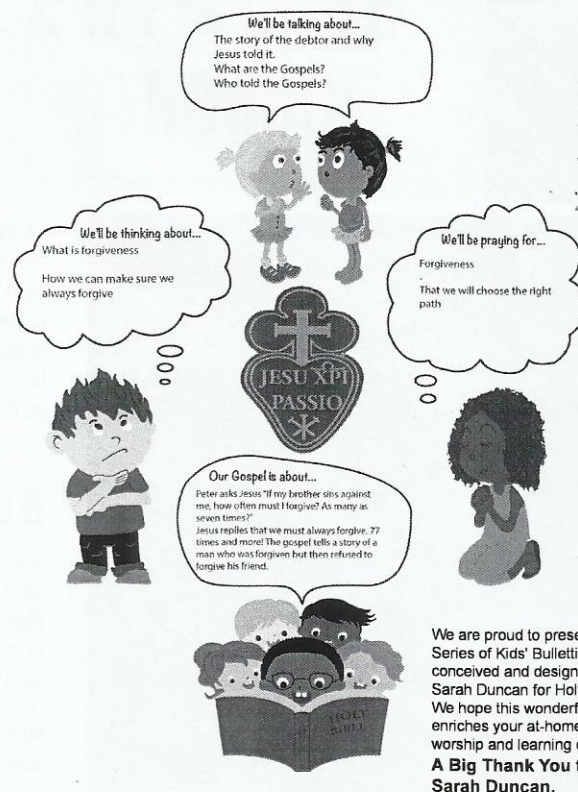
If you cannot give by Standing Order, the usual Planned Giving Envelopes can be collected from the Finance Committee members.

Any contribution that you make is greatly appreciated and will help to ensure that St Joseph's is able to continue with its mission and service to each and every one of us as it has done for the past 165 years.

Thank you very much for all that you do for our parish.

The Parish Finance Committee and Fr. George

CHILDREN'S LITURGY



Engaged Encounter Marriage Preparation

During the Coronavirus pandemic we are reaching out to couples who want to prepare for their marriage by offering a newly energised video conferenced retreat. The next Engaged Encounter Online Experience is beginning in October, why not find out more at engaged-encounter.org.uk

CAN YOU HELP AS A VOLUNTEER STEWARD?

It seems that these challenging COVID-19 times are likely to be with us for some time. Volunteer Stewards are a critical part of our plans to continue to keep St Joseph's open for all the weekend Masses and to ensure that we comply with the government's health and safety regulations. We need Stewards at all Masses, but especially for the Saturday 7pm, Sunday 8am and Sunday 7pm Masses.

Please can you help by volunteering an hour of your time? We have a delightful group of Stewards who are generous with their time, but they need help. It can feel immensely gratifying to connect with your community, meet new people and give something back. St Joseph's needs you.

If you are able to help, please could you contact Betty Pires by email at bettypires1503@gmail.com or by Telephone on 07785925780. Thank you very much.

Congratulations to Father Aidan O'Kane C.P., who was ordained to the priesthood on Saturday, 5 September at Holy Cross Church, Ardoyne, Belfast. May God sustain you in celebrating the Sacraments, in proclaiming the Gospel and in consecrating your life to God for the good of the people entrusted to your care.

Pray + Consuelo Neira + Hugh Gillen Senior