

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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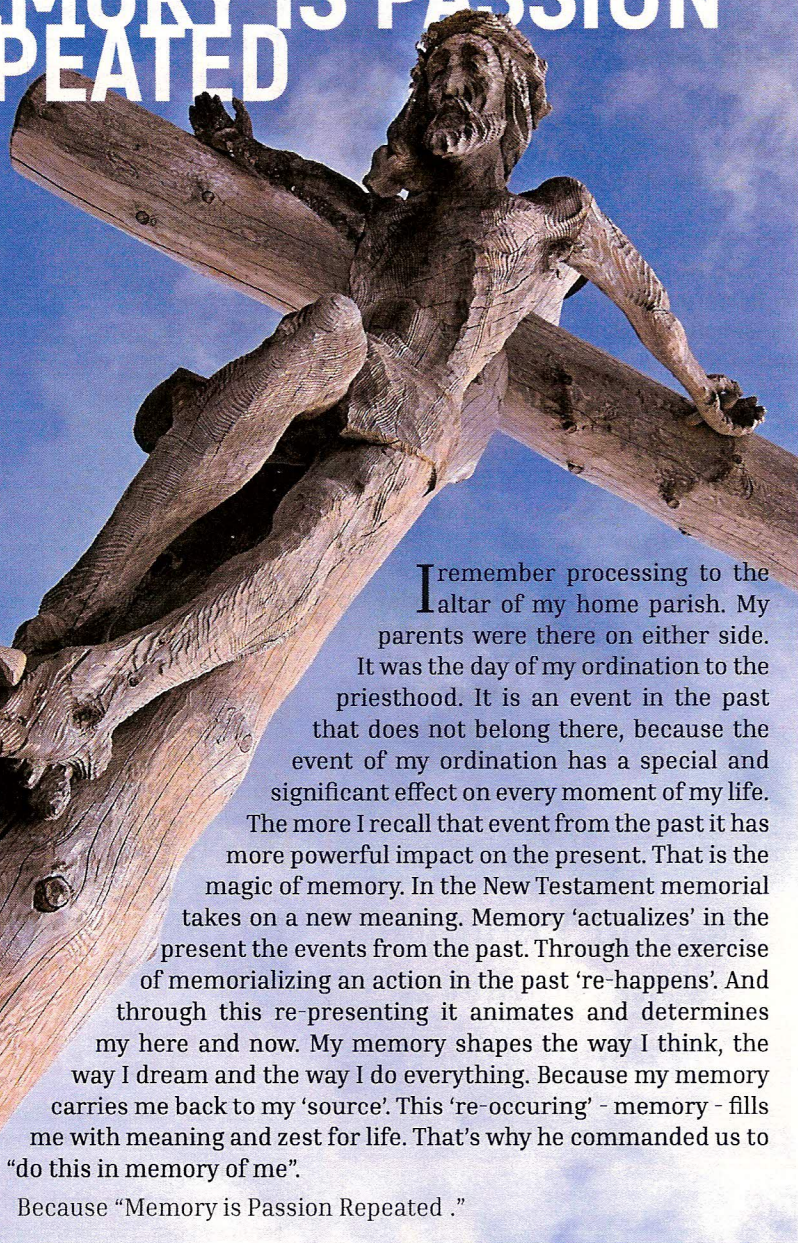


23rd February 2020. Seventh Sunday of the Year
SOLENN COMMEMORATION OF THE PASSION

Registered Charity
1173084

MEMORY IS PASSION REPEATED

Fr. George
Koloth CP



I remember processing to the Altar of my home parish. My parents were there on either side. It was the day of my ordination to the priesthood. It is an event in the past that does not belong there, because the event of my ordination has a special and significant effect on every moment of my life. The more I recall that event from the past it has more powerful impact on the present. That is the magic of memory. In the New Testament memorial takes on a new meaning. Memory 'actualizes' in the present the events from the past. Through the exercise of memorializing an action in the past 're-happens'. And through this re-presenting it animates and determines my here and now. My memory shapes the way I think, the way I dream and the way I do everything. Because my memory carries me back to my 'source'. This 're-occurring' - memory - fills me with meaning and zest for life. That's why he commanded us to "do this in memory of me".

Because "Memory is Passion Repeated."

Are You Ready?



In the Roman Catholic Church Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent, the season of preparation for the resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday. During Mass, the ashes which give Ash Wednesday its name are made from the palms distributed the previous year on Palm Sunday. The distribution of ashes reminds us to repent. In the early church, Ash Wednesday was the day on which those who sinned, and who wished to be readmitted into the church, would begin their public penance. The ashes that we receive are a reminder of our own sinfulness, and many Catholics leave them on their foreheads all day as a sign of humility. Fasting and abstinence is not simply a form or penance, however; it is also a call for us to take stock of our Spiritual lives. As Lent begins, we should set out specific spiritual goals we would like to reach before Easter and decide how we will pursue them - for instance, by going to daily Mass when we can, receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation more often.

This Wednesday 26th February, is Ash Wednesday. Ashes will be blessed and distributed at the usual weekday Masses at 9.30am and 6.30pm.

REMEMBER

We remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time

Herbert Trent
James Galvin
Rosita Estadilla
Pat Timoney
William Hewitt
Daniel McGrory

PRAY

We pray for the sick and housebound of our parish

✠ **Carmen Pinilla**

We pray for those who died recently.

✠ **Peter Conway**



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

SATURDAY 10-10.30am, 6.30-6.45pm,
WEEKDAYS immediately after Mass *(on request)*

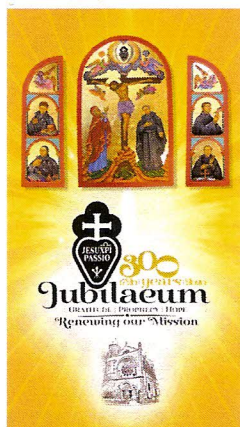
MASSES

SUNDAY (Saturday 7pm),
8am, 10am, 12pm, 1.30pm (Polish), 7pm
HOLIDAYS 6.30pm vigil, 9.30am, 11am, 6.30pm
WEEKDAYS 9.30am, 6.30pm
SATURDAY 9.30am, 7pm
BANK HOLIDAY 9.30am



PRE-MARRIAGE COURSE

Sat | **February 29**
lizzie@eidinow.co.uk



The Solemn Commemoration of the Passion

PASSION
LED US
HERE

Today's feast, the Solemn Commemoration of the Passion, is the titular feast day of the Passionist Congregation. From almost the beginning of our founding, St. Paul of the Cross wanted the Congregation to have a special day, apart from Good Friday that would help us to be mindful of the identity and mission we were given: to keep alive the memory of the Passion of Jesus as the greatest sign of God's love for the world.

The readings chosen for this Solemn Feast encourage us to delve deeply into the life-giving suffering and death of Jesus

— as prefaced in the Suffering Servant Song of the prophet Isaiah, as lovingly presented in the Passion narrative of St. Luke's Gospel, and as proclaimed in the life and ministry of Paul the Apostle as he interacted with the Corinthians. As we pray these scriptures, our prayer joins the prayer of our Holy Founder, St. Paul of the Cross; together we glory in the Cross of Christ!

Confronted with mystery of suffering, we ask the question of why? Why do I suffer? In the New Testament, Jesus himself ask the question of why; 'Eli, Eli, lama sabachthani?' that is, 'My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me?' Jesus does not get an answer from the Father. The response is one of silence. The cross of Christ doesn't give us direct answer to the question of why and it does give us a perspective on how to suffer gracefully. Jesus wanted to teach us how to suffer gracefully in the spirit of surrender whereby the Cross of Jesus, a torture instrument becomes the perfect love of the divine; "into your hands, I commend my spirit". Along with our sisters and brothers who suffer today, we find meaning and a new perspective in Jesus' "greatest love", and pray along with St. Paul of the Cross: "...when you feel yourself on the cross, stripped of everything, gently stir up your faith in God's presence, and abandon yourself in the immense sea of God's love."

In union with Jesus Crucified, and encouraged by St. Paul the Apostle, today we boldly proclaim God's Love in the Passion of Jesus. St. Paul of the Cross speaks to our hearts: May the Passion of Jesus Christ be always in our hearts!

Fr. Thomas Rockey, CP

Save
THE
Date

THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

BY WOMEN OF ZIMBABWE UNITED REFORM CHURCH

Fri. 1 March 6 | 4PM
POND SQUARE

Lectors and Eucharistic Ministers

Joint Session

Thu | March 12 | 7.30 pm
Red Room

Lent Groups

Tue | MAR 3 | 11 am
ST. JOSEPH'S GROUP

Pastoral Visitation

BP. NICHOLAS HUDSON
Sat, Sun | March 21, 22



CAFE' CONNECT

Sun | MAR 1 | 11 am

Healing Mass for the Homebound

Sat | March 21 | 2.30pm
joseph.highgate@gmail.com

CHURCH CLEANERS

Do you have one hour to spare once a month? Join one of our friendly church cleaning teams for polishing, hoovering, light mopping, and good company to keep our church looking in good order. All help welcome and appreciated. For more information contact the parish office at joseph.highgate@gmail.com



"For even the son of man did not come to be served, but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many." — Mark 10:45

We are in need of volunteers for our

Sacramental Outreach Ministry

Lector Ministry

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

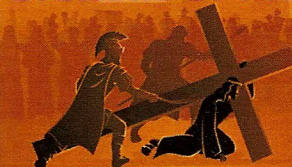
If you are keen to serve please contact us at joseph.highgate@gmail.com

Do You
Feel Called
To Serve?



We can't exist without the generosity of the people that call Holy Joes home. When we give generously, we share in the true nature of God's abundant love. Last week's collection amounted to £1,181. Thank you very much.

Stations of the Cross



The cross is the word of hope and mercy to all the crucified of the world, for those who are oppressed, the sick, poor, and marginalized, victims of violence and abuse, still find the courage to turn their gaze to the One who was pierced. From this look of divine love they receive comfort, peace, consolation, and mercy, even the strength to forgive their executioners. What would man be without the cross of Christ? St. Gregory of Nazianzus replied, "Were it not for You, O my Christ, I would feel like a finite creature." That is why Pope Francis invites us to continue "this Way of the Cross in our daily lives. Let us walk together along the Way of the Cross and let us do so carrying in our hearts this word of love and forgiveness"

Stations of the Cross
Every Friday immediately after
6.30PM Mass.

IN SOLIDARITY

All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK are required by the government to apply through its Settlement Scheme to continue living, working, and accessing services here. The deadline for application is 30 June 2021. Details and links to the application process can be found at:

gov.uk/eusettledstatus

Please bring this to the attention of friends, family members and fellow parishioners who may need to apply. Information assistance for those who may have difficulty applying is available at:

gov.uk/help-eu-settlement-scheme

The Catholic Church in England and Wales stands in solidarity with all European citizens who have made their homes here. They are a valued part of our parishes, schools and Communities.