



# ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE PARISH BULLETIN

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**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 June 2018 – Corpus Christi

### LEITOURGIA – ANOTHER FORGOTTEN WAY

Early Christians gave themselves to these great practices. Last time we looked at the practice of Emulation, which comes from the ancient concept called 'Didache'. The teaching that we emulate Christ; we don't simply learn about Him. The second of those forgotten ways is the practice of worship. The Greek word that gets close to worship is the word 'Leitourgia'. It literally means the work of the people. So our Liturgy is the collection of words, rituals, actions and ceremonies that shape what we do in public worship. One of those radical, revolutionary, subversive, world-changing things that we do is to worship; to honour the 'Sabbath'. For early Christians of the Roman Empire life was like a battlefield; not only in the physical sense but in the spiritual sense as well. We live in a different culture with different challenges. How can we as Christians live a life of charity, peace, and justice in a world that is so contrary often to the values we hold so dear. The ancient Hebrews were given a blueprint how to order their lives in this world of competing messages. It is the fourth commandment. "Remember the Sabbath day; and keep it holy. Six days you shall labour, and do all your work. But the seventh day is a Sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work..."

Sabbath comes from a Hebrew word Sha-vath which means knock it off or cease or stop. David Whyte in his poem 'Sometimes' captures beautifully the essence of Sabbath.

*"Sometimes you move carefully through the forest      You come to a place whose only task  
Is to trouble you with tiny but frightening requests      Conceived out of nowhere but in this place  
Beginning to lead everywhere.*

*Requests to stop what you are doing right now and      To stop what you are becoming while you do it  
Questions that can make or unmake a life."*

This is the command of God to stop what you are doing and to stop what you are becoming while you do it. That is what it means to honour the Sabbath. It is a command to step out of your world once a week for specific reasons. The first reason is to find in your life rhythm and rest (Genesis). There is a rhythm to everything in life and every living thing in the universe. And the second reason is to remember and to resist (Exodus). And the Christ Event replaces the Sabbath with the Sunday of the Resurrection.

In his work 'Overflow' Lovett H. Weems Jr. expresses his fears in this way. So many of us on Sunday mornings instead of going for worship in a church we go often and worship at the altars of children's recreational sports. He asks the question; is there a consequence for not attending worship every week? And look at his answer:

"There is something missing in the character development of the children, who have never met the Good Samaritan, learned the Golden Rule, heard the prophet rail against injustice, bowed their head in prayer, felt their spirits soar in a hymn of praise, known the community of the crowded pew, or experienced the poetry of the Psalms. The soul and character of a human are weaker for such a neglect. Such children are less equipped for the journey of life that will take them through the troubled waters of ethical dilemmas, to vistas muddled by the fog of uncertainty, up mountains of adversity and by dry stream beds of fatigue that come to every life. In those moments, God is our provision. Without communion with God what do we have? These children will soon grow into adults without the rich resources they need to live a fruitful life."

Remember Sunday! Keep it holy. Everything depends on it. Everything depends on your resting. (Fr. George)

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**We pray for those who have died recently** – May Miranda (funeral 11.30am Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> June), Michael Fox (funeral 12 noon Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June), Pat Dineen (funeral 11.30am Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> June), Patrick Smyth, Jean Willis; **we remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time** – Michael Breslin, Eddie Nolan, Eileen Ryan, Rosario Gallo, Hannah Buckley, Danny Sheehy.

### **Coffee Morning Next Sunday:**

Today is Parish Coffee Morning Sunday, in the Red Room, immediately after the 10.00 am. Mass. Why not avail of this good opportunity, especially for new Parishioners, to meet fellow members of our Parish? All are welcome to relax for a while and enjoy a cuppa and a chat about your half-term experiences.

### **Christian Stewardship:**

Last week's collection amounted to £1,222. In addition to that we receive an average of over £900 per week in standing orders. We very much appreciate your outstanding generosity.

### **Organ Recital:**

The next in our season of organ recitals will be given by organist Paul Ayres this Thursday evening, 7<sup>th</sup> June at 7.30pm. Admission is free and donations to our organ fund will be welcome.

### **St Joseph's Catholic Primary School & Nursery:**

If your child is 3 years old or will be turning 3 in the Autumn Term, apply now for the school nursery. The school is both Ofsted & Diocese rated 'outstanding' and has an ethos based on Faith, Community and a true partnership between school, our church and the families of the children. The school is totally committed to the development of each child, to offer them the very best start to their formal education and to support their faith. The school offers full time nursery places 8:40-3:15 and with the option (subject to availability) of additional breakfast club (£3) from 8am and after school care (£10) until 6pm. Applications available on the website - [www.st-josephs.islington.sch.uk](http://www.st-josephs.islington.sch.uk); or contact the school for further information Tel: 0207 272 1270

### **An Invitation to Young Adults from the Cardinal:**

The Cardinal invites young adults, aged 18 to 30, to join him at Archbishop's House for three meetings (15th May, 29th May, 19th June, all at 6.30pm) to explore the theme of vocation, with an opportunity for prayer, input, discussion and question and answer. The second meeting has already taken place, but all are welcome to attend whichever meetings they are able. More details can be found on the youth section of the diocesan website ([www.dowym.com](http://www.dowym.com)). If you would like to come along, please let them know by sending a quick email to [youth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:youth@rcdow.org.uk).

### **Adoremus – National Eucharistic Congress:**

The bishops of England and Wales are holding a National Eucharistic Pilgrimage and Congress in Liverpool in 7-9 September 2018. The Echo Arena in Liverpool - which can accommodate 10,000 pilgrims - will be the home to a six-hour stage programme on the 8th September and will include a Congress Mass, keynote speakers Bishop Robert Barron and Cardinal Vincent Nicholas, and a drama highlighting the beauty of reverence and devotion. The day will conclude with Adoration. For more information and to enquire about tickets to events, please contact [adoremus@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:adoremus@rcdow.org.uk) or call 07738183829 Tickets are available through the Diocese until 31 May.

### **APF Red Boxes:**

Holders of *Missio* (APF) red collecting boxes are asked to bring them in next Sunday, or hand them in to the monastery during the week. Please remember to fill in your details on the bottom of the box so that your donation can be identified. Please ask for a new box, available from the Sacristy.

### **Children's Summer Camps:**

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

### **Caritas Volunteer Fair:**

Interested in Volunteering? As part of Volunteers' Week, Caritas Westminster is hosting a Volunteer Fair exploring the impact and importance of volunteering, featuring stands and volunteer opportunities from a wide variety of organisations. Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June, 6:30-8:30pm, Vaughan House, Francis Street, SW1P 1QN. Please RSVP to [caritasvol@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:caritasvol@rcdow.org.uk) or call 0207 529 8635.

### **The Art of Dying Well – Helpful Website:**

This is the name of a website, not in any way morbid, produced by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales, that offers a helping hand to those grappling with issues around death and dying – either one's own, or that of someone close. Based in the Catholic tradition but open to all, it features real-life stories about dealing with the final journey. Expert advice has been sought from professionals in palliative care, ethics, chaplaincy, history and media. Please take a look at the website: [www.artofdyingwell.org](http://www.artofdyingwell.org)