

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH EPSOM NEWSLETTER 22 NOVEMBER 2020

Fr Bill's Update

There hasn't been much in the way of change or developments since last week for me to update you on, sadly!

Going forward, we have started to think about our Christmas Programme and what we may be able to offer, Government restrictions permitting and being allowed to open and celebrate Mass at St Joseph's.

So, a few thoughts for you to consider: we think we may ask you to email the Parish Office and let us have names of those who will be attending Masses on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day - we will be able to use this information to allocate seats and as a register of attendance. We would also welcome any ideas / suggestions from our young families of what they might like to see happening for their Children at our Christmas Eve afternoon service.

A reminder that the Church is open for Private Prayer on a Sunday between 11.15a.m. – 12.15p.m. The same conditions that we had in place for attending Mass will apply e.g. scanning QR Code, sanitising, and cleaning at the end of the session.

A date for your diary – you can join Bishop Richard online on from Arundel Cathedral on Saturday 21 November between 6.30p.m. – 8.30p.m. as he leads Eucharistic Adoration observing the Vigil of Christ the King as a day of prayer for the ending of the present pandemic.

Do stay safe until we can celebrate Holy Mass together again, along with all the other Sacraments.

God Bless

Fr Bill, Fr Ruslan and The Sisters



SUNDAY 22 NOVEMBER, OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

'As royal shepherd, Christ is leading us into the Kingdom of his Father'

Today's solemnity of Christ the King ends the Church's liturgical year on a high point. Perhaps, after the year we have had, we need, more than ever, its full title: 'Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe'.

So that God 'may be all in all' (Second Reading – **1 Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28**), Christ is, indeed, king over the whole universe.

Though we may have felt – and perhaps still feel – 'scattered, during the mist and darkness' of 2020, God keeps the flock always in view (First Reading – **Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17**) and will show us where to rest. We are not abandoned.

Rather, the care of the one, true, kingly shepherd means we really shall want for nothing (**Psalms – Psalm 22**).

The call of this Shepherd King is heard in the Gospel (**Matthew 25: 31-46**), inviting us to a share, both in his service of others, especially to the very least, and in his very life.

This week, let's try to be open to that call and respond with joyful and generous hearts.

Opening Prayer

Almighty ever-living God,
whose will is to restore all things
in your beloved Son, the King of the universe,
grant, we pray,
that the whole creation, set free from slavery,
may render your majesty service and ceaselessly
proclaim your praise.

DATE		MASS INTENTION
Sat 21 Nov	5.30pm	As per Book of Remembrance
Sun 22 Nov	<i>Feast of Christ The King</i>	
	10.30am	People of the Parish
	5.30pm	As per Book of Remembrance
Mon 23 Nov	10.00am	As per Book of Remembrance
Tue 24 Nov	<i>Memoria St Andrew Dung-Lac, Priest and Companions, Martyrs</i>	
	10.00am	NO MASS
Wed 25 Nov	10.00am	As per Book of Remembrance
Thur 26 Nov	10.00am	As per Book of Remembrance
Fri 27 Nov	10.00am	As per Book of Remembrance
Sat 28 Nov	5.30pm	People of the Parish As per Book of Remembrance
Sun 29 Nov	<i>First Sunday of Advent</i>	
	10.30am	As per Book of Remembrance

Mass is streamed live – please see Website for further details. If you wish to book a Mass Intention, please email the Parish Office at office@st-josephs-epsom.org.uk.

Alton Day of Renewal (ADoRE) Saturday 28 November 10.00am-12.45pm

Mini conference for spiritual renewal with Mass, Adoration, praise, prophecy, and an inspiring talk “Do whatever He tells you” from Catholic evangelist Ros Powell. Please register in advance for Zoom by following this link: bit.ly/ADORENOV20
For more information go to the ADoRE website www.altonrenewal.com

Our prayers are asked for all the sick, including: Janet Morgan, Andrew Makinson, Theresa Lyon, Antonio Delgado Snr., Ruth and Maurice Carden, Regina Cotter, Chloe English, Angela Brett, Daniel, Alan Lucas, Patrick Mullins, Paul Shannon, Thomas C Y Chan, Mary Canon, Naty Villaflor, Ralph Peters, Cynthia Philogene, Valerie Barrett, Rachel Bonito, Francis McCrory, baby Mathew Long, Lucena Javier, Santiago Duarte Rodrigues, Chloe Bowe, June O’Connor, Susan McCrory, Bob Hunter, Estelle Cuthbert, Indra and Ivan Pedropillai, Emma Amour, Christine Dawson, Anne Egan, Sue Halliden, Kathleen Pledge, Merlyn Soares, Frances Walsh, Bernard Theo, Judith Hayward, Adela Bolanos, Rosetta Clarke and John Beresford.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please also remember in your Prayers all those who have died recently, Claudio Venturini, Eugenia Altomare and Patrick Doocey. Please keep their families in your prayers.

UPDATE ON PARISH FINANCES

As we are now in our second period of lockdown, your offertory donations are even more vital. Here are the ways that you can still donate:

Easiest ways to contribute to offertory:

Standing order: Please email accounts@st-josephs-epsom.org.uk **to get the necessary bank details**

Justgiving: visit www.justgiving.com/campaign/parishoffertory, **and specify in your message that your donation is for St Joseph’s Church Epsom**

Finally, if you are a taxpayer, please join the Gift Aid scheme if you haven’t already done so. Doing so boosts the value of your donation to us by 25% - it doesn’t cost you an extra penny, but it’s a significant help to us.

THE FAITH COMPANION

The Faith Companion parishioner magazine is now online only. Digital copies and subscriptions are available

at <http://www.thefaithcompanion.co.uk> or call 01403 754808. We have now launched Catholic Gifts online selling The Faith Companion candle, rosaries and a gift card for gifts or subscriptions. Please support and pray for our mission to support the Church.

BEREAVEMENT TEAM

The Bereavement Team continues to keep in touch with their team members on a regular basis, particularly those who have been recently bereaved and may not have the support they would normally have. If you would like to speak to a Member of the Group, please contact Paula Thomas on 07710 099682 or Theresa Park on 07867 625291.

FOODBANK UPDATE

Your donations over the last two weeks came to a staggering 208.2 kilos - a very big thank you!! Your unstinting support and generosity is truly heart-warming. Last week, our wonderful foodbank volunteers made 94 deliveries and fed 259 people. Our current list of items in short supply includes:

Tinned Vegetables, Tinned Sweetcorn, Biscuit, Tinned rice pudding. Adult toothbrushes - singles or twos, Adult toothpaste, UHT milk - semi skimmed or full fat, Toilet rolls, Nappies size 6 plus, Pull ups all sizes, Long life fruit juice, Long life sponge puddings, Savoury snacks - crisps etc, Savoury snacks for children.

Given our high numbers and the continued high demand, we are beginning our Christmas Appeals a little earlier than usual. This year, as we are delivering boxes to our clients in order to keep everyone Covid safe, below is a list of what we would like to include in these Christmas boxes which our clients will receive in the run-up to Christmas Day.

Christmas chocolate coins, Mince pies - no alcohol and please watch the use by dates, Christmas puddings - small and medium - no alcohol, Gravy mix, Stuffing mix, Tubs of chocolates, Christmas napkins, Disposable Christmas table cloths, Small boxes of shortbread, Boxes of biscuits for our older clients, Savoury snacks - cheeselets, twiglets, crisps etc, Nuts and mixed fruit, Yule logs/chocolate Swiss rolls - again please watch the use by date, Custard - no brandy sauce.

In addition, the boxes will include meat vouchers to be used at local butchers and energy top-ups. Finally, we hope to also include new towels, face cloths, tea towels and socks. I appreciate these are long wishlists and many households are struggling during this time. Please only give what you can afford to and know that one extra item in your shopping trolley will make a significant difference to our clients. Thank you and keep safe.

SPECIAL COLLECTIONS

The Diocese has asked us to take up the following special collections before the end of the year. If you can contribute, please do so as follows:

- By bank transfer, with the name of the collection as your bank reference contact accounts@st-josephs-epsom.org.uk for the parish bank details); or
- By placing cash or a cheque in an envelope and handing it in to the Parish Office. Please write the name of the collection on the envelope, and include your name if gift aid is applicable.

<i>Collection</i>	<i>Parish Gift Aid?</i>
Holy Places	No
Missionary Endeavour of the Diocese	Yes
Education of Future Priests	Yes
Peter's Pence	No
Retired Priests' Fund	Yes
Arundel Cathedral Maintenance Fund	Yes
Day for Life	No
Sea Sunday	No

Godly Play

Godly Play is a creative and engaging way of praying with children, young people and even adults! Telling stories helps us explore God's story,

Bible stories, our own story, and where we fit in to it all. Are you involved with, or interested in Godly Play?

Join members of the Diocesan Formation Team on Zoom, on Saturday 21st November at 10.30am. Please contact

rosie.read@abdiocese.org.uk for booking information.

THE PASSAGE TO ENDING HOMELESSNESS

The Passage presents A Night under The Stars on 3 December - filmed at the London Coliseum from classical pianist, Stephen Hough, CBE; British baritone Huw Montague Rendall; violinist Shlomy Dobrinsky; The Orion Orchestra; Conductor, Toby Purser and song pianist, Gary Matthewman. Your host Rory Bremner with festive readings from Ann Murray and Michael Morpurgo. The London Philharmonic Choir and London Youth Choir will present a special virtual performance of Bogoroditse Devo from Rachmaninoff's Vespers.

Tickets at <https://tinyurl.com/PassageConcert>

Please also support our work by purchasing A Taste of Home: 120 Delicious Recipes from Leading Chefs and Celebrities from <https://tinyurl.com/PassageCookbook>

FESTIVE FUN - BRIGHTEN UP ADVENT WITH FESTIVE MASKS

Since lockdown, with all your help, we have donated £3,500 to the FMDM's work in Zambia through our Parish Faith in Action and £500 to Fr Ed's emergency appeal in Lima, Peru.

This week we have sent another £650 to Fr Ed so in total £1,150. Altogether since lockdown an amazing **£4,650**. We still want to sell and send more to Peru so PLEASE order Festive Masks now!

We have two designs of face coverings. They are made from 100% cotton. They have 3 layers of fabric, meeting the WHO recommendation, with a special filter sheet in the centre. All are washable and so reusable and reversible too. The cost/suggested donation for each mask is still only £5 for either design and all the money goes to Fr Ed in Lima, Peru.

If anyone has any spare 100% cotton Christmas design fabrics to donate to us please let us know. The more masks we make the more we can send money to Peru!

And there is more good news!

The Creative Ladies have made a new stock of cards, still great value at £1 each. Our wonderful coordinators will deliver 5 cards or more to you! The categories of cards are as follows: Flowers, Plants, Wild animals, Pets, Scenery, Epsom and London.

Please order masks and cards and offers of Christmas fabrics to: email.
creativeladies.stjosephs@gmail.com or phone 01737 358317 or 07740 902068

