

# ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH EPSOM NEWSLETTER

## 22 AUGUST 2021

### Fr Bill's Update

I hope you are continuing to enjoy the summer, although it does seem a bit more like autumn at the moment!

Your weekly update on Masses for the coming week are detailed below:-

**Saturday 21 August 5.30p.m.**

Mass for Bob Hunter R.I.P

**Sunday 22 August 10.30a.m.**

Mass for Achilles Fernando R.I.P.

**Sunday 22 August 5.30p.m.**

Mass for Osbal Ramirez R.I.P.

**Monday 23 August – NO MASS**

**Tuesday 24 August – NO MASS**

**Wednesday 25 August – NO MASS**

**Thursday 26 August – 10.00a.m.**

Mass for Antonia Saliba R.I.P.

**Friday 27 August – 10.00a.m.**

Mass for Edmond Kelly R.I.P.

**Saturday 28 August 5.30p.m.**

Mass for Derek Wixted R.I.P.

**Sunday 29 August 10.30a.m.**

Mass for Sarah Fonticoba R.I.P.

**Sunday 29 August 5,30p.m.**

People of the Parish

I hope that we will be able to return to our post Covid schedule of mass times at the beginning of September. And, in another step towards getting back to normality, I am looking forward to re-introducing singing at the weekend Masses in the very near future.

Fr Stephen will be joining us on 27 August – I know he was delighted with the warm welcome he received when he officiated at the 10.30a.m. Mass last Sunday.

Thank you also for all your prayers and good wishes for my surgery – they are much appreciated and I am looking forward to being back amongst you all after my convalescence.

Rest assured of our continued prayers and blessings.  
Fr Bill. Fr Ruslan. Sr Margarite and Sr Fionnuala



**SUNDAY 22 AUGUST  
TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN  
ORDINARY TIME**

This Sunday, the readings invite us to consider honestly the depth of our love for the Lord.

The same challenging questions once put to the Israelites by Joshua, and later to the disciples by Jesus, are being asked of us today. The tribes of Israel are gathered at Shechem. They answer Joshua's challenge by declaring why they intend to serve the Lord. (**First Reading - Joshua 24: 1–2.15–18**).

The **Second Reading (Ephesians 5: 21–32)** is full of social codes and expectations that would have been well understood by those to whom they were addressed. In essence, these words are a discourse on the deep love that Christ has for the Church, a love so strong that it is compared to an intimate, loving relationship between husband and wife.

The full mystery of this love has been revealed over the last few Sundays, and again today, in the conclusion to Jesus's teaching on the Living Bread of Life (**Gospel - John 6: 60–69**). For many of Jesus's followers, this proves too challenging. Turning to the Twelve, Jesus asks if they want to leave too. But Peter speaks for them all, and perhaps for the whole Christian community, in saying: 'Lord who shall we go to? You have the message of eternal life.'

Once again, we hear the invitation in the Psalm (**Psalm 33**) to 'Taste and see that the Lord is good'.

This week, we pray especially that our spiritual life may nourish us and all those around us, and that we may embody a loving commitment to follow the Lord at all times.