

# ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH EPSOM NEWSLETTER

22 MAY 2022

## Fr Bill's Update

I learned this morning that our dear Sister Fionnuala passed away in Ireland. It is definitely the end of an era for our Parish, and barely seven months since Sister Margarite died.

Sister Fionnuala's role in the Parish greatly complimented the work of the Parish Team who had come together with myself way back in 1992. As a trained nurse and a former Matron of a hospital in Australia, Fionnuala was the ideal person to take on chaplaincy at Epsom Hospital, coordinate visits to the sick and housebound with Holy Communion, organise special Masses with anointing of the sick and social events here at the Church Hall for our older Parishioners. Together with Sisters Margarite and Brendan, Fionnuala, and later Sister Rose made a formidable team working with the Priests. We kept each other updated about our various roles at the Monday morning meetings, and this was followed by an excellent Sunday style lunch courtesy of Sharon.

Sister Fionnuala had a big heart for everyone and especially our senior citizens. She was a good organiser and a hard worker with a wonderful capacity to connect with people far and wide. For me, she was a most loyal member of the Parish Team and a great friend. Her passing, like that of the other sisters, leaves a huge void in all our lives. Our Parish is poorer without their presence among us; how privileged we were to have had them with us for such a long time. What started as a Parish pastoral experiment, the presence of the sisters of Jesus and Mary has surely been the very best that could have happened for St Joseph's. Their work is done. May the Lord reward them for all their time here with us. Please remember Sister Fionnuala and all the sisters in your prayers.



## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER SUNDAY 22 MAY 2022

As we continue through Eastertide, the readings at Sunday Mass turn towards the Holy Spirit.

In Jesus's Farewell Discourse to his disciples Gospel (**John 14: 23–29**), he announces that he is to return to his Father, and tells them not to be afraid or troubled: he will still be with them through the Holy Spirit. Jesus also bestows on them the gift of his peace.

*In the First Reading (Acts 15: 1–2, 22–29), we see how, despite the differences between members of the early Christian Church, the community was guided by the Holy Spirit in coming to decisions.*

The Second Reading (**Apocalypse 21: 10–14, 22–23**) shows the transformation that has been brought about by the death and resurrection of Christ; the new Jerusalem is in perfect order and needs no temple, because God is already in union with God's people, dwelling in them.

In a song of thanksgiving, the Psalmist (**Psalms 66**) asks God to bless everyone, and for God's ways and saving help to be known to all.

This week, let us pray for peace for all nations, especially for the people of Ukraine, eastern Europe, Yemen, Syria and Palestine, as well as for ourselves. I may also ask that I share Christ's word with those I encounter through my actions.

### Opening Prayer

Grant, almighty God,  
that we may celebrate with heartfelt devotion these  
days of joy,  
which we keep in honour of the risen Lord,  
and that what  
we relive in remembrance we may always hold to in  
what we do.

DATE		MASS INTENTION
Sat 21 May	5.30pm	Gabriel Arrabales RIP
Sun 22 May	<b>Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>	
	10.30am	Michael Lombardo RIP
	5.30pm	Yeo Dong-Ok Barbara RIP
Mon 23 May	10.00am	Anniversary Thanksgiving
Tue 24 May	10.00am	Castro Family RIP
Wed 25 May	<b>Memoria St Bede the Venerable, Priest, Doctor</b>	
	10.00am	People of the Parish Concita Sinfat RIP
Thur 26 May	<b>The Ascension of The Lord – Holy Day of Obligation</b>	
	10.00am	Rose Reilly RIP
	7.30pm	Sr Fionnuala RIP
Fri 27 May	<b>Feast of St Augustine of Canterbury, Bishop</b>	
	10.00am	Jesus Gaspar RIP
Sat 28 May	5.30pm	Sabrina, Dave and Aran – In Thanksgiving
Sun 29 May	<b>Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>	
	10.30am	Achilles Fernando RIP
	5.30pm	People of the Parish

### GIFT AID STATEMENTS 2021-2022

Gift Aid Statements for the previous tax year 2021/22 are now ready for collection from the Parish Office.

### A Prayer for Ukraine

Loving God,

We pray for the people of Ukraine,  
for all those suffering or afraid,  
that you will be close to them and protect them.

We pray for world leaders,  
for compassion, strength, and wisdom to guide their choices.

We pray for the world  
that in this moment of crisis,  
we may reach out in solidarity  
to our brothers and sisters in need.

May we walk in your ways  
so that peace and justice  
become a reality for the people of Ukraine  
and for all the world. Amen.

### Our Prayers are asked for all those who are ill:

Frances Walsh, Merlyn Soares, Anne Schifano, Peter Galipeau, Emma Lee, Ian Watts, Steve Lee, Melitona Leander, Vanessa Tuff, Susan McCrory, Francis McCrory, Anita Hully, Joseph Poku, Angela Brett, Bob and Maria Adams, Kay Pledge, Jean Child and Debbie Swain.

### RECENTLY DECEASED

*Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of Mary Marcus, Suzie Beckles and Kathryn Sheehy who have recently passed away. Please also keep their families in your prayers.*

### BEREAVEMENT CAFÉ

Are you struggling with bereavement or loss? Would it help to talk to someone? We have bereavement supporters trained to listen, support and accompany people experiencing grief. Call Theresa Park on 07867 625291 or why not come along, or bring a friend/family member, and meet us at our regular monthly bereavement café. The next time we meet will be on **Wednesday 25 May at 10.30 a.m.** in the Chatterton Room. A warm welcome awaits you.

### Part-time Premises Manager, St Joseph's Church Epsom

*We are looking for a part-time Premises Manager to be responsible for the general maintenance of our beautiful church and grounds. Salary £10,000 per annum for a 15 hour week, flexible hours as required. Needs maintenance experience and "handyman" skills. This role gives the opportunity to support the life of our Parish in a meaningful and hands-on way. Email [office@st-josephs-epsom.org.uk](mailto:office@st-josephs-epsom.org.uk) for further details.*

### St Joseph's Parish Pilgrimage to the Holy Land 3-18 September 2022

Would you like to come with us to the Holy Land on a 16 pilgrimage? Della Shenton of 5th Gospel Retreats, [www.5thgospelretreats.co.uk](http://www.5thgospelretreats.co.uk) is leading St Joseph's Parish Pilgrimage with Fr Ruslan. We will be visiting Petra, Jordan, Bethlehem, Jerusalem and staying beside the Sea of Galilee. There is a 9-day option for those who do not wish to visit Jordan (Petra). Going to the Holy Land with Della is a unique experience. If you are considering going there one day, do not put it off. She is much in demand. Twenty-two parishioners have already booked. However, there are still a few spaces available as the group size can be increased to twenty-eight. A draft itinerary is available; if you wish to know more, please contact Howard and Theresa Park on 01372-722352 or [h.park1@ntlworld.com](mailto:h.park1@ntlworld.com) for further details. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

## Parish Finances and Offertory

### CHURCH OFFERTORY

Ways for you to contribute are as follows:

- **standing order:** this is our preferred method. Please set up your standing order directly with your bank, using the following details - account name: RCD A&B St Joseph's Epsom; sort code: 40-05-20; account number: 71076221; bank reference: your name, along with "GA" if you are a member of our Gift Aid scheme. (If you aren't yet a Gift Aider, please do join the scheme! See below).
- **contactless devices:** these are located in the narthex and in the church (beside the hymn books). Simply choose "Church offertory" from the list on the screen, and please select the option to add gift aid if you are a tax payer. (Note: these devices can also be used for special collections)
- **gift aid envelope scheme:** please place your envelope in the collection buckets
- **loose cash:** please place in the collection buckets

Thank you for your support.

### SAVE THE DATE - Sunday 31 July 2022

#### The 2nd Pat Hall Sponsored Memorial Walks

A walk primarily to honour the achievement of Fr Simon's father in walking 100 miles of the Camino, aged 84, and 3 other substantial walks prior to that in and after his 80th year, will take place on Sunday 31 July, the longest of 4 options being 12+ miles from Hampton Court to Roehampton Gate of Richmond Park. The shortest walk will be 1+ mile. Afterwards there will be Mass and a buffet supper. The walks will raise money linked to the HCPT Cycle 2023 from Versailles to Lourdes and donations will be greatly appreciated through [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/justgiving-com-pathhallmemorialwalks](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/justgiving-com-pathhallmemorialwalks), ideally with Gift Aid added.

Those interested in walking on 31 July or cycling in Holy Week 2023, please contact John Flood: email [johncaflood@gmail.com](mailto:johncaflood@gmail.com) Mobile 07775 914717. Flyers with application forms are available in the Narthex.

### Admissions to St Joseph's School - September 2023—signing in at Mass

Signing in for St. Joseph's Primary School has resumed and you can now sign in after all weekend Masses. Tables will be set up in the Hall after the 10.30a.m. Mass, it'll be busy so allow time to enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and sharing time with others.

Signing in after the 5.30p.m. weekend Masses will take place in Our Lady Chapel.

### UKRAINE UPDATE

As many of you might already know, Epsom Refugee Network, is a local charity that supports refugees in our area. They are currently supporting Syrian and Afghan families that arrived here through government schemes. Recently, Ukrainians have begun to arrive and we are now trying to provide them with the simple practical support they need to settle here.

During a recent 'drop-in' session, approximately 60 Ukrainians attended.

We desperately need friendly landlords who might consider renting to a Ukrainian family. Please could you get in touch if you know any landlords/landladies or perhaps you are a landlord? Do you know of empty properties which could house refugees? They can pay rent and we will be supporting them.

**TEACHERS :** We are struggling to get children into school and this has a knock on effect for parents who want to access English lessons and work. We are thinking of running a summer school to help parents and children progress with their English, if you know any retired teachers or teachers who might want to help, do get in touch.

**ENGLISH CLASSES FOR ADULTS:** We are putting on more English classes for adults but need more teachers. If you are a teacher or know teachers who have ESOL or TEFL qualifications please direct them to us.

If you can help in any way, please get in touch by email at- [epsomrefugeenetwork@gmail.com](mailto:epsomrefugeenetwork@gmail.com)

### Thank you message from HCPT Group 24

I am writing on behalf of HCPT Group 24 to thank all the parishioners of St Joseph's Church for all that you have done to support our wonderful charity. In total, parishioners donated over £1,400, plus a number of Euros! I am writing on behalf of HCPT Group 24 to thank all the parishioners of St Joseph's Church for all that you have done to support our wonderful charity. After a challenging few years, it was great for Group 24 to once again be able to travel with HCPT to Lourdes for its Easter pilgrimage this April. It was also fantastic to be able to start our pilgrimage at St Joseph's and to be able to collect and take the prayers of the parish with us to Grotto in Lourdes. The donations from the parish will continue to help fund travel and accommodation for the child and young adults we take, will help us arrange activities, like day trips to the French Pyrenees and visits to an animal park, and, very importantly, will help us to arrange treats, like the ice cream and hot chocolate stops, that are part of what makes the week so special for all who travel with us.

## FOODBANK UPDATE

In April we saw a continual rise in people using our food-bank services. Since Christmas, there has been a 74% rise in usage compared to our pre-Covid numbers. In April we fed more than 550 people. We have several urgently needed items as well as items we have completely run out of. Donations of these items would be greatly appreciated.

### We have run out of:

Washing up liquid; Washing powder, pods and tablets; Instant mash; Ketchup; Non-dairy long-life milk; Shaving foam; Savoury biscuits

### We urgently need:

Tinned fruit; Coffee; Powdered milk; Long-life sponge puddings; Tinned vegetables; Squash; Long-life UHT milk (semi and full fat only); Long-life fruit juice; Deodorant - all kinds; Soap

We are excited to announce that our Epsom Pantry project is due to open later this month. The Pantry will give people choice and dignity when sourcing food for themselves and their families. We will evaluate it to understand the impact it is making as we work towards our key vision: creating a poverty-free future in our community. This vision underpins our new trust - Good Company (Surrey) which went live on the 1st April. Thanks, as always, for your amazing support.

## WANT TO GIVE YOUR MARRIAGE A BOOST?

Treat yourself to a life changing Marriage Encounter experience.

Our next experience is:

11 – 12 June.

Visit [WWME.org.uk](http://WWME.org.uk) for more details and booking.

A great marriage lifts your family, Parish and personal happiness.

## ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL SUMMER FAIR SATURDAY 11 JUNE

St Joseph's School summer fair is back!  
Please join us for a fun filled afternoon of games, stalls, refreshments and entertainment on Saturday 11th June 12pm-3pm. £2 entry on the gate.

## PARISH OPENING HOURS

MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY  
8.30A.M. – 2.30P.M. and

THURSDAY 8.30A.M. – 12.30P.M.

### Contact Us:

Email: [office@st-josephs-epsom.org.uk](mailto:office@st-josephs-epsom.org.uk)  
Telephone: 01372 723573

## “IF YOU ARE THINKING OF BECOMING A CATHOLIC .....

Our new programme of RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults) is scheduled to begin this September. If you are not a Catholic, but have thought of becoming one, you might wish to consider joining, or finding out more about it.

The initial part of the programme (seven sessions) asks the question "Is the Catholic Faith for me?" The second part (again seven sessions), which takes place after Christmas, is focused on preparation for full membership of the Catholic Church, and is aimed at those members of the group who wish to continue their journey to becoming Catholics, receiving the sacraments of Baptism (not necessary if already a baptised Christian), Communion and Confirmation at Easter.

The sessions follow a set programme, but are informal and relaxed. If you wish to join, or simply find out more, please contact the Parish Office, one of the priests or simply email [david34edr@virginmedia.com](mailto:david34edr@virginmedia.com) for more information. You are not committing yourself to the course by making an enquiry!

## Grandparents Day Wednesday 8 June at West Grinstead

A pilgrimage to the shrine at West Grinstead. If you would like to find out more please contact E: [katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk](mailto:katherine.bergin@abdiocese.org.uk)

To find out about events hosted by the Diocese please visit our website events calendar W: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/diocese/events>

## 'Missio

Message from Fr Tony Chantry Missio National Director  
'In 2021 St Joseph's Parish Epsom raised £3,175.06 through the Red boxes and by people giving directly via direct debits and online. Thank you! Our missionary community here at St Joseph's is part of a world-wide network of people supporting missionaries through prayer and financial assistance. The founder of this network (APF/MISSIO), Pauline Jaricot will be beatified on 22 May in Lyon, France, from where she began Missio. This remarkable lay woman's life was marked by intense suffering and great trust in God. Her life helps us to see how every prayer, however short, and every contribution, however small is valued by God and can transform the world for the better. Thank you for being part of Pauline's legacy, a legacy which has combined with the work of the Mill Hill Missionaries, Britain's own missionary society, for over 80 years. Together, we will continue to support communities around the world as they share the Gospel message through their words and actions.'

## GIFT AID BOXES FOR 2022-2023

For those of you who use Gift Aid envelopes, your envelopes for 2022 2023 are now available for you to collect in the Narthex. Thank you for your continued support.