

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH EPSOM NEWSLETTER

26 JUNE 2022

Synod News

Following Fr Bill's introduction in last week's newsletter, I am writing to give the first update on the work of a newly formed Parish Core Group. We are an advisory group - to Fr Bill and the whole parish - looking at two crucial questions:

1. What should our parish aim to achieve in the future?
2. How can we make sure that the parish achieves what it intends?

We are seeking to follow up on the many excellent suggestions that were made in the Synodal conversations earlier this year. In doing so, we will keep a close eye on how the Synod continues to develop nationally and internationally over the coming months. Another important part of the context for our deliberations is the pandemic (and its continuing impact). Arguably, the pandemic has accelerated existing trends, for example in the reducing number and increasing average age of those attending Mass regularly and playing an active part in our parish. These are trends we should seek to reverse. However, there have also been positive developments within our parish during the pandemic. For example, it has highlighted the tremendous value of the ministry of welcome and demonstrated the potential of modern technology.

As Fr Bill said, we intend to present proposals to the parish before the end of the year. Everyone will then have an opportunity to give their views before anything is finalised. As we progress our work, I will keep the parish updated via the newsletter, parish website and a display in the narthex.

The Core Group includes some of the leaders from the Synodal discussion groups, Fr Stephen, parishioners in key roles and a representative from our school. We will draw on the expertise and experience of other parishioners as needed. Please keep us in your prayers over the coming months.
Chris Donovan



THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SUNDAY 26 JUNE 2022

This Sunday's readings focus on the commitment needed to respond to the Lord's call, a reminder that true faith comes from the heart.

The Gospel (**Luke 9: 51-62**) tells of the whole-hearted commitment required by Jesus of his followers – not coercion, as suggested by James and John. Jesus makes the three who come forward aware of what following him really means: it is not to be imagined as a part-time or 'easy' option. Jesus does not want his disciples to hesitate.

In the First Reading (**1 Kings 19: 16, 19-21**), Elisha responds quickly to being 'anointed' by Elijah. He shows his desire to serve the Lord by leaving his livelihood and home, empty-handedly following Elijah.

In the Second Reading (**Galatians 5: 1, 13-18**), St Paul emphasizes the importance of freedom. However, he warns the Galatians, and us too, that this is not an excuse for self-indulgence. The Spirit will guide us so that we love our neighbours as ourselves. Living in freedom encourages us to take total responsibility for our own lives, rather than blame others for any personal difficulties.

If, like the Psalmist (**Psalms 15**), we trust and follow the Lord's path of life, it will lead us to eternal joy. Let's pray this week for the grace of freedom in being able to accept unconditionally God's will for us. We also continue to pray for peace throughout the whole world, and especially for the people of Ukraine and eastern Europe.

Opening Prayer

O God, who through the grace of adoption
chose us to be children of light,
grant, we pray,
that we may not be wrapped in the darkness of
error
but always be seen to stand in the bright light of
truth.

DATE		MASS INTENTION
Sat 25 June	5.30pm	Peter Wilkins RIP
Sun 26 June	Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
	10.30am	Eric and Julia Mortimer RIP
	5.30pm	Saturnina Calgita RIP
Mon 27 June	10.00am	People of the Parish
Tue 28 June	Memoria St Irenaeus, Bishop and Martyr	
	10.00am	Tess Martin RIP
Wed 29 June	Solemnity of Sts Peter and Paul, Apostles	
	10.00am	Ruffa Grace Reyes' Intention
Thur 30 June	10.00am	Requiem Mass for Kathryn Sheehy
Fri 1 July	Feast of The Consecration of Arundel Cathedral	
	10.00am	Benigna Moratin RIP
Sat 2 July	5.30pm	Mansoor Bholah and Lina Chan RIP
Sun 3 July	Fourteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time	
	10.30am	People of the Parish
	5.30pm	Hugh Richards RIP

Our Prayers are asked for all those who are ill:

Frances Walsh, Merlyn Soares, Ann 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, Debbie Swain, Alan Lucas and Joe Soriano.

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 29 June at 10.30 a.m.** in the Chatterton Room. A warm welcome awaits you.

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/just-giving-compathallmemorialwalks, ideally with Gift Aid added.

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

SVP Coffee Morning

On Thursday 30th June after morning Mass and Rosary for Ukraine the SVP are holding a Coffee Morning at 11 a.m. in Epsom Methodist Church, all are welcome to join them.

SECOND COLLECTION

There will be a Second Collection this weekend for Peter's Pence.

FOUNDATION GOVERNORS – ST ANDREW'S

St Andrew's Catholic School are looking for some Foundation Governors to join the Governing Body from September 2022. We would be particularly interested to hear from Catholics who have some experience in education or finance. If you would be interested in hearing more about how the Governors at St Andrew's support the school to be the best it can be for the children in its care please contact Angela McEnaney on 01372 221180 or enquiries@st-andrews.surrey.sch.uk

LONDON: Catholic History Walks June 2022

Sunday June 26th The annual Martyrs Walk. Meet 2.30pm churchyard of St Giles-in-the-Fields London WC2 8LG (nearest tube: Tottenham Court Road). We will walk to Tyburn Convent for Tea and Benediction, arriving approx 4pm. **THERE IS NO NEED TO BOOK, JUST TURN UP!!**

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN EPSOM

Our next CTiE Prayer Meeting will be on Friday, July 8th at 10:00 to 11:00 am. We will meet in the covered outdoor section of the Old Moat Garden Centre Café.

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.

POOH CORNER

Pooh Corner is looking for helpers! Could you spare a couple of hours on a Monday morning? If so, please would you think about joining us. We need helpers to make teas and coffees, welcome new mums and carers as well as looking after the toys, and enable the session to run smoothly.

We are a lovely friendly group of mums, dads and grandparents who help out in running the community playgroup here. We want everyone to feel welcome and included, the children to be able to play and socialise in a safe fun setting, and the carers to be able to enjoy a hot cup of tea and a chat with others!

You don't need to have a child with you to help out - in fact, we really need some helpers with hands free.

Please contact the Parish Office who will pass on our details. Thank you!

Tributes Website for St Fionnuala

As we did after Sr Margarite's death [www.forevermissed.com/srmargaritewindle], we have created a website to enable all those who wish to do so, to add a tribute that others can review. The website for Sr Fionnuala is www.forevermissed.com/srfionnuala-ellen-byrne and can be visited both to add a tribute and to read those posted by others. For those who don't have the facility to do so, arrangements can be made to add your tribute on your behalf, if you send your tribute to the Parish Office.

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School – Admission in September 2023

In St Joseph's Catholic Primary School's admissions criteria, priority is given to Catholic children whose parent/carer attends Sunday Mass (this can include the Saturday evening vigil Mass) at least once a month. Normally this is expected to have been the case for at least one year prior to the closing date for applications. However, due to COVID, the Bishops of England & Wales suspended the obligation to attend Sunday Mass on 18 March 2020.

On 6 May 2022, the Bishops announced that they were lifting the suspension of the obligation from Pentecost Sunday (i.e. 5 June 2022). This means that for those Catholic parents/carers who are seeking priority of admission to St Joseph's that reference Mass attendance, they need to attend Mass at least once a month from now through to the closing date for applications (i.e. 15 January 2023). In the parish of St Joseph's, Epsom, such parents will need to sign in at Mass when they attend Mass between now and 15 January.

Just for further clarification, the school's admission policy states:

"In most cases, attendance at Mass will be by the parent/carer. However, it is recognised that in certain circumstances, such as those involving bereavement, a separation or where one of the parents is not a Catholic, a child may attend Mass with another family member, such as a grandparent. In such circumstances, governors will accept this attendance as meeting the requirement of the policy as long as the duration and frequency of Mass attendance is met. If such a situation does apply to a family, they will need to ensure that the priest is familiar with their particular circumstances and can verify it, providing an explanation of the Mass attendance on the Supplementary Information Form."

FOODBANK UPDATE

It was lovely to see our donation boxes full this week. Thank you so much for your continued support and generosity. This is especially needed now at a time when the Foodbank is running out of much needed items as the demand increases. Please only give the items listed below. Thank you.

We have completely run out of:

Pasta sauce, Cooking sauce, Long life fruit juice, Meat pies (microwaveable), Tinned spaghetti i.e. hoops, Sponge puddings, Mayonnaise, Small bags of sugar, Biscuits, Chocolate, Crisps, Sanitary towels

We urgently need:

Tinned vegetables, Custard, Noodles, Rice pudding, Squash Microwaveable rice, Packet soup, Pasta sauce, Deodorant Shampoo, Baby wipes, Dog food,
Many thanks once again.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT ST JOSEPH'S

We are hoping to recommence our Children's Liturgy at the 10.30a.m. Sunday Mass in September 2022.

If you would like to be part of the Team delivering this very valuable ministry then please do let the Parish Office know - we look forward to hearing from you!

The Passage

The Passage invites you to attend their Secret Garden Party on Thursday 7th July, 6pm-9pm, at College Garden, Westminster Abbey. Tickets start at £55 per person and include a barbecue, alcoholic and soft drinks, live entertainment and a raffle and auction. Tickets can be purchased here on our website: <https://passage.org.uk/get-involved/events/garden-party/>

All ticket purchases help us to continue our vital work supporting London's most vulnerable people.

Missio Red Box Spring Collection.

Thank you to our Missio red box holders and promoters who emptied their boxes and left cheques in the Parish Office. Our Spring collection raised £599.17.

**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
Telephone: 01372 723573

CAFOD IN ST JOSEPH'S

Fr Bill has asked me to become the CAFOD parish contact for St Josephs. The role will be to lead a parish team to undertake the following tasks on behalf of CAFOD (Catholic Agency for Overseas Development)

- Fundraising
- Responding to emergencies
- Campaigning
- Prayer and reflecting
- Working with young people

If you have an interest in and passion for CAFOD's mission to make our world a more just place and could use your skills to make a real and lasting difference why not join the Parish team. Please contact the Parish Office leaving you contact details and I (Jonathan Inns) will get back to you.

A Day at the Seaside for Young Adults (18-35) (re-scheduled) Saturday 20 August at Our Lady Star of the Sea, East Preston at 11am

A day at the seaside with Fr Stephen Ortiger! Fr Stephen, a Benedictine monk who is currently working in Parish Ministry is looking forward to celebrating Mass and then spending the day with the young adults of our Diocese. After Mass we will walk along the sea front to a beach side cafe where we will share lunch together. Contact E: lizzie.wakeling@abdiocese.org.uk for more information.

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

Annual Pilgrimage of Reparation and Consecration at the Church of Our Lady of Consolation & St Francis West Grinstead RH13 8LT on Saturday 16 July, 12.15pm – 4.15pm. The day includes Mass celebrated by Canon Tim Madeley, a personal consecration to Our Lady, The Sorrowful Mysteries of the Holy Rosary, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Divine Mercy - Adoration and Silent Prayer and Benediction. There is no need to book, to find out more contact Linda C-Dominguez T: 01273 463463 or Jayne Lock M: 07816 422851 or E: jayne.lock1@gmail.com.

ST PHILOMENA'S OPEN EVENING – Tuesday 28 June 3.30p.m. – 7.30p.m.

St Philomena's Catholic High School for Girls will be holding an Open Evening on Tuesday 28 June for prospective new parents and students of Year 6 going into Year 7.

GIFT AID STATEMENTS 2021-2022

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