

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH EPSOM NEWSLETTER

27 FEBRUARY 2022

Bangers and Cash

My first car which I bought in 1969 was a Morris Minor Convertible 1958 for the princely sum of £45. My age back then was around sixteen and three quarters and my ambition was to drive an old banger in order to pass my driving test. With the 'L' plates attached my friend would take me out driving on a regular basis. This was a great help together with the six lessons I had with the School of Motoring enabling me to pass my driving test first time in Weybridge that same year. When the weather permitted, it was great fun driving with hood down enjoying the fresh air; another source of fresh air came via the floor boards, a common problem with cars of that vintage. I was glad to have sold my little Morris the following year to the companion of Margaret Rutherford for £50!

There is a certain nostalgia remembering past times and experiences such as I described above and we may even consider that life was better back in the day. Watching programmes such as "Bangers and Cash" brings back many memories of all the kinds of transport used down through the ages. When Derek begins his auction, his opening words are, "Where do you want to be, start me on it". And so, following on from a most successful Synod I am asking you the same question trusting that you have read Chris Donovan's excellent Newsletter No 8.

Where do you want our Church to be going forward from here? So many questions have arisen out of the Synod about our Liturgy and how we can improve our celebrations, how to best embrace the mission which is ours through our Baptism. Where do you see the church relating to society at this present time? Some think we are at the centre of it all, but for me we seem to be more on the periphery becoming less and less relevant. However, we do have a voice and an important contribution to make.

We are now coming out of the pandemic and there is a sense that we would return to some kind of normality. We need to look again at our Parish structures and consider how we might make changes where needed and strengthen those that are working well. I realise that there are many questions here for our Parish to pray and think more deeply about. How best to do this is not clear to me at the moment. In launching the Synod Pope Francis reminded us how the Holy Spirit speaks to and through us. In this I am confident that He will do the same for all of us here in this St Joseph's Parish.

In the meantime, continue to exercise care in church; Covid-19 has not gone away and remember to pray especially for the people of the Ukraine and those priests who we have had staying here with us in the past.

See you all for the Ashes on Wednesday. No not cricket! May your time of Lent be fruitful with many blessings.

Canon Bill



**SUNDAY 27
FEBRUARY 2022
EIGHTH SUNDAY IN
ORDINARY TIME**

This Sunday's readings remind us that our words and actions reflect the reality of our inner selves. Even as we pray and long to live the values of Jesus, our speech may betray the ways in which we have yet to be fully converted, and show our need for God's mercy.

The First Reading (***Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7***) encourages us to be discriminating in conversation with others, noticing the quality and content of another's speech before choosing to imitate them.

The Gospel (***Luke 6: 39-45***) invites us to have Jesus for our teacher and guide: 'the fully trained disciple will always be like their teacher'. We are reminded to avoid the temptation to follow others blindly or to criticise them when our own faults are much more evident. Our lives will reflect our own purity of heart and likeness to Jesus.

Whilst this may seem a hard teaching and difficult to put into practice, St Paul tells us that we should never give up, never admit defeat, because, while we are working at the Lord's work, we can never be labouring fruitlessly. God will always give us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ! (***Second Reading – Corinthians 15: 54-58***)

And so, we can recite the Psalm (***Psalm 91***) with joy, offering praise and thanks to the Lord, who sustains those who place their trust in God. Rooted in Jesus, we will flourish like a palm tree by an oasis or a sturdy Lebanon cedar. We will proclaim the goodness of God.

DATE		MASS INTENTION
Sat 26 Feb	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sun 27 Feb	<i>Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>	
	10.30am	Isabel Smith RIP
	5.30pm	Michael Connors RIP
Mon 28 Feb	10.00am	Requiem Mass for Mchael Halliden
Tue 1 Mar	<i>Feast of St David</i>	
	10.00am	Maria Cristina Antezana De Lopez RIP
Wed 2 Mar	<i>Ash Wednesday</i>	
	10.00am	Zenaida Chumrro RIP
	6.00pm	Mary Tommie RIP
Thu 3 Mar	10.00am	John and Anne Knightley RIP
Fri 4 Mar	10.00am	Mansoor Bholah, Mr and Mrs Truscott RIP
Sat 5 Mar	5.30pm	Tomas and Eufrocina Mejias RIP
Sun 6 Mar	<i>First Sunday of Lent</i>	
	10.30am	Mansoor Bholah and Rolando De Castro RIP
	5.30pm	Howard and Theresa Park's Intention

PRAYER FOR THE SYNOD

We stand before You, Holy Spirit,
as we gather together in Your name.

With You alone to guide us,
make Yourself at home in our hearts;
Teach us the way we must go
and how we are to pursue it.

We are weak and sinful;
do not let us promote disorder.
Do not let ignorance lead us down the wrong path
nor partiality influence our actions.

Let us find in You our unity
so that we may journey together to eternal life
and not stray from the way of truth
and what is right.

All this we ask of You,
who are at work in every place and time,
in the communion of the Father and the Son,
forever and ever. Amen.

The Bartimaeus Project 'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening' with Fr Stephen Dingley Tuesday, 1 March at 7.30pm, online & in person
The first in a series of engaging talks, delivered by Arundel & Brighton parish priests. To find out more and register please visit the [Bartimaeus Project](#)

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 Childs, Anna Dubinina, and Jonathan Wilkins.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for Ann O'Brien, Janet Pogmore and Manuela Chorley who have recently passed away. Please also keep their families in your prayers

Communion to the House Bound

Do you know a Parishioner who is house bound or in a care home and unable to get to Mass? Would they like to receive Holy Communion from a Eucharistic Minister in their home, on a regular basis? We believe there must be a number of previously regular mass goers who are now unable to leave the house who would like to receive Holy Communion. Please contact the Parish Office and let us know who they are so that we can arrange this.

LENTEN DIARY FOR CHILDREN

We have ordered some Lenten Diaries for the Children to complete throughout Lent – we hope that they will enjoy reading them and filling them in.

Please do pick one up as you pass through the Atrium.

Good News - Tea and Coffee Mornings have resumed after the 10.30a.m. Mass!

We invite you to join us in the hall after the 10.30 Mass every Sunday. It's a chance to celebrate again the simple pleasure of meeting for a relaxed chat over a tea or coffee. We look forward to welcoming you all.

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.

PARISH GIFT AID

If you are a taxpayer, please join our Gift Aid scheme. This will boost the value of your donation by 25% at no extra cost to you. Simply fill in the Gift Aid Form (<https://st-josephs-epsom.org.uk/giftAid-Form2020.pdf>) and return it to the parish office (by email is fine). Hard copies available in the Narthex.

PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE, IRELAND

Fully escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, celebrating the feast of St. Patrick. 14th March 2022. £699.00 per person sharing. Price includes flight with 10kg hand luggage, all transfers, 4 nights' in Knock House Hotel with full board. All entertainment and excursions included. Lunches on days out. Wheel-chair accessible rooms. Single room supplement £100. Contact Patricia on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com. Knock Pilgrimages is a member of the Travel Trust Association and is fully protected by ATOL T7613.

World Day of Prayer Friday 4th March at 10:30 a.m.

This year our celebration of the World Day of Prayer is at Christ Church, Christ Church Road, Epsom Common. The Theme, 'I know the plans I have for You' was written by women of England, Wales and Northern Ireland. Representatives of all the Christian Churches in Epsom will participate in the service. Please come and support this annual ecumenical service which is for everyone. Refreshments will be served after the service.

PARISH OPENING HOURS
MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY
8.30A.M. – 2.30P.M.
THURSDAY
8.30A.M. – 12.30P.M.

2021 RESULTS

We finished the year with a surplus of £20.8k in our Main Fund. Please see the Finance notice board in the narthex for further details. You'll also see a list of our financial support to other causes during 2021.

SVP INVITE

The SVP are going to meet for coffee at Epsom Methodist Church at 11 o'clock on Monday 28th February. The intention is simply to meet for a chat in a relaxed atmosphere and we would like Parishioners to join us.

So, if you are in town at this time please come along, or come on down after 10.00a.m. Mass that morning. We look forward to seeing you!

CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – LENT APPEAL

Every child should grow big and strong. Family Fast Day is Friday 11 March, a day when we eat simply and give generously to support mums around the world with expert training in growing and making healthy food. Your small act of love this Lent will make a big difference to many communities affected by extreme hunger and children suffering from malnutrition. You can donate at Church by using a CAFOD envelope or by visiting the CAFOD website (cafod.org.uk/lent)

News from Worth Abbey

Time Out – Individual self-led retreats, 4- 6 March, Cost: £90 pp per night (min 2 nights), Concession rate for shared occupancy and bursary assistance available.

Spend some quality time at Worth Abbey - time to process, to reflect and to pray. This is a week set aside from the normal retreat programme to offer time for a bit of sanctuary so you can do whatever you need to do, with plenty of time in between.

Book online: www.worth.co.uk/retreats

E: retreats@worth.org.uk or T: 01342 710318

FOODBANK UPDATE

We are so grateful to all of our wonderful supporters; every donation makes a difference! You have helped us to feed 595 people in January 2022, including 256 children. This week urgently needed items include:

- Chocolate spread; Long-life sponge puddings; Powdered milk;
- Adult toothbrushes; Female and Male deodorant; Hair conditioner;
- Baby wipes; Children's toothpaste 0-2 & 6+

We also need:

- Chocolate biscuit bars (penguin, club etc);
- Snack size chocolates for kids (freddo, buttons etc); Instant mash, Long-life fruit juice; Tinned potatoes; Spaghetti in sauce;
- Brown sauce; Pasta sauce; Dried pasta in sauce; custard; crisps for adults and children
- Dog food – wet and dry please
- Tea; Squash, Tampons.

Finally, with the increase in energy prices, we are also asking for donations of new hot water bottles. Boiling a kettle costs a lot less than heating one radiator. Food and fuel poverty are so closely related we know that many people need help. Thank you.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

Firstly, thank you to all of you who were able to support the Lourdes Pilgrimage Appeal Collection last weekend.

We are receiving several applications from Pilgrims who will require assistance to join this year's Lourdes Pilgrimage, but at this point we are short of Helpers, Nurses and Doctors to assist with their Pilgrimage.

If you are willing and able to join us, we would love to hear from you. The Pilgrimage Office is happy to answer any questions anyone has prior to applying.

The application form is available on our website: <https://www.abdiocese.org.uk/lourdes/home>

The Passage a Catholic Charity, working with people who are homeless, is holding a St David's Day concert on Thursday 3 March at 7.30 pm in Holy Trinity Church, Sloane Square with The London Welsh Male Voice Choir and soloist tenor Ryan Vaughan Davies. All tickets are £20. Please support the work of this excellent charity. Tickets at passage.org.uk/st-davids-day-concert or telephone 020 75921856

Contact Us:

Email: office@st-josephs-epsom.org.uk
Telephone: 01372 723573

ADoRE Confidential Prayer for Healing

ADoRE is offering confidential prayer for healing by telephone – please phone (not Text) 07579 824523 Monday to Friday 10.00a.m. – 4.00p.m. and leave ONLY name and number.

Experienced prayer ministers will pray with you confidentially for healing of physical, emotional and spiritual problems.

Are you using all your talents?

St Joseph's is recruiting readers for all the weekend masses to reduce the commitment on the current team of readers.

We are particularly keen to have some younger members of the congregation using their talents and taking part in the liturgy. Breeda Walsh, one of the current readers, has offered to spend time helping the new volunteer readers to prepare adequately for the task.

If you would like to answer this call, please let the office know ASAP by email, office@st-josephs-epsom.org.uk. Phone: 01372 723573 or drop a note into the office so that we can arrange a suitable time for all to prepare with Breeda and practice using the microphone. There will also be a printed set of guidelines to help you.

CONFIRMATION COHORT 2021

Confirmation certificates for the 2021 Confirmation candidates will be presented during the 5.30 pm Mass on Sunday 6 March. After Mass, a social event will take place in the Parish Hall to celebrate. Please respond to Neil Whitmore if you would like to attend.

ASH WEDNESDAY – 2 MARCH 2021

Please note that there will be two Masses on Ash Wednesday next week, at 10.00a.m. and 6.00p.m. We will be distributing ashes at both Masses.

Finding Stillness: 14-17 March, Cost: £330 per person

Come away to a quiet place to find stillness and God's presence. Discover in the Benedictine tradition how stillness and stability can offer ways of opening up to God and living life at a deeper level. Book online: www.worth.co.uk/retreats
E: retreats@worth.org.uk or T: 01342 710318