

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH EPSOM NEWSLETTER

3 APRIL 2022

Fr Bill's Update

Sunshine

"Sunshine on my shoulders makes happy
Sunshine in my eyes can make me cry
Sunshine on the water looks so lovely
Sunshine almost always makes me high."

The opening lyrics of this John Denver song dating back to 1971 may be a little far back for some of you, but a little sunshine in our lives is welcome at any time. Here we are one week into British Summer time hoping that the sunshine will arrive soon once the East Wind and the occasional flurry of snow finds another home.

It is important for us to recall the words of St Ignatius of Loyola who would ask us where the sun has been shining in our lives today?

Russia's invasion of Ukraine has sent dark clouds all over the world, a senseless war that has caused death and destruction to the people of Ukraine and insecurity in Europe and beyond as people grapple with the rising cost of oil and gas.

At this time, it is difficult to see where the sun is shining. For me it is in the faith of those who continue to pray for peace, that God will change the hearts and minds of those living in the darkness of hatred and war, and that He will bring about peace in our world at this present time and this will be the real sunshine to make us all happy.

May the Lord continue to bless all our Parishioners in these final days of Lent and may He keep you and your loved ones safe.
Canon Bill



FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT SUNDAY 3 APRIL 2022

We are invited today to recognise the utter completeness of God's forgiveness, and his desire to restore us to new life.

The prophet Isaiah tells how the people learned anew that their God was to be known not only through remembering the past, but also in the experience of their lives in the here and now. (First Reading – ***Isaiah 43: 16-21***).

The Psalm (***Psalms 125***) recalls and celebrates the joy experienced by the exiles as they return home. God's mercies in the past give grounds for hope in any present distress.

Paul loves Christ very deeply, and vividly longs to 'have Christ, and be given a place in him'. He yearns to be in an intimate relationship with him. Yet he also knows that he cannot be complacent and that he is still 'straining ahead' for what is to come. (Second Reading – ***Philippians 3: 8-14***).

The Gospel (***John 8: 1-11***) tells the story of those who look for the public humiliation and condemnation of the woman taken in adultery, and also of Jesus himself. The accusers have a narrow view of the mercy of God, and wish to use the woman as an opportunity for scoring points against Jesus. However, Jesus understands wisely and demonstrates bravely the overwhelming mercy of God.

Let us pray to experience the complete acceptance and forgiveness of Jesus in our lives this day. As followers of Christ, may we be heralds of his life-giving love, mercy and freedom to the world. We also continue to pray for peace across the world, especially in Ukraine and eastern Europe.

DATE		MASS INTENTION
Sat 2 Apr	5.30pm	Chacko Ouseph RIP
Sun 3 Apr	<i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>	
	10.30am	Monica and Bernard Brennan RIP
	5.30pm	Mary Tomnie RIP
Mon 4 Apr	10.00am	Birthday Thanksgiving Andrew and Millicent De Lord and Family's Intentions
Tue 5 Apr	10.00am	Private Intention
Wed 6 Apr	10.00am	Eamonn Barrett RIP Maud Fangamar's Well-Being
Thu 7 Apr	10.00am	Howard and Theresa Park's Intention
Fri 8 Apr	10.00am	Marcelle Copus RIP Peter Kelly RIP
Sat 9 Apr	10.30am	Frank Campbell RIP
	5.30pm	Mary Margaret Laing RIP
Sun 10 Apr	<i>Palm Sunday</i>	
	10.30am	Mansoor Bholah and Albert Miller RIP
	5.30pm	George Fernandes RIP

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.

Epsom Catenian Mass - 10.30am Saturday 9 April

The Epsom Catenians have arranged for a Memorial Mass to be said for their deceased member, Frank Campbell KCSG, who died last June. Frank was for 10 years the project manager for our new Church for which we as a Parish owe him a huge debt of gratitude. Any Parishioners will be most welcome to attend. The Catenians will be providing bacon butties in the hall after the Mass.

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, Anna Dubinina, and Jonathan Wilkins

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for Kamilla Griffin who has recently passed away. Please also keep her family in your prayers.

BEREAVEMENT GROUP

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 Paula Thomas on 07710 099682 or Theresa Park on 07867 625291.

EASTER SERVICES

It would be helpful if Parishioners could give us an indication of which Services / Masses they hope to attend over Easter. You will find sheets in the Atrium for you to complete so that we can try and accommodate all those who are hoping to attend the following Services / Masses over the Easter season.

Maundy Thursday 14 April 2022
Service at 7.30p.m.

Good Friday 15 April 2022
Service at 3.00p.m.

Easter Saturday 16 April 2022
Vigil Service at 7.30p.m.

Easter Sunday 17 April 2022
Mass at 8.30a.m.
Mass at 10.30a.m.

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.

CONFIRMATIONS 2022

**We are pleased to confirm that there will be a Confirmation presentation to parents wishing their child to be confirmed this year on:
Monday 25 April at 7.30p.m. in the Church.
After the meeting you will have the opportunity to register your child for Confirmation and pay the enrolment fee of £25. Please bring along with you a copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate. We look forward to seeing you there.**

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.

Thank you so much for your support of CAFOD's Lent Family Fast Day, the Walk Against Hunger and the Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal. Your support means we can respond in crises such as Ukraine where our Caritas aid workers and volunteers could quickly help families fleeing conflict. It also means we're there in the long-term and can continue to respond to crises around the world, including in Afghanistan, Syria, Ethiopia, and South Sudan. We work alongside communities as they rebuild their lives once the conflict is over, as in Sierra Leone. For lots more detail on how your donations are being used, please go to the CAFOD website W: cafod.org.uk

WANT TO GIVE YOUR MARRIAGE A BOOST?

Treat yourself to a life changing Marriage Encounter experience.

Our next experiences are:

14 and 21 May,

11 – 12 June.

Visit WWME.org.uk for more details and booking.

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

Admissions September 2023—signing in at Mass

In discussion with St Joseph's School, we expect that the current waiver on the obligation to attend Mass on a weekly basis may be changed soon, by the Bishop's Conference.

This will impact on you, in terms of admission to Reception Class in 2023, if you have a child of that age.

Our admissions policy requires that parents sign in once a month, from the January before (so from 2022) to indicate their child's attendance at Mass. Some of you will recall that this involved completing a slip of paper and putting it in a box. The Parish team then record this information for admissions purposes. We will be restoring the signing in system after Easter. So, when you attend Mass after Easter, you should resume signing. Further details on how and where you can do this will follow in next week's Newsletter.

Once the obligation to attend is restored, this evidence will be taken into account for admissions.

FOODBANK UPDATE

Thank you for your unstinting support for the Foodbank. Your donations helped to feed 680 clients during the month of February. Without your donations, this wouldn't be possible - thank you!

We have several urgently needed items:

Longlife sponge puddings

Powdered milk

Chocolate spread

Spaghetti in sauce

Custard

Rice pudding

Shampoo

Hair conditioner

Shaving foam

Toilet rolls

Adult toothbrushes

Adult toothpaste

Nappies size 6+

CTiE Monthly Prayer Meeting

We look forward to meeting all who can join us, at the next **Churches Together in Epsom** meeting: 10-11am on Friday 8 April for **Coffee, Fellowship and Prayer**, indoors in an airy space, at **Old Moat Garden Centre Cafe**, Horton Lane, Epsom KT19 8PQ.

Menorcan holiday apartment

A 2-bedroom apartment with a stunning sea view in Menorca is available for a perfect holiday, metres from the sea for these periods: 8 – 20 May, 24 May – 24 June and 10 – 19 September. A flyer is available on request with T & C and further details. M. 07775 914717 E. johncaflod@gmail.com

MESSAGE FROM THE SVP

West Surrey SVP has a 6 berth caravan in Bognor Regis which is available for use by any family. The caravan has 1 double en-suite and 2 twin bedrooms plus it is centrally heated and double glazed, and is situated in the Riverside Caravan Centre in Bognor Regis. We would seek a donation of £300 for the week to help with SVP funds towards its upkeep. Should you be interested please contact David Loveder on 07810 156850 for more details and to check availability - the school summer holiday weeks are already reserved."

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.

Praying for Ukraine

Every weekday after the 10.00am Mass, Parishioners go into The Lady Chapel to say the rosary and pray together for Ukraine. If you come to Mass during the week you may like to join them.

You might also like to pray at the same time for Ukraine wherever you are.

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.

Missio-APF Red Box Spring collection.

The Spring collection of red boxes will take place during the month of March. Your promoter will contact you soon to arrange collection of your box. It would be very helpful if box holders would be able to empty their own box and leave a cheque payable to Missio-APF in the Parish Office. Thank you for your generous support of Missio.

Churches Together in Action

Hope into Action Epsom job vacancy

We are looking for someone to join the team for 8 hours a week as an Empowerment Worker to support our Tenants who have been homeless.

Tenants may be singles or families with support needs and you would empower them towards a fulfilled life. You will also be working with our partner Churches to train, equip, encourage for their role in mentoring, befriending and giving practical support to tenants.

For further information please visit: **Hope Into Action Epsom Website.**

Closing date is 8 April 2022.

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