

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

EPSOM NEWSLETTER

26 MAY 2024

UPDATE FROM FR BILL

When it comes to our eating habits, it seems that grazing is often kinder to one's digestive system. Of course, we are all different when it comes to our food. Some people cannot manage without three square meals in the day, whereas others are better able to deal with a slow-and-steady trickle of food. It is often said that grazing is kinder to one's digestive system as it reduces pesky bloating and energy slumps. The subject of Food is topical at this present time, and we are blessed with an abundance in market stalls and supermarkets, though not everybody can afford to buy food given the recent hike in prices. Thank God for food banks, for those who work in them and especially those who generously contribute on a regular basis.

In addition to feeding and nourishing the body, we must also feed and nourish the soul. Here in this church, we must come regularly to be fed by the Word of God and by our blessed Lord who comes to us in a very special way in the Eucharist. Hearing his Word and partaking of His body and blood strengthens our faith and enables us to grow more deeply in the love of God and our neighbour. Last weekend, 18th/19th May, with great joy we celebrated our parish first holy communions, welcoming eighty-six children, their parents, extended family and friends who were divided into three groups, two on Saturday, one morning and afternoon, with the third group on Sunday at 12.30 pm. I'm sure you will appreciate these occasions do not just happen without the tremendous amount of work and time by our catechists, who spend months preparing the children and their parents. A huge thank you to Mary Burke and her team, to our welcomers and our carparking stewards, and to Chris and Terry for providing the music, and of course to the parents and children. Congratulations to: *Johnny, Leo, Matthias, Oskar, Luca, Sophia, Isabelle, Olivia, Ryan, Tadeo, Oliver, Sofia K, Jessie, Bethany, Jacob, Ian, Sebastian, Michelle, Theo, Chiara, Maya, Eva, Lydia, Orla, Jimmy, Emily, Laura, Samantha, Aiden, Ryan, Sophie C, Xavier, Berta, Gabby, Daniel, Adrian, Michelle, Isabella, Darcie, Ariana, Sofia M, Rosangela, Michaila, Charlie, Eric, Agnes, Edison, Liam, Jack, Rose, Justina, Giovanna, Nevaeh, Scarlett, Nathan, Luisella, Luke, Rory, Caddaric, Tommy, Sara, Alice, Sam, Jesse, Kai I, Thomas, Archer, Kai J, Philomena, Caitlyn, Elizabeth, Samuel, Walden, Carson, Anson, Sophie V, Leo, Alastair, Jemima, Ellie, Wilbur, John, Amelia, Melodie, Avery and Cillian.*

Now parents it is over to you to continue to nourish your child each week here at Holy Mass by receiving our Lord in the Eucharist, a spiritual food best grazed regularly.

May God Bless you all. Canon Bill



THE MOST HOLY TRINITY SUNDAY 26 MAY 2024

*'Glory be to the Father, and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit.'*

As always on this first Sunday after Pentecost, we celebrate the Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity. This is the central mystery of our faith – our God, one in three persons, in whose name we were all welcomed at our baptism.

In the **First Reading (Deut 4: 32–34, 39–40)**, Moses reminds the people of everything God has done for them in releasing them from slavery in Egypt. All they – and we – are asked in return for the prosperity and eternal life that God offers, is that we obey the commandments.

In a similar vein, the Psalmist - **Psalm 32 (33)** - rejoices in the gifts God gives to all his chosen people. We are reminded particularly of the gifts of creation, protection from want and evil, and God's faithful love.

In the **Second Reading (Romans 8: 14–17)**, St Paul speaks of the Spirit which makes us all children of God. Through this gift of the Spirit, we, like Jesus, can call God our Father, and share in his glory.

In the **Gospel (Matthew 28: 16–20)**, we see the risen Jesus handing on to the disciples their mission of baptising people throughout the world in the name of the Trinity. He reminds them, and ourselves, that he remains with us always.

This week, we pray that filled with God's Spirit, we will be ready to share the Trinity's message of love with the people we meet.

DATE		MASS INTENTION
Sat 25 May		Memoria of St Bede the Venerable, Priest, Doctor
	10.00am 5.30pm	Michael Smith R.I.P. Margaret, Jim, Theresa, Tom, John, Saffron and Evie R.I.P.
Sun 26 May		The Most Holy Trinity
	10.30am 5.30pm	Barbara Dong-Ok Yeo R.I.P. People of the Parish
Mon 27 May		Feast of St Augustine of Canterbury
	10.00am	Elaine Barker R.I.P.
Tues 28 May	10.00am	Funeral of Sum Lok Kwok
Wed 29 May	10.00am	Wellbeing of Shelagh Rattray
Thu 30 May	10.00am	In thanksgiving for Donna Wan's Family
Fri 31 May		Feast of The Visitation of The Blessed Virgin Mary
	10.00am	Canon Robert Christall RIP
Sat 1 June		Memoria of St Justin, Martyr
	10.00am 5.30pm	Norma Rosario RIP Isabel Castro – In thanksgiving
Sun 2 June		The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ
	10.30am 5.30pm	Mario Taibi R.I.P. People of the Parish

ST JOSEPH'S STATEMENT OF ASPIRATIONS

At St Joseph's, we **show God's love to the world**. This means that we:

- ✠ are a welcoming community, where all can
- ✠ explore, develop and deepen their faith;
- ✠ help everyone to discover how much they are loved by God;
- ✠ participate in spiritually enriching liturgies and celebrate sacraments as signs of God's love for us;
- ✠ empower people to use their individual talents and skills for the service of others;
- ✠ put the Gospel into practical, loving action by reaching out to help others, especially the poor and disadvantaged in the local community and beyond.

Car Parking on the Access Road to the Church Sunday 10.30a.m. Mass

It has been brought to our attention that several Parishioners are parking on the access road to the Church at the 10.30a.m. Sunday Mass - this is not permitted. Please refrain from this practice so that we can maintain good relations with our neighbours. If you cannot park in the Car Parks on a Sunday morning, please park on St Margaret Drive and St Elizabeth Drive where parking restrictions do not apply on Sunday morning.

Our Prayers are asked for all those who are ill:

Frances Walsh, Merlyn Soares, Emma Lee, Ian Watts, Steve Lee, Melitona Leander, Vanessa Tuff, Anita Hully, Joseph Poku, Angela Brett, Kay Pledge, Alan Lucas, Tom Makinson, Ethan Foley, Alice Nicolle, Sue Brackenbury, Matty Horkan, Lorraine Corsini, Jimmy Ward and Family, Graham Bell, Francis Taylor, Eddie Bell, Charlie Wood and Baby Trevor Agius.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Please pray for the happy repose of Paul Kobietowski who has recently passed away. Please also keep his families in your prayers.

RCIA - Becoming a Catholic

At the Easter Vigil, we were able to celebrate and welcome the members of the 2023-24 RCIA Group into full communion with the Catholic Church. Eight of the Group, Victoria Lee, Hillson Lam, Vinnie Lam, Amy Ng, Hayes Lam, Hung Yeun Shui, Junyan Luo and Rebecca Blackman were baptised and, along with four others, Byron Fung, Gavin Bolton, Sarah Patel and Elio Bolas, also received the Sacraments of First Holy Communion and Confirmation. Our new RCIA Group will be starting in September. If you are considering becoming a Catholic and wish to join, or simply find out more, please contact the Parish Office, speak to one of our Priests or email david34edr@virginmedia.com for more information.

The next **St Joseph's discussion group meeting** will be held at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 4th June in the Chatterton Room; Fr Stephen will once again attend to offer guidance. The topic will be "Why is it only Catholics that believe in Purgatory? Is there proof of its existence in the bible? Why do we pray for the souls who are there?" All welcome. If you have any questions: chris@thetimminsfamily.co.uk.

The boxes of Gift Aid envelopes for the new tax year 2024/25 can now be collected from the Narthex. PLEASE NOTE - we rationalised the numbering system, so your box number may have changed from last year. Please do NOT use any "old" envelopes from previous tax years after 6 April 2024.

A parish pilgrimage to Medjugorje

Is planned for 15-22nd October 2024. Several people have booked already, and we still have places available. The cost is from £789 per person and the travel company is All Saints Travel. For more details, please contact Kathy Maskens by email on kathymaskens@hotmail.com or call 07722457830.

Parish Youth Group (Ages 13 to 18) Next Session - Sunday 16th June

The second session titled 'Your Dreams' is taking place on Sunday 16th June will be an engaging exploration of each child's dreams for their own life across several areas, including: Physically, Emotionally, Intellectually, Spiritually, Psychologically, Professionally, Financially, Creatively, etc.

"You see, your dreams will guide the direction of your life. Most people, don't know what their dreams are because they do not step away from their "busy lives" to come to mass, to pray, and to enter the classroom of silence." – Matthew Kelly

If your child would like to join the Parish Youth Group, we request that the child's Parent/Guardian fills in the sign-up form using the following

link: <https://forms.gle/Ps5F5UXg5uBZ4MQs9>

There will be **tea and coffee** after the 10 am Mass every Friday in the Chatterton Room; if you would like to help, please contact Celia Flood on 07767870035.

Kathy Maskens is wondering whether anyone would be interested in joining her on a **regular rosary/ prayer walk** on Thursday evenings at 19.30. If you are interested, please contact her via email at kathymaskens@hotmail.com.

If you, or someone you know is struggling and would appreciate some help or just someone to talk to in confidence, please call Celia Flood on 07767 870035, or Terry Cruise on 07788 454774.

BAPTISMS AT ST JOSEPH'S



We very much look forward to meeting new parents and explaining our Baptism preparation which includes regular attendance at Mass prior to joining classes. You will find one of the Baptism Catechist's near the font after 10:30 Mass on Sundays. Do come and say hello.

The Sponsored 4th Pat Hall Memorial Walk Sunday 28 July

By popular demand this walk will be repeated this year. The 1st & 2nd walks took place in 2019 & 2022 and were followed by the 3rd walk last October, when the 4 who had accompanied Pat, aged 84, on his 100 mile Camino walk to Santiago, met again to walk from Lucca to Siena in Tuscany. The 4th walk in aid of HCPT returns to Surrey. Start locations vary from Hampton Court, Roehampton Gate and Pembroke Lodge, all finishing at Roehampton Gate, the distances being 12+, 7 and 4 miles to suit most people (with a 1 mile option also available). After the walk there will be a Mass at the Kairos Centre in Roehampton celebrated by Fr Simon and this is followed by a buffet supper at the nearby King's Head. For more details and to book, please contact John Flood as soon as possible - johncaflood@gmail.com or 07775 914717.

To sponsor the walkers for HCPT please visit www.justgiving.com/page/3rdpathallmemorialwalk

FOODBANK UPDATE

Thank you for your continued support. Our current wish list includes:

Sugar ((500g bags), Tinned Fruit, Noodles (not super or pot), Ketchup, Biscuit bars (penguins, etc.), crisps, Kids toothbrushes and toothpaste (0-2 and 6yrs plus), Male deodorant, Shaving foam/gel, Washing up liquid, Nappies 5 and 6 plus.

Apartment overlooking the sea in Menorca: there is still some availability this summer. Email: celia.flood@amail.com or phone 07767 870035.

Young Catholics in the Workplace series St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Epsom

Starting Thursday 20th June at 19:30 for four weeks.

This is a fantastic opportunity for teenagers and their parents to hear from young adult Catholics in their twenties how their faith has positively impacted their career. Our guests include individuals who have worked at American Express, the Air Accidents Investigation Branch, BDO LLP, Bentley Motors, Christian Dior, Facebook/Meta, the Renault Formula One Team, Vodafone, and more. Additionally, some of our guests have studied at Durham University or the University of Oxford.

For more information on our line-up, the evening format and how to register for your tickets, please visit: https://www.stjosephsepsom.org.uk/?page_id=3159

St Joseph's School - Headteacher

The exceptional and long-standing headteacher of our parish school, Theresa Kenefick, will be retiring at the end of 2024. Under her leadership, the school has flourished and is a part of the parish that everyone can be extremely proud of. Governors have commenced the process to appoint Theresa's successor. If you (or someone you know) might be interested in applying, please look for more details on Eteach (www.eteach.com) or contact the school (htappointment@stjosephs-epsom.surrey.sch.uk).

Divine Mercy and St Michael the Archangel Day

Retreat - Saturday 15 June 2024, 10.00am to 5.00pm

With first class relic of St Faustina and Investiture of the Scapular of St Michael the Archangel, led by Fr Peter Prusakiewicz CSMA, Poland, at St Peter's Church, West Street, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex. BN43 5WG.

Bring your own lunch, refreshments available.

Email: adurvalley@abdiocese.org.uk for more information, or telephone 01273 452654.

A newly arrived parishioner working at Epsom hospital is looking to rent a room temporarily (approx. 3 months), until his family joins him. If you are able to help, please email princenaem49@gmail.com

ALL NEW PARISHIONERS – SUNDAY 2 JUNE

Are invited to join us for tea and coffee in the Hall after the 10.30am Mass on the first Sunday of each month. This is a new initiative, and all are welcome! We will continue to offer the invitation on the first Sunday of each month, after the 10.30a.m. Mass, so don't worry if you miss the session after you have joined, you can just turn up at the next one. The event will provide an opportunity for new Parishioners to meet other new Parishioners and to find out about Parish life and how they might become involved in some of these activities. We look forward to seeing you there.

Two Job Opportunities

As you know, since last October Ashtead parish has been sharing Fr Bill and Fr Stephen with Epsom and it therefore makes sense that we now start sharing our resources. Fr Bill would like to employ a Manager and a Deputy Manager to take over the administration of both Epsom and Ashtead Parish offices. The new Manager and Deputy Manager would alternate their time between the two parish offices ie spending half the week in Epsom and then half the week in Ashtead. The Manager would be paid in the region of £19 per hour and the Deputy £17 per hour. We think this would work well on many levels so if there is anyone that would like to know more about this role or would like to apply for such a position, please contact Fr Bill william.davern@abdiocese.org.uk or Alison Morgan amemorgan@hotmail.com

Sadly, Karen D'Souza will be leaving the Parish office this month, so we will also be looking for someone on a temporary basis (approximately 3 months) to cover the Parish office duties. This could suit a student very well or someone who is between jobs! Again, do let Fr Bill or Alison Morgan know if you are interested.

We would like to wish Karen well in her new job and thank her for all her hard work these past two challenging years!!

Worth Abbey June Gathering

The Abbott and Community invites you to Worth Abbey from 11.00am to 4.30pm on Saturday 1st June for a social and spiritual day, share monastic prayer in the Abbey Church and enjoy the beauty that is Worth. Enjoy a guided walk through the woods and fields and visit St Bruno's retreat centre. Families welcome, there will be activities for children. www.worthabbeypilgrims.com

HELP needed to bring two ladies to Saturday evening Mass. We have two volunteers but another two would mean that each would be on duty only once each month. Please call Mary Liszka (07774 249410) or Chris Timmins (07795 621436) for details.

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 (this is a business account) - account name **RCD A&B St Joseph 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 both located in the narthex. Simply choose "Church offertory" from the list on the screen, and please select the option to add gift aid if you are a taxpayer. (Note: these devices can also be used for special collections)
- **gift aid envelope scheme:** please place your envelope in the collection bags.
- **loose cash:** please place in the collection bags. Thank you for your support.

Contact Us: Email: epsom@abdiocese.org.uk
Telephone: 01372 723573

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