ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH EPSOM
Weekly Newsletter 01 November 2026

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PARISH OPENING HOURS : Monday—Friday 9.00am—2.30pm

Weekly Reflection

‘Called to be Saints’

‘To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in veery place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ’.
(1 Corinthians 1:2-3)

It is very easy to think that the life of sainthood is for other people. That sainthood is for those who are more obviously holy or do not seem to have the sins and flaws that we do. Whilst they are now ‘other’ in that they are truly living in Heaven, worshipping Almighty God and praying for us here below, they still understand life. All the saints who we commemorate and celebrate today had joys, sadnesses, griefs, sins, trials, challenges to be overcome.

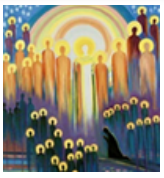
They know that life can be tough, mundane and wearisome as well as a joyful blessing. This is why we should ask for their prayers and develop a relationship with them through the loving mercy and work of Christ. The saints in heaven are not passive spectators to this life but active, prayerful participants from the realm of true life.

Sainthood is for everyone and begins here in this life, it beings every day when we choose to follow God, to love Him and our neighbour and by growing in holiness. Pope St John Paul II reminds us that it is our task is to become saints and ‘quickly’.

Let us ask all the Saints for their prayers that we may go ever deeper into the Sacred Mysteries of our Faith, ever deeper into the Love of God and ever closer to the One who made us for His own.

With every blessing,

Fr Gary



The Feast of All Saints

‘Beloved: See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God …’

Today’s feast is an occasion for great thanksgiving, honouring all the saints, both known and unknown, who offer us memories and models of holiness. We, too, are called to holiness; to be saints. The Communion of Saints prays for us, willing us on to join them.

The **First Reading** (Revelation 7: 2–4.9-14) gives us a vision of heaven. Those who belong to the Lord are marked with a seal and kept safe, ‘an innumerable number from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages’.

The **Psalm 24** (23) sings of the created world and all dwelling in it. Those who seek the Lord’s face with clean hands and a pure heart will receive his blessing.

in the **Second Reading** (1 John 3:1–3) John addresses us as ‘beloved’, reminding us that we are children of God. Although today’s world may misunderstand God’s Way, we are promised eternal life when we will see God as he is.

We can try to do this by following the message and example of Jesus, as portrayed in the **Gospel** (Matthew 5: 1–12a), Here Jesus teaches the disciples God’s law in a new way. His values and attitudes, summed up in the Beatitudes, are a map comprised of eight different paths. By following them, we align our lives with the heart of God and ‘holiness’.

On this feast, let’s pray for all those persecuted for their faith; for those suffering injustice; and for those affected by any form of violence.

Mass Intentions Commencing Sunday 01 November 2026		
Saturday	10.00am	Intentions of the Burke Family
	5.30pm	Mary Tomnie RIP
Sunday	***Solemnity of All Saints***	
	8.30am	Book of Remembrance
	10.30am	Book of Remembrance
	5.30pm	Book of Remembrance
Monday	***Feast of All Souls***	
	10.00am	Book of Remembrance
	6.00pm	Book of Remembrance
Tuesday	10.00am	Book of Remembrance
Wednesday	***Memorial of St Charles Borromeo, Bishop***	
Wednesday	10.00am	Book of Remembrance
Thursday	10.00am	Book of Remembrance
Friday	10.00am	Book of Remembrance
Saturday	**11.00am**	**Book of Remembrance Bereavement Mass**
	5.30pm	Book of Remembrance
Sunday	***Thirty-Second Sunday in Ordinary Time***	
	8.30am	Book of Remembrance
	10.30am	Book of Remembrance
	5.30pm	Book of Remembrance

CONFESSION TIMES: Saturdays after 10am Mass and at 5pm before 5.30pm Mass or by appointment by contacting the Parish Office.

Please pray for those who are ill within our Parish:
Graham Bell, Kay Pledge, Matty Horkan, Lorraine Corsini, Gill Beenham, Alan Lucas, Angela Brett, Edmund Louis, Katherine Humphries, Izzy Pearson, Janet Johnson, Eileen Doherty,Fr Sebastian Paul, Coukeper Victorello and Margaret Morrin.

Please pray for the happy repose of the souls who have died recently including : *Peter Lydon, Canon Alan Mclean, Bernadette Healy, Iris Elwell, Derek Birch, Michael Phelan, Lynne Ferrante, Rahulan Chelliah , Maria Thomas,Carmen Amor, Liberato Fattore, Lilia Mamorno, Arancha Escamilla-Real and Michael Breckon.*

Please keep their families in your prayers.

NEW TO THE PARISH

To anyone who has moved into the Parish recently, a warm welcome. We hope you'll find a spiritual home here amongst us. Please fill out a new parishioner form, (available in the Narthex) and pop it into the Parish office. Keep an eye on the newsletter for ways in which you can become involved in Parish life.

DISCUSSION GROUP

The Discussion Group is intended to assist us when we are challenged about our faith.
The next meeting will be **Tuesday 03 November** at 7.30pm in the Chatterton Room, when the topic will be "***Why does a loving and merciful God allow the natural disasters that we experience both personally and globally?"*** Fr Gary will be attending for guidance.

For further information and suggestions for future topics please contact Chris by Email: chris@thetimminsfamily.co.uk

BEREAVEMENT CAFE

The Bereavement team will next be meeting on **Monday 30 November** at the usual time of 10.30am after Mass and in the Chatterton Room.

If you are bereaved, do come and join us for coffee and biscuits and a friendly chat. The setting is very informal, and you will be sure of a warm welcome. If you are newly bereaved, or have lost your loved one some while ago, we know that grief has no time limit.

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

There is no better way to spend time than by praying in front of the Blessed Sacrament for our world and its needs in this year. On Mondays there will be an opportunity to pray with others before the Blessed Sacrament after the 10.00am Mass until 11.30am. Please come along.

PARISHONERS UNABLE TO ATTEND MASS

If you are unable to attend Mass due to being in or going into hospital or know someone who would like to receive Holy Communion, then please contact the Parish Office.
We have several Eucharistic Ministers who are willing to bring Holy Communion to you, either at home or in hospital.

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 Catechists near the font after 10.30am Mass on Sundays, term time only. Do come and say hello.

MASS INTENTIONS

If you would like to have a Mass said for someone, please do pick up one of the Mass Intention envelopes in the Narthex and pop it into the Parish Office. Alternatively, you can email your request to the Parish Office at: epsom@abdiocese.org.uk.

CHILDRENS LITURGY

There will be no Children's Liturgy for the next two weeks due to half term.

Sessions will return back Sunday 8 November.

TEA AND COFFEE - THIS WEEK

FRIDAY in the Chatterton after 10.00am Mass
SUNDAY in the Hall after 10.30am Mass
Everyone is welcome, this is a great opportunity to get to know fellow parishioners.

ALL SOULS

BLESSING OF GRAVES AT EPSOM CEMETERY

Fr Gary and Fr Simon will be blessing graves at Epsom Cemetery for All Souls on Monday 2nd November at 2pm. We will begin at the roundabouts in the centre of the cemetery with a short service and then begin blessing graves from there. Please feel free to park close to the graves you would like blessed, especially if the weather is wet.

NOVEMBER

MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

November is the month of the Holy Souls when we pray for our deceased relatives and friends. If you would like to have the names of relatives or friends entered into the Book of Remembrance during the month of November, please do write their names in the book. You will find Holy Souls envelopes for your donations beside the Book of Remembrance. Please pop them into the Parish Office. You can also make a donation using the contactless payment machines.

MASS FOR THE BEREAVED

Saturday 7 November at 11.00 am

The Annual Memorial Mass for the bereaved is on Saturday 7 November at 11 am at St Joseph's. The Mass is for all who are bereaved but we remember especially those who have lost loved ones in the last 12 months.

The names of those who have had funerals at St Joseph's during the last 12 months will be read out during this Mass.

All are welcome.After Mass, please come for tea, coffee and refreshments in the Church Hall.

REMINDER ABOUT MASS TIME CHANGE

Saturday 07 November 2026
Morning Mass will be at 11.00am

Ministry of Consolation Befrienders annual training January & February 2027

Do you feel called to support those experiencing the loneliness and isolation of bereavement? We will be running our annual training for Ministry of Consolation Befrienders in January and February 2027 . The course is held via Zoom from 9.00am - 1.30pm on the following dates.

- January - 13, 20,27
- February - 3, 10, 17

The closing date for applications is 21 November 2026. For more information, please contact Deacon Simon South, Diocesan Marriage & Family Life Adviser
E:simon.south@abdiocese.org.uk

School Advent Service

Thursday 26 November 2026 at 6.00pm
Year Six will present their Advent Service.
Parishioners are invited to attend. We know you will enjoy the event, whichis always very special.

ADVENT GROUPS

SYCAMORE

What do you believe?

The Faith Development Team is delighted to invite parishioners to Sycamore, an engaging four-week Advent programme designed to help us renew and deepen our faith. Through a series of short films presented by Bishop Stephen Wang, Sycamore explores the Catholic faith and its relevance to everyday life. Each session offers an opportunity to reflect, share ideas, ask questions, and connect with others in a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. Watch the Sycamore trailer at:
www.sycamore.fm/videos/sycamore-trailer-2

Face-to-Face Course on Mondays, 7.30pm to 9.00pm in St Joseph's Church Hall
23 November, 30 November, 7 December and 14 December.

Each evening begins with tea, coffee and cake, followed by a short film and small-group discussion.

Online Course on Wednesdays, 7.30pm to 9.00pm Via Zoom.
25 November, 2 December, 9 December and 16 December.

Online participants will watch the same films and take part in discussions and shared reflection, providing the same opportunity to explore faith and connect with others from the comfort of home.

Both the face-to-face and online Sycamore courses are open to adults aged 18 and over.

How to Register:
To book a place on the **face-to-face course**, email fg.epsom@abdiocese.org.uk with the subject line "**Advent**".

To book a place on the **online course**, email fg.epsom@abdiocese.org.uk with the subject line "**Advent Online**". A Zoom link will be sent to you before the first session.

We look forward to sharing this Advent journey with you.

ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI STATUE IN OUR COURTYARD

This year has been designated as the special jubilee year of St. Francis, by Pope Leo and you may have noticed that the statue of St Francis of Assisi in the courtyard is looking worse for wear. In fact, he has almost completely lost his nose! We would like to rectify that either through repair or by purchasing a new statue.

For this reason, Kathy Maskens will be walking on Thursday 19 November down to Ladywell, Franciscan retreat centre in Godalming the day before our parish retreat day. The distance is 21 miles, and she would really like people to sponsor her to raise money for this purpose.

Ways to donate - drop **cash** into the Parish Office , use the **Contactless** Machine or by **QR code** found here.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2027

The Catechist Team has emailed all parents who have registered an interest for their child to join the 2026 - 2027 First Holy Communion Programme. If you did register an interest but have not received an email, please contact the Parish Office at epsom@abdiocese.org.uk.

Just a reminder that Attendance Registers will only be signed after Saturday evening, Sunday morning and Sunday evening Masses. Saturday morning Mass is not part of the Sunday obligation.

if you visit another Parish for weekend Mass, then do bring your Attendance Register with you and ask a member of the Parish Team to sign it for you

Celebrate World Youth Sunday at St Joseph's on Sunday 22 November at 5.30pm Mass

Join the St Joseph's Youth Team to celebrate on the Feast Christ the King and the gifts young people bring to the Church.

- Youth-led music from the St Joseph's Folk Choir
- Young people leading the readings and prayers
- A welcoming space to meet and connect with other young Catholics
- Pizza and drinks in the hall after Mass for young people in Year 9 and above with their parents or other responsible adults.

Tea and coffee available for parents and accompanying adults.

GIFT AID NOTICE Making your weekly donation go further! Sign up to our Parish Gift Aid Scheme so we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 you give at no extra cost to you! For more information contact the Parish office.

Thank You

To everyone for your kind donations, last weekend.
Offertory Collection— £1,472.62
Note: this does not include regular Standing order.

CHURCH OFFERTORY

Ways for you to contribute to the Finances:
Please set up your standing order directly with your bank using the details below, or use the contactless machine located in the Narthex, but any loose change into the collection bags. All donations are gratefully received.

Bank Details:
Account Name: RCD A&B St Joseph Epsom
A/C No. 71076221
Sort Code. 40-05-20

No Cash? Prefer to make your offering by phone? Scan our QR code with your smartphone

Epsom & Ewell foodbank

It is so lovely to see boxes full of donations each week. Your generosity and continued support is greatly appreciated - thank you! Also, my thanks for not donating fresh items as these are not refrigerated and cannot be given out. Your donations helped us to support 406 people in September, 171 were children.

- Pasta/ Cooking Sauce
- Sweetcorn
- Beans
- Pulses
- Tinned Potatoes
- Tinned Tomatoes
- Tinned Fruit
- Tinned Spaghetti
- Rice
- Instant Coffee
- Packet Soup
- Squash/Long life Juice
- Porridge
- Sugar
- Biscuits
- Custard
- Rice Pudding
- Jam/Marmalade/Honey

Christmas Chocolate Advent Calendars Now Available

Please visit the Church Repository to purchase

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 - **DO NOT PARK ON THIS ACCESS ROAD.**

Please refrain from this practice so that we can maintain good relations with our neighbours. If you cannot park in the Car Park on a Sunday morning, please park on St Margaret Drive and St Elizabeth Drive where parking restrictions do not apply on Sunday morning.

You may also have noticed that the access road is in need of maintenance. Parking on the road can cause further damage and increase repair costs, which are considerable. Your cooperation in helping us preserve parish property and avoid unnecessary expense is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

UPCOMING—SECOND COLLECTIONS

07/08 Nov	***Columban Fathers*** *- (does not qualify for Gift Aid)*
15/16 Nov	***Retired Priests*** *-(Gift Aid Eligable)*
21/22 Nov	***Arundel Catherdral Maintenance Fund*** *- (Gift Aid Eligable)*