



# ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE PARISH BULLETIN

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Registered Charity 1173084



Fr. Pat ([pfc44@yahoo.com](mailto:pfc44@yahoo.com)) Fr. George ([qaskoloth@hotmail.com](mailto:qaskoloth@hotmail.com))

**Masses: Sunday:** (7pm Saturday) 8am, 10am, 12noon, 1.30 (Polish), 7pm.

**Holydays:** 6.30pm vigil, 9.30am, 11am, 6.30pm

**Weekdays:** 9.30am, 6.30pm. **Saturday:** 9.30am, 7pm. **Bank Holiday:** 9.30am

**Sacrament of Reconciliation**

**Saturday** 10-10.30am, 6.30 -6.45pm

**Weekdays:** immediately after Mass (on request)

## 5th May 2019 – Third Sunday of Easter

### I WISH YOU ENOUGH

A friend of mine told me this story about a conversation he overheard between a mother and daughter in their last moments together at the airport. The departure had been announced, and standing near the security gate, they hugged. The mother said, "I love you and I wish you enough".

The daughter replied, "Mom, our life together has been more than enough. Your love is all I ever needed. I wish you enough, too, Mom".

They kissed and the daughter left. The mother walked over to the window where my friend was seated. Standing there he could see she wanted and needed to cry. He tried not to intrude on her privacy but she welcomed him in by asking, "Did you ever say good-bye to someone knowing it would be forever?". Yes, I have," he replied. "Forgive me for asking, but why is this a forever good-bye?" "I am old and she lives so far away. I have challenges ahead and the reality is - the next trip back will be for my funeral," she said.

"When you were saying good-bye, I heard you say, 'I wish you enough'. May I ask what that means?" She began to smile. "That's a wish that has been handed down from other generations. My parents used to say it to everyone". She paused a moment and looked up as if trying to remember it in detail and she smiled even more. "When we said, 'I wish you enough', we wanted the other person to have a life filled with just enough good things to sustain them". Then turning toward my friend, she shared the following as if she were reciting it from memory.

I wish you enough sun to keep your attitude bright no matter how grey the day may appear.

I wish you enough rain to appreciate the sun even more.

I wish you enough happiness to keep your spirit alive and everlasting.

I wish you enough pain so that even the smallest of joys in life may appear bigger.

I wish you enough gain to satisfy your wanting.

I wish you enough loss to appreciate all that you possess.

I wish you enough hellos to get you through the final good-bye.

She then began to cry and walked away. While the story ends in sadness and tears, you get the sense that these two women have a profound sense of the meaning of life: that more is not always better.

The story came to mind because this week-end the Parish is saying 'good-bye' to a very special person – Sr. Christopher – who has been a parishioner here since 1961. We have been very privileged to experience her great dedication to God's work; her gentle, roguish sense of humour; her dogged determination to achieve whatever she set out to do, and her unfailing loyalty in responding to God's call. We thank her most profusely, and wish her more than enough peace and happiness in her new community in France. May it be 'au revoir' rather than 'adieu'!



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**We pray for the sick and housebound of our parish – Sheila Farrell; we remember those who have died recently – John MacDonagh; we remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time – John McIntyre, Carmel Temple, Anne Gorman, Tom Doherty.**

### **Bank Holiday:**

Monday this week is a bank holiday so there will only be one Mass, at 9.30am.

### **Visit of Passionist Jubilee Icon:**

Thanks to the many people who took time out after our various masses last week-end to have a closer look at the Passionist Jubilee Icon that is on a journey to the 64 countries around the world where the Passionists are spreading the message of the love of God shown particularly in His Passion, Death and Resurrection. And a special word of thanks too to those who came to the service on Monday evening. It is always encouraging to hear the many words of appreciation of the Passionists who have served here during the past 161 years.

### **Christian Stewardship:**

Last week's collection amounted to £1,452. In addition to that we receive an average of over £900 per week in standing orders. Thanks also for your wonderful response to our Lenten Project in aid of Fr. Rick's work in Haiti. Very shortly a cheque for £6,000 will be on its way to him – a cheque that will make the difference between life and death for many of those for whom he works so faithfully. Though the Lenten Project is over you can still contribute to our Haiti Fund by means of the wall boxes at the back of the Church.

### **Confirmation Cake Sale:**

Thanks to our Confirmation class for the hard work, warm smiles and delicious cakes at last weekend's Cake Sale and Coffee Morning. It raised £520.73 for the Cardinal Hume Centre, a sum that will be used to make a difference to so many lives. These are the last few weeks of preparation for our young people before their Confirmation on Saturday, May 25. Please keep them in your prayers.

### **Cardinal's Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony:**

This annual event will be taking place this year in Westminster Cathedral, on Saturday 8th June 2019 at 3pm. The Cardinal will be inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese who are celebrating their 5<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup>, 50<sup>th</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2019. If you qualify, and would like to attend, please give to Fr. Pat the following details: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

### **Christus Vivit: Reflections for Young Adults:**

A further meeting of young adults at Archbishop's House will take place on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May, 6.30pm. These meetings are an opportunity for young adults to come together following the Synod of Bishops meeting on youth last October, pray, have input from one of our diocesan bishops, reflect and discuss the place of faith in the life of young people. Bishop John Wilson will be leading our reflections, this time focusing on the recently published exhortation from Pope Francis addressed to young people. All young adults are invited to attend. Please let us know your intention to attend by emailing [youth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:youth@rcdow.org.uk). For more details, go to [www.dowym.com/events](http://www.dowym.com/events)

### **Volunteer Year at SPEC, the Diocesan Youth Retreat Centre:**

SPEC, the diocesan youth retreat centre, offers the possibility of a volunteer year for young adults. The volunteer missionary would live on site in Pinner in the residential community, receive formation and accompaniment in their faith and serve as a retreat facilitator, working with the employed retreat leaders. In particular, any sixth formers who may like to find out more are welcome to attend a day retreat to see what goes on and meet the community. For more information please see [www.dowym.com/spec/volunteer/](http://www.dowym.com/spec/volunteer/) or contact [spec@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:spec@rcdow.org.uk).

### **Highgate Festival Ceili:**

St Joseph's Parish Centre will be hosting a Ceili on Friday June 14<sup>th</sup>, 7.30 pm to 11.30 pm as part of the Highgate Festival. Live band, great caller who knows how to lead beginners as well as experts, home made food and we're also hoping for an Irish Dancing display. Bring your dancing shoes or come along to listen and for the Craic! All ages welcome. £7.50 early bird tickets/concessions Tickets £10 on the night- any money raised will go towards the heating system to the Parish Centre. For tickets please contact Cheryl - [felicitymaynard@hotmail.com](mailto:felicitymaynard@hotmail.com).

### **Mary's Meals Clothes Collection:**

Mary's Meals wants your unwanted clothing and bedding (*no duvets or pillows please*) and will be at our church until 12 noon on Sunday, 2nd June, to collect them all. Put your clothing/bedding into tied sacks and bring them to Mass where the charity Mary's Meals will be here to pick them up. Amazingly 3 full black sacks of good quality clothing will feed a child one good nutritious meal every school day for a whole year! Mary's Meals is a charity that sets up school feeding programmes in communities where poverty and hunger prevent children from gaining an education.