



ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE PARISH BULLETIN

St Joseph's Church, Highgate Hill, London N19 5NE

Tel. 020 7272 2320 Fax. 020 7281 9433

e-mail: joseph.highgate@gmail.com : website: www.stjosephshighgate.org.uk

Registered Charity 1173084



Fr. Pat (pfc44@yahoo.com) Fr. George (gaskoloth@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)

10th February 2019 – 5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

THE TAILOR

“Waste not, want not”, was one of those sayings that I heard many a time in my youth. In truth, it didn't have to be said too often, as for most people there wasn't an awful lot of possibility for wasting anything. But we all knew people who tended to carry it to the extreme, and who would never throw out anything, even when it was clearly past its 'dump-by' date! I'd like to share a story with you which I read quite some time ago about Joseph, the tailor. He was a very good tailor and always kept busy. Because of this he did not have the time to work on his own clothes. He wore an overcoat to work each day. His wife hated that coat.

One day, while working, he looked down and saw that the edge of his coat had become frayed. There were holes at the bottom. He said to his wife, “Look, my coat is ruined. She thought that this was the opportunity to get him to throw it away. But, he refused, saying, “After all, I am a tailor” And he took it off and he cut and he snipped, he stitched and he sewed, and he made himself a little jacket.

As time went on, there was a rip in the jacket. He said to his wife, “Look, my favourite jacket is ruined.” Get rid of it, she said. But, again he refused because he was a tailor. And, with some work, he was able to make a fine vest for himself.

One day he ripped his vest and saw that it was ruined. Again, his wife wanted him to throw it away, but, being a good tailor, he cut it up and made a fine scarf for himself.

But as time went on, the scarf became frayed. “Please throw it away”, his wife pleaded, but instead he stitched and sewed and made a nice tie for himself. After a while, the tie became soiled and ruined. This time he used what he could and made a handkerchief.

When the handkerchief was beyond use, instead of throwing it away, as his wife advised, he made a button out of it and used it on his suspenders. And then one day he lost it. His wife was a happy woman on that day. At last! She told him that, great tailor and all that he was, even he couldn't make something out of nothing.

But the tailor said that he wasn't only a good tailor but a good storyteller as well. He took a pencil and wrote down this story which proves that you can make something out of nothing.

In today's Gospel, Jesus took three ordinary fishermen, Peter, James and John and made something out of them. They could have remained fishermen and made a decent living from their work. But, Jesus made them into fishers of men and women, people who'd spread the wonderful news about Jesus; about God's wonderful love for us all, and forgiveness of our sins, and the hope of real salvation and eternal life.

And God can take us, with all of our fears, doubts and inadequacies, and make of us fishers of men and women. The Church not only exists for our benefit, but, it also exists to reach out to those who have yet to embrace the message of Jesus and the love and hope that it can bring to them. The way we live as a Christian Community is an important witness to the truth of Jesus and the Gospel message of forgiveness, love and peace. As Jesus said to them, he says to us: “Don't be afraid.” As we go about our daily lives, don't be afraid to let the joy, love and peace which Jesus brings, shine forth in all that we do.

-----000000000000-----

We pray for the sick and housebound of our Parish - John O'Brien; we remember those who have died recently – Eileen Healey (funeral 12.30pm Monday 11th February), William Patrick Mangan (funeral 12.30pm Friday 22nd February), Clive Ellis (funeral 12.30pm Wednesday 27th February), Tom White (brother of Fr. Mark); **we remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time** – Brendan Plunkett, Sarah Pender, Helena Meade, Patrick Garvey, Gerry Burke.

100 Club – New Members needed!

Over the last nearly 30 years, St. Joseph's 100 Club has contributed over £300,000 towards the cost of maintenance and improvements to our church. The last drive for recruiting new members took place as far back as 2012. As you might well imagine, in the time since then many people have moved away from this area – some even into the next world! – so the membership has been gradually decreasing. I'm not sure why it was originally call a 100 Club, as full membership would have been 200 members, and we are considerably short of that number at the moment. For £10 a month you enter a draw, with prizes currently of £400, £100 and £50 with the other half of the proceeds going to parish funds. There will be speakers at Masses this weekend to explain more about the scheme, and who will be available afterwards to talk to if you'd like to know more. Or there will be leaflets in the porch or you can email Ed Tierney at joseph.highgate@gmail.com

Christian Stewardship:

Last week's collection amounted to £1,473. In addition we receive an average of over £900 per week in standing orders. We very much appreciate that you have very many other calls on your finances, so we are very grateful for your outstanding generosity in supporting your parish.

Are You Slovenian?

This year the World Day of Prayer, which is an international inter-denominational event – organised by women, but open to all - will be held on the morning of March 1st and the service will be written by the women of Slovenia. We are looking for any parishioner from that country who would like to be involved? Contact Jottraffordowen@blueyonderco.uk

Proclaim Spring Gathering 2019:

Proclaim Spring Gatherings are for laity and clergy from Parishes, Schools, Youth and chaplaincies and all who are involved or interested in local evangelisation. The events are free, with coffee & tea etc. provided. Please bring your own lunch. With Bishop Nicholas Hudson, Saturday 23rd February, 9.30am – 3.00pm 2 Lukin Street E1 0AA. To register e-mail Warren Brown at catadmin@rcdow.org.uk Telephone contact is 0207 798 9152

Oh Crumbs!

Did you know that 24 million slices of bread are wasted on average every day in the UK? To help you cut back on any bread waste at home, Keep Britain Tidy are hosting a **FREE** cookery workshop **this Wednesday 13th February**, 5:00pm at St Joseph's Catholic Primary School! Come along to the workshop to see a demonstration by our professional chefs of how to make bread and butter pudding, before getting the chance to make and eat a delicious panzanella salad for yourself! The workshop is open to all, so be sure to spread the word! Bring along some Tupperware too as you'll likely be able to take some tasty food away with you. Spaces are limited. Book your place now! <https://bit.ly/2SVQ62S> or for further information email the school office@st-josephs.islington.sch.uk.

Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine:

Fully escorted Pilgrimage to Knock Shrine, Ireland, 6th May 2019. £649.00 per person sharing. All entertainment, excursions and guided tours included. Wheelchair accessible rooms in the hotel. Limited single rooms at supplement of £100. Groups and Individual bookings welcome. 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.

Bright Stars Play Group:

The St Joseph's Parish Bright Stars Stay and Play for 0-5 year olds is now back during the school term. It runs on Friday mornings from 9:00-11:00am in the parish centre. Lots of fun activities and arts and crafts. They are also looking for more volunteers to help at the stay and play. Please call Lucy on 07798 797 390 or email stjosephsbrightstars@gmail.com if you would be interested in volunteering.

Works in Church:

This present phase of work in the church is proceeding satisfactorily. There is of course no way of doing them without a considerable amount of dust being created, especially with regard to the seating. The firm doing the work do a very good job of cleaning as much as feasible each Friday afternoon, but do please be aware that there is likely to be some dust about. It might appear early to be doing it, but it might be advisable to get out your nice bright spring colours – they will show up the dust much less than darker shades. It would also be helpful to keep as much as possible to the front half of the church, and, if necessary, to the Highgate Hill side at the back of the Church. The staining and polishing of the seating should begin this week, and should hopefully be completed before Easter – which is late this year – 21st April.