



ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE

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PARISH BULLETIN

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Selfless Leadership

In the midst of overwhelming complaints from the Israelites, Moses finds himself at the brink of despair. Exasperated, he questions God, lamenting the heavy burden of leadership placed upon him. In response, God offers solace by instructing Moses to gather seventy elders to share the load, promising to imbue them with a part of Moses' spirit.

This narrative, from the Book of Numbers, transcends its ancient context to impart timeless wisdom about leadership and humility. When the elders receive God's spirit, they briefly speak in ecstasy, signifying divine approval of their new roles. However, an unexpected event unfolds: Eldad and Meidad, two men who had not joined the gathering, also start prophesying in the camp. Joshua, Moses' assistant, urges Moses to stop them, perceiving their actions as a threat to Moses' unique authority.

Moses' response is profoundly instructive. Rather than silencing Eldad and Meidad, he expresses a wish for all of God's people to be prophets. In this moment, Moses reveals his true character as a leader unburdened by ego. He envisions a community where spiritual gifts are not monopolized but shared freely among all.

Moses' reaction contrasts sharply with the possessive nature often observed in leaders who cling to power and seek constant validation. His leadership is grounded in a desire to serve a higher purpose, not to assert his own significance. Commentators like Robert Alter and R. Samson Raphael Hirsch highlight that Moses' ultimate goal is the empowerment and spiritual elevation of the people, even to the point of rendering his own role superfluous.

Further along in Numbers, Moses demonstrates his selflessness again when he prepares Joshua to succeed him, transferring his authority generously and without jealousy. This act of humility prefigures the prophet Joel's eschatological vision where God's spirit will be poured out on all people, fulfilling Moses' wish on a grand scale.

The humility and selflessness of Moses, Eldad, Meidad, and even Joshua, who attempts to silence prophecies of his own future leadership out of respect for Moses, create a powerful tableau of genuine spiritual leadership. This narrative challenges us to reflect on our own leadership roles, urging us to prioritize service and community over personal glory.

As we gather this Sunday, let us meditate on Moses' example. In a world often dominated by self-serving leaders, Moses' story is a beacon of hope and a reminder that true leadership is not about personal accolade but about uplifting others and serving a purpose greater than oneself. May we strive to embody such selflessness in our own lives and communities.

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

We're counting the days to our Christmas Bazaar on November 30 and know we can count on you to make it the happy, warm and welcoming event we all enjoy.



We are on the lookout for helpers: setting up, running a stall and of course, clearing up afterwards. Please contact Fr George if you would like to be involved.

We have a vacancy in Santa's Workshop- could you be the elf who shows children how to make Christmas crafts, or do Face painting? Do you have an idea for a new stall that you'd like to run? Suggest away! We're already looking forward to one innovation, an Art Stall where the Parish artists will be selling some of their paintings and drawings!

Without your donations there wouldn't be a Bazaar, and the Parish is so grateful for your generosity. This year we are looking for donations of new, unused items whether for the home, or garden or as gifts for a special someone, things that you don't want but someone else might love. New children's toys are also welcome. We need books in good condition, unread is even better. The gardening and house plant stall needs your support, and we are seeking luxury food items for our hampers. Homemade preserves go down well while the bottle stall and Raffle are waiting for your donations. Our Confirmation Class will be baking for us, but more cakes are always welcome.

Our Choir are practising hard to entertain us and if you would like to perform, let us know!

Dear St. Joseph's Family,

With hearts full of love and reverence, we invite you to join us in commemorating the Feast of All Souls on November 2nd. On this sacred day, the Passionists extend an invitation for you to unite with us in a prayerful remembrance of our dearly departed. Together, we will offer a special All Souls' Day Mass, lifting our prayers to heaven for those who have journeyed from this life. Throughout the entire month of November, our prayers will be especially dedicated to those you lovingly recommend.



REMEMBERING OUR LOVED ONES
November 2nd, All Souls Day

In the Porch, you will find envelopes where you can enrol the names of your deceased loved ones. By doing so, they will be remembered in our special Masses and daily prayers throughout this grace-filled month. It is our profound honour to carry your intentions and to pray for the needs of our cherished friends. May our collective prayers bring comfort to our hearts and peace to the souls of our loved ones.

Confirmation 2025 & Communion 2025

Exciting News! Applications for St. Joseph's Confirmation and Communion Programmes for 2025 are available from September 1st in the Church porch.



Confirmation: For those entering Year 9 or above, application forms for the coming year's Confirmation course will be available in the Church porch from 1st September and must be returned along with a copy of your child's baptismal certificate by 1st October at the latest. The course begins in November, with the Sacrament being conferred on Sunday 29th June at 12 midday - Solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul. There are 12 sessions which take place on Sunday evenings at 5.30pm and include attendance at the 7pm Mass. There are an additional 2 sessions with parents. You can already email your interest to confirmation.joseph@gmail.com and you will receive a reminder when the forms are available.

Communion: For children aged seven and above in Year 3 or higher, forms are due by November 1st. Preparation takes place during the 10am Sunday Mass from January to June. Email communion.joseph@gmail.com for more details.

Visit our website for further information and join us in this sacred journey of faith at St. Joseph's Parish!

Dear St. Joseph's Family,

In the midst of my profound sorrow following the passing of my dear mother, your heartfelt condolence messages, prayers, and unwavering support have been a beacon of comfort. Her struggle with dementia made each memory precious, and though many were lost, I am certain she holds a special place 'behind the door' where all the memories reside, remembering me and those she loved dearly. Your compassion has lightened this unbearable burden, reminding me of the strength within our community. From the depths of my heart, I thank you for being my guiding light in this dark time.

With love and gratitude,
Fr. George

Thank You, Dearest friends,

Dearest St. Joseph's Family,

With hearts full of gratitude, we extend our sincerest thanks for your generous contributions to last weekend's collection. Your kindness and support are the pillars upon which we serve and nurture God's Kingdom. Together in purpose and love, we make a significant difference in our world.

Last weekend's collection amounted to a remarkable £1513, a testament to your unwavering commitment and compassion. We are profoundly grateful.

May God's boundless blessings shower upon you and your loved ones. Thank you once again for your extraordinary support.



ADULT CONFIRMATION AND RCIA

We are delighted to share that a blessed journey towards Adult Confirmation is beginning to take shape within our community. If your heart is calling you to complete your initiation into the Catholic Church with the grace-filled Sacrament of Confirmation, we warmly invite you to reach out to us. In addition, if you are contemplating embracing the Catholic faith and would like to embark on this spiritual preparation starting in October, we are here to support and guide you through this beautiful journey. Interviews and more information are available for those discerning this sacred path. To arrange for an interview or to learn more about the RCIA program, please kindly email us at: rcia.joseph@gmail.com



Join Us for the Solemn Rosary

Dear St. Joseph's Family,

As we embrace the beauty of October, the month devoted to the holy Rosary, we invite you to join us in prayerful reflection and devotion. Each Saturday at 10am throughout October, we will gather at St. Joseph's to pray the Solemn Rosary together. Let us come together in faith, unity, and love to honour Our Lady and seek her intercession. Your presence will be a cherished part of our communal prayer.

May the peace and blessings of Our Lady be with you always.



Please pray for the recently deceased members of our Parish and their grieving families. May we lift up in prayer the souls of our departed sisters and brothers from our parish, may they find eternal peace in the arms of our loving God. And may we ask for comfort and strength for their families as they navigate through their grief and loss. Let us come together in solidarity and support, holding each other up in prayer during this difficult time.

Sheila Marie Hunt (Wed. 2nd Oct. 11am)
Mary McGovern (Fri. 4th Oct. 10:30am)
Gina Doherty (Fri. 1st Nov. 11am)

Christmas Market

Save the Date
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
Sat. 30 Nov. 2024

World Day of Migrants and Refugees

Sunday, 29 September 2024, marks the 110th celebration of the World Day of Migrants and Refugees. Initiated in 1914, this day highlights the plight and opportunities of migration. Pope Francis' theme, "God walks with His people," reminds us that we are all migrants on our journey to the Kingdom of Heaven. Let us pray for and support our vulnerable brothers and sisters as they face various challenges.

Autumn Faith-Sharing Group

Dear Parishioners,

We are delighted to invite you to join us for another inspiring initiative at St. Joseph's: The Autumn Faith-Sharing Group! Modelled after our highly successful Lent Groups, this autumn session promises to be a wonderful journey of faith and community.

This season, we will be exploring the beautiful book "Calling People of Goodwill: The Bible and the Common Good." Through our discussions, we will delve into Scripture, engage in meaningful dialogue, and learn from



one another. With God's grace, we will work together to promote the common good within our parish and beyond.

Your participation will surely enrich this experience, and we encourage everyone to join us.

Please stay tuned for further details regarding dates and registration in the upcoming weeks.

Let us come together to deepen our faith and strengthen our sense of community.

Watch this space for more exciting updates!

MASS INTENTIONS FOR WEEK BEGINNING 29 September 2024

"I would be disobeying the LORD if I stopped praying for you!" 1 Sam. 12:23

Sat, 28 Sep 2024	07.00 pm	Hanna Reading	Anniversary
Sun, 29 Sep 2024	08.00 am	Susan Mercedes	Lately Dead
	10.00 am	Trisha Jones	Lately Dead
	12 noon	Missa PP	Intentions
	07.00 pm	Lizzie McColm	Lately Dead
Mon, 30 Sep 2024	09.30 am	Celine Antony	Lately Dead
	06.30 pm	Mary McGovern	Lately Dead
Tue, 01 Oct 2024	09.30 am	Christopher Reilly(LD), Angela M Garcia	Birthday
	06.30 pm	Jack and Catherine Sullivan	Anniversary
Wed, 02 Oct 2024	09.30 am	Marielyn, Mary, Dan, Annie O' Reagan	Anniversary
	06.30 pm	Tim, Hannagh and Johnny Lehane, Danny Harney	Anniversary
Thu, 03 Oct 2024	09.30 am	Danny, Kate, Mike, Jimmy, and Kitty McCarthy	Anniversary
	06.30 pm	Eva O'Connor	Birthday
Fri, 04 Oct 2024	09.30 am	Celine Antony	Lately Dead
	06.30 pm	Danny, Kate, Mike, Jimmy, and Kitty Harney	Intentions
Sat, 05 Oct 2024	09.30 am	Bro. Kilian	Anniversary

Mass Intentions get fully booked for several weeks ahead. If you would like a Mass said on a particular date or anniversary it is advisable to request it in good time.

Welcome to St. Joseph

God loves everyone. No exceptions.

St. Joseph's Welcomes You. We are here for you! We Invite you to join us on the spiritual journey as we learn and grow together, and as we seek to help and serve others.

MASS TIMES - Weekdays: 9:30am, 6:30pm, Saturdays: 9:30am followed by adoration until 11am, 7pm Vigil Mass. Sunday: 8am, 10am, 12noon, 7pm
Sacrament of Reconciliation
Saturday: 10am to 10:30am and from 6:30pm to 6:45pm. Weekdays on request

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Nm 11: 25-29, Jas 5: 1-6, Mk 9: 38-43. 45, 47-48 **Mon:** Jerome, p, dr M Jb 1: 6-22, Lk 9: 46-50

Tue: Therese of Lisieux, v, r, dr M, Jb 3: 1-3. 11-17. 20-23, Lk 9: 51-56 **Wed:** The Guardian Angels M, Jb 9: 1-12. 14-16, Mt 18: 1-5. 10

Thu: Jb 19: 21-27, Lk 10: 1-12 **Fri:** Francis of Assisi, rf M, Jb 38: 1. 12-21; 40: 3-5, Lk 10: 13-16 **Sat:** Faustina Kowalska, v, r, Jb 42: 1-3. 5-6. 12-17, Lk 10: 17-24

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Gn 2: 18-24, Heb 2: 9-11, Mk 10: 2-16



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