



ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE

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PARISH BULLETIN

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Registered Charity 1173084



The Arrows of Tomorrow

Your children are not your children.
They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself.
They come through you but not from you,
And though they are with you, yet they belong not to you.
You may give them your love but not your thoughts,
For they have their own thoughts.
You may house their bodies but not their souls,
For their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow,
which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams.
You may strive to be like them,
but seek not to make them like you.
For life goes not backward nor carries with yesterday.
You are the bows from which your children
as living arrows are sent forth.
The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite,
and He bends you with His might
that His arrows may go swift and far.
Let your bending in the archer's hand be for gladness;
For even as He loves the arrow that flies,
so He loves also the bow that is stable.

Khalil Gibran



Seeking the Divine

In the quiet of the temple's light
Mary and Joseph search with fright,
Have we left Him, the holy Son,
As life's journey freshly begun?

New paths we tread, new bonds we weave,
Yet in our hearts, do we believe
That Jesus walks beside our way,
In every task, each breaking day?

Do we seek Him where wisdom dwells,
In sacred spaces, where love compels?
Are our hearts open, eager to know
God's gentle kingdom, His seeds to sow?

In knowledge deep, may wisdom grow,
Beyond mere facts, let love bestow
An understanding pure and bright,
A guiding star in darkest night.

Like Jesus, may we humbly learn,
With each new step, to Him return,
In newfound friendships, through each task,
His love the answer, all we ask.

As Mary and Joseph found their way,
May we seek Him, every day.



Beginning of the First Communion Programme 2025

We are delighted to announce the commencement of the First Communion Programme for 2025, which will begin on Sunday, 5th January. The programme will kick off with the 10:00 AM Mass, where we warmly invite all participating children and their families to join us for this special inaugural celebration.

Following the Mass, the first session for the children will take place, marking the start of their journey towards their First Holy Communion. Concurrently, we will have an orientation session for the parents to provide essential information and guidance on how best to support their children throughout this significant spiritual milestone.

We kindly ask all participating families to ensure punctuality, arriving on time for the inaugural Mass, as it sets a meaningful start to this sacred programme.

We look forward to welcoming you and embarking on this beautiful journey together.



Dearest Friends,
 We sincerely thank you for your generous contributions to last weekend's collection, which totalled an impressive £1,425. Your kindness and support empower us to serve and nurture God's Kingdom. Together, we make a significant impact on our community and beyond. May God's blessings shower upon you and your loved ones. Thank you profoundly.



At St. Joseph, our vibrant community flourishes because of your incredible generosity, for which we are deeply grateful. Our faith encourages us to give joyfully, reflecting the priorities of our hearts, rather than out of obligation. When Christ is at the centre of our lives, supporting the church becomes a natural expression of our spiritual dedication. Indeed, we rely entirely on your generous contributions to sustain St. Joseph. Without the kind-heartedness of our community, our parish simply couldn't continue to thrive.

Remember, God doesn't seek your money—He desires your heart. We give as a response to the myriad blessings God has bestowed upon us. Through giving, we worship and mirror the selfless love of a "give-first" God. When we invest in what God cherishes, we actively contribute to building His Kingdom and relish the joy of sharing in His abundant love.



Ways to Give:

- **Giving Stands:** Use the newly installed 'Giving Stands' at the church's entrance.
- **Online:** Donate via PayPal on our website.
- **Standing Order & Gift Aid:** Request forms or find them on our website.
- **Legacy Gift:** Consider including us in your will or trust to support future church endeavours.

Thank you for your continued support in nurturing our beloved parish.



MASS INTENTIONS

Do you have a special occasion coming up, such as a birthday or anniversary, that you would like to celebrate for a friend or loved one? Or are you in need of comfort and support after the loss of a loved one?

You can have a Mass intention said for a person on these special occasions or for specific intentions. Simply grab a Mass Intention Envelope and notate the date of the Mass intention. If you prefer, you can also call or email the office to make your request.

This is a beautiful and meaningful way to pay tribute to loved ones and to lift up special intentions in prayer. Thank you for your support and participation in our parish community.



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.

- Robert Caleb Howard** (Fri. 3 Jan. 12pm)
- John Sean Hyde** (Thu. 9 Jan. 11:30am)
- Martin Sterrett** (Fri. 10 January 11am)

Mass intentions from 28th December 2024

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

Sat, 28 Dec 2024	07.00 pm	Bernadette, Hellen Doherty, Lillis family, Betty & Michael O'Donohue	Intentions
Sun, 29 Dec 2024	08.00 am	Ivor O'Connor (Sick), Jimmy Farrell	Anniversary
	10.00 am	Missa PP	Intentions
	12 noon	the Tim O'Shea (B'Day), Christy Columb, (Anni) Tom Redmond, Fionan Braeken, Martin O'Brien	Lately Dead
	07.00 pm	Younan family & friends (Anni.) Kevin Kileawley, M J Wall	Lately Dead
Mon, 30 Dec 2024	09.30 am	Sisiter of LSU, Lizzie	Intentions
	06.30 pm	Holy Souls, Cheryl, Thomas, Ruth & Jonathan	Intentions
Tues, 31 Dec 2024	09.30 am	Rita Behan (LD), Sue & Rob Parasakeva	Intentions
	06.30 pm	Josie McKelvey & Family (Celebration)	Intentions
Wed, 01 Jan 2025	08.00 am	Catherine Sorda (Birthday)	Intentions
	06.30 pm	Lizzie	Intentions
Thur, 02 Jan 2025	09.30 am	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
	06.30 pm	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
Fri, 03 Jan 2025	09.30 am	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
	06.30 pm	John Joseph Faherty	Anniversary
Sat, 04 Jan 2025	09.30 am	Maggie Keane	Sick

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

SUN: HOLY FAMILY F Sir 3: 2-6, 12-14, Col 3: 12-21, Mt 2: 13-15, 19-23, **Mon:** Thomas Becket, bp, mt 1 Jn 2: 3-11, Lk 2: 22-35, **Tue:** 1 Jn 2: 12-17, Lk 2: 36-40, **Wed:** Sylvester I, pp, 1 Jn 2: 18-21, Jn 1: 1-18
Wed: MARY, MOTHER OF GOD S (Octave of Christmas). Holy Day of Obligation. Nm 6: 22-27, Gal 4: 4-7/ Lk 2: 16-21
Thu: Basil the Great and Gregory Nazianzen, bps, drs M, 1 Jn 2: 22-28, Jn 1: 19-28, **Fri:** Holy Name of Jesus, 1 Jn 2: 29 -- 3: 6 Jn 1: 29-34, **Sat:** Elizabeth Ann Seton, r M, 1 Jn 3: 7-10, Jn 1: 35-42 **EPIPHANY OF THE LORD S**, Is 60: 1-6, Eph 3: 2-3a, 5-6 Mt 2: 1-12