



# ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE

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## PARISH BULLETIN

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Registered Charity 1173084

As we journey through the sacred season of Lent, the Gospel reading for the Second Sunday invites us to contemplate the profound mystery of the Transfiguration of Jesus. This remarkable event, where Jesus is transformed before Peter, James, and John, offers a powerful symbol of change and revelation. To deepen our understanding, we might draw an unlikely parallel with Kafka's "Metamorphosis" and the image of a chrysalis.

Kafka's tale is one of dramatic transformation, where Gregor Samsa awakens to find himself inexplicably changed into an insect. This unsettling metamorphosis can be seen as a metaphor for the alienation and inner turmoil that often accompany profound change. In stark contrast, the Transfiguration reveals a transformation not into something grotesque, but into a radiant manifestation of divine glory. Where Gregor's change isolates him, Jesus' transformation brings his closest disciples into a deeper understanding of his divine nature, bridging the human and the divine.

Similarly, the image of a chrysalis captures this essence of transformation and renewal. Within the chrysalis, a caterpillar undergoes a miraculous metamorphosis, hidden from the world, to emerge as a butterfly. This natural process echoes the silent, often unseen work of grace in our lives. Lent is our chrysalis—a time to retreat, reflect, and prepare for the transformation that Easter promises.



## Chrysalis

In both Kafka's narrative and the natural world, transformation is accompanied by struggle and uncertainty. Yet, the chrysalis reassures us that within its confines, a marvellous change is taking place. As we ponder the Transfiguration, let us embrace the metamorphosis Lent offers us. May we, like the disciples, be open to witnessing hidden truths, allowing the divine light to transform our hearts and minds, and emerge renewed in faith and spirit, ready to share the joy of resurrection.



## Chrysalis Talk Series on Grief

Dear Beloved Parishioners,  
As we journey through the sacred season of Lent, we invite you to partake in a deeply moving session of our Chrysalis Talk Series on Grief. This series at St. Joseph's Parish embodies our dedication to creating a nurturing community where we can explore and grow in our faith together. If you're navigating personal loss, supporting someone in grief, or wishing to deepen your understanding, this talk promises reflection, healing, and hope. Join us for this enriching experience. Watch this space for the date and time of this wonderful talk.

## Save the Date

### Lent Groups

Tuesday evenings online via Zoom, 19:00-20:30.

Wednesday mornings, 11:00-12:30. Venue: Highgate Care Home (BUPA), 12 Hornsey Lane.

Thursday evenings: 19:00-20:30 at red Room

### Stations of the Cross

Lenten Fridays 7PM



exhibition at The Old Crypt, St John's Waterloo, London, 4 March – 27 April 2025. Explore diverse artistic expressions of faith and divinity. An interfaith collaboration with St John's Waterloo and the Catholic Bishops' Conference, advised by Art+Christianity. Join us in celebrating creativity and multifaith dialogue.



## NOVENA PRAYER TO ST. JOSEPH

March 10 - 19

O Glorious St. Joseph, you who have power to render possible things that are for us impossible, come to our aid in our present trouble and distress. Take this important and difficult affair under your particular protection that it may end happily. O dear St. Joseph, all our confidence is in you, since you are so powerful with Jesus and Mary. Let it not be said that we would invoke you in vain. Amen.



## Heavenly Father,

We lift up Pope Francis to You in prayer. Grant him strength, comfort, and healing in body and spirit. May Your loving presence surround him, bringing peace and restoration. Guide the hands of those caring for him and fill his heart with hope and resilience. Amen.

# Children's Liturgy

Our mission is to serve God and His people of St. Joseph's by helping children to engage meaningfully in the Liturgy, thus beginning a lifelong practice of praying, learning, and celebrating at Mass. During the 10am Mass, children will be dropped off and signed in and the children will return to mass, after the homily, for the Liturgy of The Eucharist. During this time, we will unpack the Gospel and Mass for children ages 4-7 years old. Please contact our Children's Liturgy Coordinators for registration: Jenny Buckley jenbuckley@hotmail.co.uk or Sara Zmertych sara.zmertych@gmail.com



# Supporting Our Parish: A Heartfelt Thank You

At St. Joseph, our community blossoms thanks to your incredible generosity, and we are profoundly grateful for it. Our faith encourages joyful giving, not out of duty, but as a reflection of our priorities and the love in our hearts. When Christ is central to our lives, supporting the church becomes a natural expression of our spiritual commitment. We rely on your generous contributions to sustain St. Joseph and enable our parish to flourish. Remember, God seeks your heart, not your money. Our giving is a response to the countless blessings God has bestowed upon us, allowing us to worship and reflect His selfless love. By investing in what God cherishes, we actively participate in building His Kingdom and experience the joy of His abundant love.



Ways to Give:

- **Giving Stands:** Utilize our new 'Giving Stands' at the church entrance.
- **Online:** Donate via PayPal on our website.
- **Standing Order & Gift Aid:** Forms are available on our website.
- **Legacy Gift:** Consider including us in your will to support future endeavours.

Thank you for your steadfast support in nurturing our cherished parish.



# Rediscover Your Marriage

Retrouvaille offers you the chance to rediscover yourself, your spouse, and a loving relationship in your marriage. 10s of 1000s headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. There is no group therapy or group work. The next programme commences with a weekend in Welwyn Garden City on 20th - 22nd June 2025. Call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443, email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)



# Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony

**Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 17th May 2025 at 2:30pm.**

The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2025. Please give your parish clergy the following: husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email). Register with your parish office.

# Altar flowers

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to Jane Thomson for generously sponsoring this weekend's altar flowers in memory of her beloved father, the late Robert Connell, on the tenth anniversary of his passing. Your thoughtful gesture beautifully honours his memory.



**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.

**Peter Dermody (Wed. 26 Mar. 12noon)**

## Mass intentions from 15th March 2025

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

Date	Time	Intention	Category
Sat, 15 Mar 2025	07.00 pm	William Ronan, Ellen Condon	Anniversary
Sun, 16 Mar 2025	08.00 am	Missa PP	Intentions
	10.00 am	John Nicholson	Anniversary
	12 noon	Leslie Green(celebration) Ann Walsh	Lately Dead
	07.00 pm	Charlene	Sick
Mon, 17 Mar 2025	09.30 am	P J Mallon(Celebr.), Eileen & Patrick Devitt	Anniversary
	06.30 pm	Eileen & Patrick Connole	Anniversary
Tues, 18 Mar 2025	09.30 am	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
	06.30 pm	Holy Souls	Intentions
Wed, 19 Mar 2025	09.30 am	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
	06.30 pm	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
Thur, 20 Mar 2025	09.30 am	Erica	Intentions
	06.30 pm	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
Fri, 21 Mar 2025	09.30 am	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
	06.30 pm	Lizzie	Intentions
Sat, 22 Mar 2025	09.30 am	Ecaterina Maria	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.

**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT** Gn 15: 5-12. 17-18, Phil 3: 17 -- 4: 1 or 3: 20 -- 4: 1, Lk 9: 28b-36 **Mon:** Patrick, bp, ms, Dn 9: 4b-10, Lk 6: 36-38, **Tue:** Cyril of Jerusalem, bp, dr, Is 1: 10. 16-20, Mt 23: 1-12 **Wed:** JOSEPH, HUSBAND OF MARY S, 2 Sm 7: 4-5a. 12-14a. 16, Rom 4: 13. 16-18. 22, Mt 1: 16. 18-21. 24a or Lk 2: 41-51a, **Thu:** Jer 17: 5-10, Lk 16: 19-31, **Fri:** Day of abstinence from meat (age 14 and up). Gn 37: 3-4. 12-13a. 17b-28a, Mt 21: 33-43. 45-46, **Sat:** Mi 7: 14-15. 18-20, Lk 15: 1-3. 11-32

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT.** First Scrutiny of the Elect. Ex 3: 1-8a. 13-15, 1 Cor 10: 1-6. 10-12. Lk 13: 1-9

## 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