



# ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE

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## PARISH BULLETIN

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23  
MARCH  
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Registered Charity 1173084

## Burning Bush

In the heart of the vast, endless desert, there stood a lonely bush. Each day was a struggle for the bush as it faced the harshness of its surroundings. The sun blazed fiercely in the sky, casting down relentless heat, while the sand beneath was scorching to the touch. Even the wind, usually a friend, felt like a fiery breath that only added to the bush's hardship. Surviving in such a place was no easy task for the little bush.

Despite the challenges, the bush clung to life, day after day. But then, something extraordinary happened. One day, it found itself engulfed in flames. The bush was in shock. How could this be? It was already difficult enough to exist in the desert—now this? It seemed like too much for the poor bush to endure.

Nearby, a caravan of camels passed through the desert. The travellers, noticing the burning bush amidst the barren sands, felt a pang of pity for it. What a cruel fate, they thought, for such a small thing to suffer even more.

As the bush struggled to understand what was happening, a man appeared before it. He was unlike anyone the bush had ever seen. The man approached slowly and fell to his knees, assuming a posture of prayer. The bush could see the calm in his eyes, and it felt a strange sense of peace, despite the flames that danced around its branches.

In that moment, the bush realized the fire was not there to destroy it, but to honour it. The bush was in the presence of something divine. God had chosen this humble, struggling bush to deliver a message. This knowledge filled the bush with a sense of purpose and wonder. The fire was a sign of God's presence, a holy moment in the midst of the harsh desert.

The man, Moses, listened to the voice of God speaking through the flames. And the bush, once seen as a simple plant struggling to survive, became a symbol of faith and connection with the divine. Though the sun still blazed, and the sand remained hot, the bush knew it had been chosen for a sacred duty, and it stood proudly amidst the desert, forever changed by the encounter.



**Celebrate  
His  
Passion  
with us, and be  
Eastered!**

**Palm Sunday Vigil  
Saturday, 12th April 2025**

7pm - Vigil Mass

**Sunday, 13th April**

8am, 10am, 12pm, and 7pm

**Holy Tuesday, 15th April 2025,**

7pm - Lenten Penitential Service

**Holy Thursday, 17th April 2025**

8pm - Mass of the Lord's Supper

**Good Friday, 18th April 2025**

10:30am - Children's Service

12pm - Stations of the Cross

3pm - Liturgy of the Passion

7pm - The Seven Last Words

**The Great Easter Vigil,  
19th April 2025**

9pm - The Great Easter Vigil

**Easter Sunday, 20th April 2025**

8am, 10am, and 12pm

**Laetare Sunday:**  
A Joyful Moment in Our  
Lenten Journey

This Sunday marks the celebration of Laetare Sunday, a delightful pause in our Lenten season. The word "Laetare" translates to "rejoice," reminding us that even during Lent, a time of reflection and penance, we are invited to embrace joy as the promise of our salvation draws near. The rose-coloured vestments worn by the priest beautifully symbolize this hopeful anticipation, as our Lenten sacrifices guide us toward the brightness of Easter.



**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.

**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

# Church Cleaners

To all our cherished church cleaners, we are profoundly grateful for your unwavering dedication every Friday. Your commitment to maintaining the beauty and serenity of our sacred space is truly inspiring and does not go unnoticed. Your efforts create a welcoming environment for our entire community, and for this, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

For those considering joining this rewarding ministry, we warmly invite you to share in this fulfilling experience. Your contribution would be a blessing as we aim to keep our church a pristine sanctuary for all. If interested, please contact the parish office. Thank you for your inspiring service.



We are profoundly grateful for your generous contributions

to last weekend's collection, totalling an impressive £1,653. 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 sincerely for your support.

## Nurturing a Community of Love and Service

Dear Beloved St. Joseph's Family,

*In the spirit of unity and love, we are called to share our unique gifts and talents, touching lives and uplifting spirits. As Scripture beautifully reminds us, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." (1 Peter 4:10)*

Volunteering within our church is a wonderful way to not only enrich our community but to also experience the joy of giving. Our church is blessed with many devoted volunteers who generously offer their time and talents to a wide range of activities, making a profound impact.

We warmly invite you to explore our Parish Groups & Activities. If you find an area that resonates with you, we encourage you to reach out to the Parish Office for more details on how you can get involved. Currently, we're seeking enthusiastic volunteers to join our various ministries at St. Joseph's, including:

- Parish Council
- Counting
- Social Media Management
- Welcome Ministry Coordinator
- Event Managers (for events like the Christmas Bazaar and Bring and Share Lunch)
- Catechists
- Youth Ministers

Your participation will be a blessing to our parish family. If your heart is moved to serve, please do not hesitate to contact the Parish Office. Your involvement will be cherished and greatly appreciated.

Thank you for considering this beautiful journey of service and fellowship with us.

Blessings and heartfelt gratitude.



## 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](mailto:jenbuckley@hotmail.co.uk) or Sara Zmertych [sara.zmertych@gmail.com](mailto:sara.zmertych@gmail.com)



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 22nd March 2025

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

Sat, 22 Mar 2025	07.00 pm	Helena Jakubiec	Lately Dead
Sun, 23 Mar 2025	08.00 am	Missa PP	Intentions
	10.00 am	Noel Hubert(LD) Pel Jayasuriya	Anniversary
	12 noon	Bernard O'Brien, James & Maureen Waldron, Nisha, Nirmala, Michael weeramanthri	Anniversary
	07.00 pm	Annie Roarty, Saul Ramirez Perdomo, Elvia Guevara Salazar, Carole White	Anniversary
Mon, 24 Mar 2025	09.30 am	Michael Conneely	Anniversary
	06.30 pm	Michael Ntow	Anniversary
Tues, 25 Mar 2025	09.30 am	Chris McQue	Sick
	06.30 pm	All Souls	Anniversary
Wed, 26 Mar 2025	09.30 am	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
	06.30 pm	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
Thur, 27 Mar 2025	09.30 am	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
	06.30 pm	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
Fri, 28 Mar 2025	09.30 am	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
	06.30 pm	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
Sat, 29 Mar 2025	09.30 am	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions

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

**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 **Mon:** 2 Kgs 5: 1-15b, Lk 4: 24-30.  
**Tue:** ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD S, Is 7: 10-14; 8: 10, Heb 10: 4-10, Lk 1: 26-38 **Wed:** Dt 4:1. 5-9, Mt 5: 17-19 **Thu:** Jer 7: 23-28, Lk 11: 14-23  
**Fri:** Day of abstinence from meat (age 14 and up). Hos 14: 2-10, Mk 12: 28-34, **Sat:** Hos 6: 1-6, Lk 18: 9-14  
**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT. Second Scrutiny of the Elect.** Jos 5: 9a. 10-12, 2 Cor 5: 17-21, Lk 15: 1-3. 11-32