



ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE

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PARISH BULLETIN

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Embracing a Mindful Self-Centredness

This Sunday, I invite you to reflect on a thought-provoking perspective from the Gospel of Luke, shedding light on our understanding of sin and our relationship with God. Often, our education about sin evokes imagery of an angry deity ready to punish, leaving many of us with lingering shame and fear. What if, instead, we reconsider sin as "anxious self-centredness"?

Imagine this: when we are consumed by our own anxieties and needs, we distance ourselves from God's love and the call to love others. This perspective resonates with a story I once heard from a retired minister, who introduced me to Paul Ramsey's concept of sin as anxious self-centredness. This idea invites us to see sin not as mere actions that anger God, but as a state of being where our fears of inadequacy dominate us.

The powerful imagery offered by the 14th-century monk Meister Eckhart suggests that our lives are often so filled with self that there is no room for the divine to enter. Only by emptying ourselves of the compulsive focus on 'me' can we become vessels of God's love and compassion.

What does this look like in our daily lives? It means shifting from a mindset of scarcity—of never being or having enough—to one of



abundance, recognizing the sacredness within ourselves and others. It's a transition from living anxiously for ourselves to living mindfully with a focus on a Greater Self, where God resides.

This week, may we aspire to let go of anxious self-centredness, allowing God's peace to flow into and through us, transforming us into beacons of love and hope in the world.

Blessings to you all,

Join Us for a Sacred Hour of Peace and Reflection

Dear St. Joseph's Family,

You are warmly invited to our Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration, held every Saturday from 10 AM to 11 AM. This serene time of prayer, meditation, and closeness to the Blessed Sacrament is a beautiful opportunity to deepen your faith and find tranquillity amidst the hustle and bustle of daily life. Whether you come to seek solace, offer prayers of thanksgiving, or simply bask in the divine presence, all are welcome. Let us gather together in faith and fellowship, drawing strength and peace from this special time with Jesus.



Marriage Support Available

RETRouvaille
A LIFELINE FOR MARRIED COUPLES

Strengthen your marriage with support from Retrouvaille and Marriage Care. Retrouvaille's next course offers hope and healing from October 17th-19th. Visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk or call 0788 7296983. For relationship counselling, Marriage Care is here for you when life gets tough. Explore options at www.marriagecare.org.uk or call 0800 389 3801. You are not alone—help is available.

A HEARTFELT TRIBUTE OF BLOSSOMS

This weekend, our altar is graced with a splendid array of flowers, generously sponsored by Maggie Feely-Maxwell. In a loving tribute to her cherished parents, Tess and John, and her dear sister, Michele Feely, these blooms speak the language of love and remembrance. We extend our deepest gratitude to Maggie for this beautiful gesture that transforms our sacred space and honours her beloved family. Thank you, Maggie, for your kindness and the fragrant memories you have shared with us all.

Volunteer as a Catechist:

Ignite the Light of Faith

"Catechists are people who keep the memory of God alive; They keep it alive in themselves, and they are able to revive it in others." - Pope Francis

Dear Parishioners,

We invite you to consider a fulfilling opportunity to become a catechist and help nurture the faith of our community. Whether guiding children through Communion and Confirmation, leading the Children's Liturgy, or supporting adults in the RCIA Programme, your dedication can inspire lasting spiritual growth. Embrace this chance to share the joy of faith and make a meaningful difference in the lives of others. Join us in this sacred mission and reignite the divine spark within our parish community.

SAVE THE DATE

Lectio Divina

Tue. 7pm-8pm at Red Room
Wed. 10:30am-12 at Bupa

Meditation group: Wed.

6th Aug. at 7pm.

ST. JOSEPH'S CHRISTMAS BAZAAR 2025

Save the Date: Saturday, 15th November 2025, from 12pm to 4pm

Join us as we unwrap the magic of the season at the St. Joseph's Christmas Bazaar! With hearts brimming with joy and gratitude, we extend a warm invitation to everyone for a day teeming with festive cheer and community spirit.



- Hampers and quality toys
- Bottles for our Tombola
- Bric-a-brac, jewellery, and accessories
- Plants and kitchenware
- Crafts and raffle items from local businesses.

Please drop off

Celebrate the Season with Us!

Our beloved Bazaar, brought to life by the inspiring dedication of Abuk, Cheryl, Diana, Roni, Bernard, Fessehay, and Gerald, promises an enchanting experience for all. Your participation and support will help us craft beautiful holiday memories together.



How You Can Help:

Volunteer Opportunities:

- Friday, 14th November: Lend a hand as we set up stalls and prepare the venue for a magical day.
- Saturday, 15th November: Dive into the festivities by volunteering at various stalls and activities.



Donations Needed:

Your generous contributions are the heart of our event:

- Delicious cakes and mince pies (to be delivered on the day)

all donations in the sacristy. Your contributions are vital for our event's success!



Exciting Raffle!

Get your raffle tickets from the month of September—just £1 each or £10 for a book of ten. Don't miss the grand draw at the Bazaar featuring fantastic prizes like gift vouchers and luxurious hampers! Your unwavering support and kindness make all the difference. Together, let's make this year's Christmas Bazaar a memorable celebration. All proceeds will lovingly support our cherished church needs.

For more details or to sign up as a volunteer, please connect with our priests or the Bazaar team after every Mass. Mark your calendars and join this joyful occasion! We can't wait to celebrate with you!



St. Joseph's Parish Hall

— Let the Spirit of Christmas Shine Bright!

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.

Martha O'Connell (Thu. 7 Aug. 11am)



We are profoundly grateful for your generous contributions to last weekend's collection, totalling an impressive £1182. 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.

Mass intentions from 2th August 2025

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

Sat, 2 Aug 2025	07.00 pm	Missa PP	Intentions
Sun, 3 Aug 2025	08.00 am	Brian Boyle, Marcel Konan, Victoria Maria Phillips and family	Anniversary
	10.00 am	Shalini(B'day), Daniel Norton	Anniversary
	12 noon	Michael Dennehy(LD), Kelly Thompson Murphy	Anniversary
	07.00 pm	Suzanne Phillips, Eileen Devitt(B'Day), Victoria Maria Phillips&Fmly	Anniversary
Mon, 4 Aug 2025	09.30 am	Zofia Baginska	Anniversary
	06.30 pm	Suzanne Phillips, Michael Casey(Senior)	Anniversary
Tues, 5 Aug 2025	09.30 am	Krystyna Renner(Anni.), Baby Jonathan Joseph	Birthday
	06.30 pm	Estelle Sibue	Sick
Wed, 6 Aug 2025	09.30 am	Mervyn Jones	Lately Dead
	06.30 pm	Frederick Ntow	Intentions
Thur, 7 Aug 2025	09.30 am	Emily Rowland	Lately Dead
	06.30 pm	Tadeo Uong, Arna La, Maria Tuon, Maria Tong, Theresa Thuy	Anniversary
Fri, 8 Aug 2025	09.30 am	Claudian Morgan	Anniversary
	06.30 pm	Frederick Ntow	Intentions
Sat, 9 Aug 2025	09.30 pm	Passionist Mass Guild	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.

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Gn 18: 20-32/ Ps 138: 1-2, 2-3, 6-7, 7-8 (3a)/ Col 2: 12-14/ Lk 11: 1-13. **Mon:** Ex 32: 15-24, 30-34/ Ps 106: 19-20, 21-22, 23/ Mt 13: 31-35. **Tue:** Martha, Mary, and Lazarus M. Ex 33: 7-11; 34: 5b-9, 28/ Jn 11: 19-27 or Lk 10: 38-42. **Wed:** Peter Chrysologus, bp, dr. Ex 34: 29-35/ Ps 99: 5, 6, 7, 9/ Mt 13: 44-46. **Thu:** Ignatius of Loyola, p, rf M. Ex 40: 16-21, 34-38/ Ps 84: 3, 4, 5-6a and 8a, 11/ Mt 13: 47-53. **Fri:** Alphonsus Liguori, bp, rf, dr M. Lv 23: 1, 4-11, 15-16, 27, 34b-37/ Ps 81: 3-4, 5-6, 10-11ab/ Mt 13: 54-58. **Sat:** Eusebius of Vercelli, bp/ Peter Julian Eymard, p. Lv 25: 1, 8-17/ Ps 67: 2-3, 5, 7-8/ Mt 14: 1-12. **EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME.** Eccl 1: 2; 2: 21-23/ Ps 90: 3-4, 5-6, 12-13, 14, 17 (1)/ Col 3: 1-5, 9-11/ Lk 12: 13-21

St. Joseph's Parish: Invitation to a Sacred Journey of Faith

Dear Parish Family,
We are filled with joy to announce that applications for St. Joseph's Communion and Confirmation Programmes for 2025 are now available! This is a precious opportunity for our young ones and those inspired at any age to deepen their faith through these sacred sacraments.

First Holy Communion

For our cherished children aged seven and above in Year 3 or higher, we invite you to embark on this spiritual voyage. Preparation sessions are beautifully integrated into our 10am Sunday Mass from January through June. Please ensure that your application forms are submitted by October 1st. For more information, feel free to reach out to us at communion.joseph@gmail.com.

Confirmation

To all the vibrant students entering Year 9 or above this September, we warmly welcome you to apply for the Sacrament of Confirmation. Please collect an application form from the Church porch and remember to include a copy of your baptismal certificate, even if the sacrament was celebrated at St. Joseph's. All forms must be submitted by October 1st. For queries, contact confirmation.joseph@gmail.com.

For Adults

If you feel inspired to complete your sacraments of initiation, we encourage you to speak with our priests, who are ever ready to support you on this path. We are also excited to announce that a recently confirmed young parishioner has embraced the role of "Young Catechist" to mentor others. Year 12 students and above who wish to contribute to this enriching ministry are invited to email us or speak with Fr. George. Join us as we walk together on this sacred path of faith and growth. Visit our website for more details, and come be an integral part of our spiritual family at St. Joseph's Parish.

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