



# ST. JOSEPH'S HIGHGATE

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## PARISH BULLETIN

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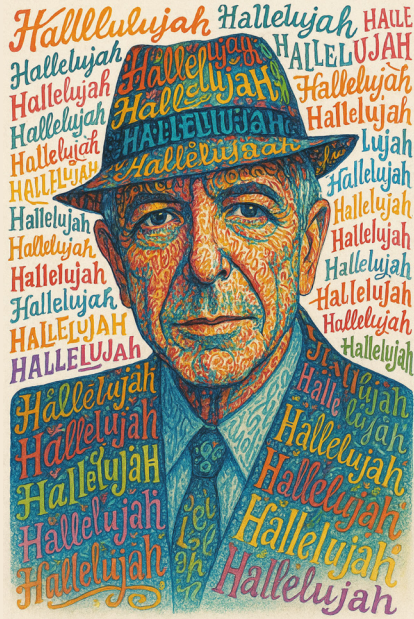
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## Cohen's Hallelujah

This Sunday, let us pause and reflect on the journey of Leonard Cohen's song "Hallelujah"—a story that beautifully mirrors what it means to walk through life's "narrow doors."

When Cohen wrote "Hallelujah," it took him years and countless rewrites. He poured his heart and soul into every line. But when he finally finished, his record company rejected it. The song was hardly noticed for many years. It seemed as if his hard work would fade into silence—a story ended before it even began.

But the story did not end there. Another musician, John Cale, discovered Cohen's hidden masterpiece and made a new version. Then Jeff Buckley, inspired by Cale, recorded his own soulful cover. Though Buckley died young, his voice gave the song new life. Soon, "Hallelujah" was covered by hundreds of artists,



shared at weddings, in movies, and at countless gatherings. The song nobody wanted became a hymn for millions.

What does this teach us? Jesus calls us to enter through the "narrow door"—the hard path of patience, love, and faith, especially when life doesn't go our way. Cohen's journey shows us that even when our efforts are unseen or rejected, God can still turn them into blessings. Our struggles, just like Cohen's song, can transform into hope and beauty for many.

If you face closed doors or disappointments, remember: don't give up. In God's hands, your broken "hallelujah" can become something wondrous. Be patient and faithful. Walk through that narrow door. Your story—no matter how small or hidden—just might inspire the world.

## A Heartfelt Welcome to Rev. Fr. Giuseppe Adobati Carrara, C.P



With great joy and deep gratitude, we warmly welcome our beloved Superior General, Rev. Fr. Giuseppe Adobati Carrara, C.P., to St. Joseph's Highgate. It is a profound blessing to have you in our midst, Father, as you continue to guide the Congregation of the Passion with wisdom, compassion, and faith. Your presence among us strengthens our spirits and inspires us to walk more faithfully in the footsteps of Christ Crucified. Please be assured of the prayers, affection, and wholehearted support of the entire St. Joseph's Parish community. May God bless you abundantly in your mission and grant you courage, health, and joy as you continue to serve the Lord and His people with such generous devotion.

## CELEBRATE LIFE'S SPECIAL MOMENTS AT ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH CENTRE

From christenings to weddings, birthdays to anniversaries, our parish centre offers the perfect space for your most cherished celebrations. Surrounded by faith, love, and community, let us be part of your joyful memories.



🌸 Book your special event with us today  
— your parish family is here to welcome you. 🌸

## Wine of Hope

Monday 8th December  
2024 at 5PM



We warmly invite you to our annual "Wine of Hope" gathering, a cherished event dedicated to celebrating the Christian ministry of healing. This tradition, which began during the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception amidst the pandemic, finds inspiration in the compassionate narrative of the Good Samaritan. Drawing on St. Augustine's profound insight into the "wine of hope," we are reminded of the transformative power of offering hope and healing to those in need. In these times, our mission is more important than ever: to instill hope and compassion, especially for those suffering in mind and body. We will have Mass at 5 p.m., followed by a heartwarming gathering with refreshments in the Red Room. Whether you serve in the healthcare profession or care for loved ones at home, your presence is a gift to our community.

Come, be part of this sacred moment of prayer and reflection. We look forward to welcoming you with open arms and hearts.

Save the Date - **Lectio Divina**  
Tue. 7pm-8pm at Red Room  
Wed. 10:30am-12 at Bupa

## 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.



We are profoundly grateful for your generous contributions to last weekend's collection, totalling an impressive £1295. 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.

*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.

**Maurice William (Wed. 27 Aug. 10:30am)**

# 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.

### Celebrate the Season with Us!

Our beloved Bazaar, brought to life by the inspiring dedication of Abuk, Cheryl, Diana, Roni, Bernard, Fessehayee, 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)



- 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

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!**

### Mass intentions from 23rd August 2025

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

Sat, 23 Aug 2025	07.00 pm	Teresa Kelly, Georgina Burke	Anniversary
Sun, 24 Aug 2025	08.00 am	Charley Keane, Breege Munnelly	Lately Dead
	10.00 am	Missa PP	Intentions
	12 noon	Frances Daly(Anni.), Late Oliver & Arnold Lee	Birthday
	07.00 pm	Curusanthony	Anniversary
Mon, 25 Aug 2025	09.30 am	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
Tues, 26 Aug 2025	09.30 am	Clemencia Garrido Negri	Lately Dead
	06.30 pm	Frederick Ntow	Intentions
Wed, 27 Aug 2025	09.30 am	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
	06.30 pm	Frederick Ntow	Intentions
Thur, 28 Aug 2025	09.30 am	Passionist Mass Guild	Intentions
	06.30 pm	Frederick Ntow	Intentions
Fri, 29 Aug 2025	09.30 am	Hugh Kenny	Lately Dead
	06.30 pm	Frederick Ntow	Intentions
Sat, 30 Aug 2025	09.30 pm	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.

**TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME** Jer 38: 4-6, 8-10/ Ps 40: 2, 3, 4, 18 (14b)/ Heb 12: 1-4/ Lk 12: 49-53, **Mon:** Jgs 2: 11-19/ Ps 106: 34-35, 36-37, 39-40, 43ab and 44/ Mt 19: 16-22, **Tue:** John Eudes, p, rf, Jgs 6: 11-24a/ Ps 85: 9, 11-12, 13-14/ Mt 19: 23-30, **Wed:** Bernard, ab, dr M, Jgs 9: 6-15/ Ps 21: 2-3, 4-5, 6-7/ Mt 20: 1-16, **Thu:** Pius X, pp M, Jgs 11: 29-39a/ Ps 40: 5, 7-8a, 8b-9, 10/ Mt 22: 1-14, **Fri:** Queenship of the Blessed Virgin Mary M, Ru 1: 1, 3-6, 14b-16, 22/ Ps 146: 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9a, 9b-10/ Mt 22: 34-40, **Sat:** Rose of Lima, v, Ru 2: 1-3, 8-11; 4: 13-17/ Ps 128: 1b-2, 3, 4, 5/ Mt 23: 1-12, **TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**, Is 66: 18-21/ Ps 117: 1, 2/ Heb 12: 5-7, 11-13/ Lk 13: 22-30.

## 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