

**Welcome to our weekly newsletter. We hope you enjoy your time at St James' and we look forward to seeing you again next week.**

Thank you for your offerings last week of £1432.19. Mass attendance 709.

<b>27th October</b> <b>(Saturday Vigil)</b>	<b>Thirtieth Sunday</b> <b>6pm People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 28th October</b>	<b>9.15am Mary Casartelli</b> <b>11am Pat &amp; Albert Murray 50th Wedding Anniversary</b> <b>(Murray family)</b>
<b>Monday 29th October</b>	<b>Feria</b> <b>9.30am All those in the parish who are sick. (CWL)</b>
<b>Tuesday 30th October</b>	<b>Feria</b> <b>9.30am Fr John Mulligan RIP (I Webb)</b>
<b>Wednesday 31st October</b>	<b>Feria</b> <b>9.30am Hugh &amp; Teresa Ford</b> <b>10.45 Eucharist Adoration</b>
<b>Thursday 1st November Holy Day of Obligation</b> <b>Whole School Mass</b>	<b>All Saints</b> <b>9.30am Kenneth Craen RIP (J Craen)</b> <b>8pm Seamus O'Mahony RIP (The Horner Family)</b>
<b>Friday 2nd November</b>	<b>The Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed</b> <b>9.30am Gaspar Viegas RIP (L Da Cunha Family)</b> <b>7.30pm Eucharist Adoration</b>
<b>3rd November</b> <b>(Saturday Vigil)</b>	<b>Thirty-First Sunday</b> <b>6pm People of the Parish</b>
<b>Sunday 4th November</b>	<b>9.15am Marie Therese Jalady RIP (G Head)</b> <b>11am Desmond Kelly RIP (M Kelly)</b> <b>3.00pm Memorial Mass</b>

**Confessions** are heard on Saturday, 5.00-5.45pm, or by appointment.

**Morning Prayer** takes place Monday – Friday at 9.10am. All are welcome to attend.

**Pondering the Word** (*Lectio Divina*) - A quiet reflective look at the following Sunday's Gospel. Mondays 11am-12 noon, except for Bank Holidays, here in the Church. All are welcome.

**Rosary** – Every day after Mass there is rosary. All are welcome.

**Second Collection** - the second collection this week is for the Maintenance Fund.

**Fr David writes...**

Part of the clinician's assessment of a patient is to ascertain whether the patient has a good support network or not. In moments of crisis we go through, some of us opt to isolate ourselves from others. This happens for self-preservation at times. This is a natural way of behaviour in order to come to terms with all the emotions we would be going through at the time. We desperately feel the need for our own space to make sense of the pain. We would lose our desire to socialise and we lack the energy to see people. The people who care about us, find this usually very upsetting. They feel that we are trying to push them out. However for some of us, it is the only way how we can cope in our pain. This is a normal way of behaviour for some time though. When isolation becomes habitual and is prolonged, mental health professions start to be concerned. Total isolation has its own dangers. And the ultimate fear of any clinician would be suicidal ideation or even worse committing suicide. Even in our desperate moments when we experience life to be totally futile and void, we need somehow to find the energy to reach out to some people we trust for support. Reaching out for support has in itself a taste of hope. It's refusing support that prevents us from moving forward and blocks us in a victim's mentality and self-pity. The feelings of helplessness that relatives feel when a loved one is reluctant to make the effort to reach out for help is indescribable.

The Gospel of Mark today introduces us to another character, Bartimaeus, the blind man. From the way Mark describes him, it's as if the reader or the early community would have known Bartimaeus as the blind man who sat begging on the road to Jericho. He definitely does not isolate him, wallowing in self-pity at home. He is out begging every day. Bartimaeus certainly had heard of Jesus, for upon learning that Jesus was on the road, Bartimaeus immediately cries out using the messianic title "Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me". He cries out to Jesus amidst the many other voices that day. He reached out for support. He wanted to express his need. His blindness did not hinder him from having a 'voice'. The people around him wanted to stop him from crying out. In their own way, those around him were telling him that he was not worth Jesus' attention and healing. He was considered unclean and sinful in his community. They wanted him to remain stuck in his illness.

However, the more they shouted at him to stop, Bartimaeus cried out louder. In Bartimaeus, we encounter a man who is persevering in his search for some cure – to see. And he put all his faith in this young Rabbi Jesus. It's as if nothing else matters but Jesus and the power he has. At this time, Jesus heard him cry and said, "Call him here". The people at this point changed their tune and encouraged him to go to Jesus. In an exchange reminiscent of Jesus's interaction with James and John last week, Jesus asks him, "What is it you want me to do for you?". James and John wanted to sit either side of Jesus in the kingdom. But Bartimaeus responds differently. He simply asks to see. He is not after power and entitlement, but he is after new sight. Jesus' response and Bartimaeus's healing is immediate and simultaneous. His sight is restored, and he follows Jesus.

He is now a true disciple, a follower of Jesus. And his faith response to Jesus is a model for us, perhaps even a better model than the brothers James and John. In Bartimaeus, we see a man who did not isolate himself because of his disability – he is empowered to search for healing and his faith provided him his desire to see. I would like to think today of all those within our parish who might be feeling hopeless in their pain. This is leading them to feelings of loneliness and depression. I pray that they would find in themselves the ability to reach out for help. To stop resisting support and engage with the professional mental health team in order to move forward. Cry out like Bartimaeus – persevere in your efforts to find a cure. Sometimes the first treatment does not work – do not lose heart. I pray that the right people and treatment will come your way. May God bless you all.

**Volunteers Are Needed to Help Prepare Christmas Lunch with Fr David on Tuesday 25th December!**

Would you like to help organise, prepare, cook and share, Christmas lunch for Fr David and his parish guests in the Community Centre this year? And maybe plan a Christmas game (charades, bingo?) and a

film to watch after lunch too – not forgetting to allow time for the Queen's speech! If you have ideas and would like to help please email the Parish Office: [parish.office@stjamespettswood.org](mailto:parish.office@stjamespettswood.org).

**“Drop-In” Evening Surgeries** – Please note the next drop in will be on Tuesday 30th October – 5pm to 7pm.

### **Holy Baptism**

This weekend we welcome May Chan and her parents Chung & Zilla, Zachary Meehan and his parents Daniel & Natasha, also Lucas Francis and his parents Luke & Rafaela.

### **St James' School Open Day**

St James' School will be holding an open morning for prospective parents of children due to start school in September 2019 (children born between 1st September 2014 and 31st August 2015) on **Wednesday 21st November 2018 at 9.15am**.

Booking is not necessary. The Head Teacher will give a short speech, there will be a tour of the school and Supplementary Information Forms (SIFs) will be handed out. The whole event will last approximately one hour. This is essentially an information morning for parents - children may attend if necessary, but be mindful that our children will be working in school. Please don't worry if you cannot attend the open morning - our **Supplementary Information Form for the September 2019 intake will be available to download from our website from the 21st November**. Any questions regarding school admissions please contact the school office on 020 8467 8167 and NOT the Parish Office.

### **Evangelisation Pillar**

#### **First Holy Communion 2019**

If you would like your child to take part in our parish programme for First Holy Communion, please send an email to the Parish Office with all relevant details, child's name, date of birth, school, names of parents, address and contact details. Candidates must be in Year 3 or above. All preparation classes are held on Saturdays from 4.30 to 5.45 and will run from January to June. Dates for First Holy Communion are 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

#### **Confirmation 2019**

Calling all year Nine and above students who wish to be confirmed next year. **There is a “Come and See” meeting on Monday 5th November at 7.30pm in the Church.** This meeting is for candidates and their parents. At the end of the meeting, packs will be distributed ready for enrolment onto the programme which starts with a kick off day on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> November, 11.30am to 6pm followed by Mass. If you intend to come to the meeting on the 5th November, please let the parish office know by phone or email:

[parish.office@stjamespettswood.org](mailto:parish.office@stjamespettswood.org) For your information the first two Confirmation preparation sessions are Monday 3rd December and Monday 17th December, all sessions run from 7.00- 8.30. Complete list of dates will be available in the booklet you receive at the 'Come and See' meeting. We look forward to meeting you all.

*The Catechists*

#### **Celebrating the GOSPELS - Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> November in the Community Centre**

You are warmly invited to come to introductory talks on the Gospels. Brian Purfield, a biblical scholar and an excellent speaker from Mount Street Jesuit Centre will come to Petts Wood to help us appreciate the joy and richness of the Gospels. Taking the feedback from last year, we have devised the day in two halves so more parishioners can come to either or both of the talks. i.e.

- **10:30 – 12:30 Gospel according to Luke (next liturgical year – Cycle C)**
- **13:15 – 15:15 Gospel according to John (always fascinating)**

Tea and Coffee will be provided, but bring a packed lunch if you are coming for the whole day.

#### **“Broken” BBC TV Series – here in the Community Centre**

Our next episode is on **Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> October and then on Sundays 4<sup>th</sup> November, 11<sup>th</sup> November, and**

**18<sup>th</sup> November.** The door opens at 7pm for 7:10pm prompt start, followed by a discussion and finishing around 9pm. Please come and join us.

### **SS Joseph & Swithun Parish – Bromley Advent Reflection on Laudato Si': Care for Our Common Home**

Come and join the Advent events and reflect on how we can find new ways forward together to care for our common home and our finite resources in our homes, our parish, our world. These two Advent sessions will prepare us to be in tune with our World away from the commercial rush of Christmas.

- Wednesday 28th November 7.30pm-9.30pm Church Hall – Simple Supper and Global Healing Film.
- Wednesday 5th December 7.30pm – 9.30pm Church Hall – Sharing Session and Reflection on Global Healing Film.

### **Week of Accompanied Prayer 2019 - Opportunity to Help make it Happen**

We are preparing another Week of Accompanied Prayer. It will be **Lent 2019 - 10th-16th March** (note in your diary?). At its heart it is simple for participants. During the Week you spend 30 minutes a day in your own private prayer anywhere and then another 30 minutes a day, at a time of your choosing, with a Prayer Guide at St James'. A number of parishioners have already done it and found it very helpful. But there is stuff to organise and **we need to bring together a team** to help arrange the details of the Week – e.g. publicity, welcoming, hospitality for the Prayer Guides, etc. **Please consider helping with this**, and contact Chris or Doreen Hairs, **by email** ([chris.hairs@stjamespettswood.org](mailto:chris.hairs@stjamespettswood.org) or [doreen.hairs@stjamespettswood.org](mailto:doreen.hairs@stjamespettswood.org)), or **buttonhole them after Mass!**

## **Social Pillar**

### **Film Club**

Thank you to all those who attended our Film Night last Saturday evening. Your generous donations amounted to £117 which, together with the funds raised in September, will cover the cost of a Perspex Lectern for the Community Centre. The balance will contribute towards the cost of replacement candle stands in Our Lady's Chapel.

Our next Film Night will be at **7.30pm on Saturday 17 November** in the Community Centre. We will be showing Mike Leigh's Academy & BAFTA award winning Film "Topsy Turvy". This is described as a "witty & entertaining dramatisation of the famous partnership between lyricist William Gilbert & composer Arthur Sullivan. With a wealth of authentic Victorian detail, this account of the lives of the musical duo concentrates on the good-natured antagonism between the two creative geniuses, focusing on the turning point on their road to fame & riches - the production of 'The Mikado'. "A sign-up sheet is in the porch. We look forward to seeing you!

## **Liturgy Pillar**

### **Christmas Choir**

**Our Advent service will be held on Sunday 16th December at 4pm and on Christmas Eve, we will start with carols at 11.30pm followed by Midnight Mass.**

We are inviting singers to join our Christmas choir which sings in four-part harmony. **Rehearsals** have started - and will be held every Thursday from 7.30 - 9pm i.e., November 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and December 6, 13, (with possibly another rehearsal just before Christmas if needed). This is a lovely way to participate in our parish's festivities so if you enjoy singing, please come along.

### **Altar Servers' Social Gathering, this Sunday, 28th October, at 3.00pm to 5.00pm.**

If you would **like to become an Altar server**, please come along to this special meeting, which is open to anyone who has made your First Holy Communion. **All existing Altar servers are also invited** to attend and chat to any new servers who might be interested in joining us. Parents please accompany all children under 18 and please register your interest to Peter Marshall on [servers@stjamespettswood.org](mailto:servers@stjamespettswood.org).

### **Music Workshop**

We invite all music lovers to our next music workshop which is being held in the Community Centre on **26<sup>th</sup> January 2019 from 10.00pm – 2.00pm** led by Meg Shepherd. Please put this in your diaries now!

### **Annual Day of Recollection**

Bishop Pat Lynch invites all Ministers of the Eucharist and Ministers of the Word to the Annual Day of Recollection on Saturday 17th November at Bishop Thomas Grant School, Bell Trees Grove, SW16 2HY. Registration will be from 10.30am. The day will conclude with Mass at 3.00pm celebrated by Bishop Pat. During the day Fr Saju will talk on the theme of Journey in St Luke's Gospel. Please contact the parish office to book your place.

### **Children's Liturgy**

Please note Children's Liturgy will NOT be on when there is a Church Parade Mass. There will be no Liturgy on 11th November and 9 December as we do not have enough leaders. If you would like to lead or help please contact Hannah via e-mail [childrens.liturgy@stjamespettswood.org](mailto:childrens.liturgy@stjamespettswood.org)

**Eucharist Adoration** - takes place for an hour **each Wednesday shortly after the morning Mass starting at 10.45 am and finishing at 11.45 am.** This Devotion to the Eucharist is a time of silent prayer and quiet music. Everyone is welcome for all or part of this time of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

**First Friday of Month** - Eucharist Adoration also takes place on the **1<sup>st</sup> Friday of each month from 7.30 pm – 9pm. The next will be on the Friday 2nd November**, concluding with Benediction. Everyone is welcome for all or part of this time of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

### **Pastoral Pillar**

#### **November: Remembering in A Special Way Our Deceased Loved Ones**

If you would like your deceased loved ones to be remembered during November, please place their names in the box provided and we will keep them on the altar for the whole of the month.

#### **A Memorial Mass here at St James at 3pm on Sunday 4th November.**

This is a special Mass for those who have lost a family member, or loved one, during this past year. We will read out the names of parishioners whose funerals took place here, together with the names of those whose funeral took place elsewhere, provided you have let us know that you would like the name of the latter to be included in this service. Please tell us about this **no later than Thursday 1st November.** During this service, we will light candles for those we are remembering, and Mass will be followed by refreshments in the Community Centre. Members of our Pastoral Care Team will be to here to help and chat if needed. All parishioners are very welcome to attend.

**A Memorial Mass for Deceased Clergy** will take place on Tuesday 13th November at 11.30am at St Edmund's in Beckenham. All are welcome.

**The Annual Cemetery Mass** will take place at St Mary's, Crown Lane, Chislehurst, at 12 Noon on 24th November 2018, followed by the Blessing of Graves

#### **Helplines and Counselling Services.**

A list of helplines and counselling services is available on our website, and in the church porch, for anyone who might need this.

### **Youth Pillar**

#### **CYM Youth Choir - Faith in Action Award Ceremony 10<sup>th</sup> November**

Calling all young people (and adults) who would be interested in forming a choir to perform at the Faith in Action Awards Ceremony this year (10<sup>th</sup> November 2018). We will be performing 'Any Dream Will Do' from the musical Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat and rehearsals will be taking place on Wednesday evenings from 7.30 – 8.30pm in St Joseph's Church, Plaistow Lane, Bromley. Although the choir will be formed initially to participate in the FIA Awards ceremony, we would love to see the deanery youth coming together to participate at many other events in the near future. Spread the word in your parishes and amongst your friends! For more details please email: [susan.longhurst@bromleydeanery.org](mailto:susan.longhurst@bromleydeanery.org).

#### **Christ the King Youth Day (24.11.18 at St Joseph's Church, Plaistow Lane, Bromley)**

Are you in school years 7 and above? If so, you are warmly invited to **Christ the King Youth Day at St**

**Joseph's Church, Bromley on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018 from 2pm until 6pm.** Preparations are underway for a day packed with fun, music, art and reflection led by the **Catholic Youth Ministry Team** and will be followed by a Youth Mass at 6pm. Refreshments will be provided throughout the day. **If you would like to get involved with the musical activities, please make sure to bring your instruments with you on the day.** So tell your friends and invite them along to enjoy a fantastic, youth-led celebration for the Feast of Christ the King. We look forward to seeing you there! (Suggested voluntary contribution £2).

### **Finance Pillar**

#### **Fundraising by shopping online**

Several parishioners over the last few years have helped the parish by raising donations through **easyfundraising.org.uk**. Recently we reached the milestone of £3,000, for which we thank everyone who has made purchases that way. Over 3,400 retailers including Amazon, eBay, M&S, John Lewis, Argos, Booking.com, tour operators, now make donations on every purchase (from 0.5% to 5% of cost). The top supporter parishioner has raised £388 (all transactions are completely anonymous), so why not embrace the idea and help St James'? To get started, follow the item on the left menu bar of the parish website. Once you've registered, you have the option to install an automatic donation reminder in your browser to make sure no purchase misses its reward. Any questions, please contact [roger.wright@stjamespettswood.org](mailto:roger.wright@stjamespettswood.org). Thank you.

### **Justice & Peace**

#### **Foodbank donations**

Thanks to all those who continue to place items in the special basket at the back of church. We have not had specific requests from the Bromley Foodbank recently because they are going through a major stock-taking exercise following big harvest festival collections. So please feel free to donate all tinned and dried foods, UHT milk and fruit juices, household detergents, and toiletries. But definitely not baked beans, soup or pasta! Thank you again.

#### **Halloween for the Foodbank?**

If you are escorting children, or responding to those who knock on your door this year, please could you think about collecting, or offering, some suitable food for the Foodbank too? Please see the list above for ideas. Anything you collect can be added to the baskets at the back of the church as usual. Thank you.

#### **Memorial Rose Garden**

We have ten red rose bushes that have been planted in our memorial rose garden, if you would like to purchase one in memory of a loved one please complete the form at the back of the church, take the envelope supplied and post it through the parish office or pop it in the Mass Intention box. Roses cost £15. Thank you.

#### **Catholic Legacy Week 1-7th November**

Please consider supporting Catholic parishes and dioceses and refer to the website: [www.yourcatholiclegacy.org.uk](http://www.yourcatholiclegacy.org.uk) for more information. Thank you.

#### **All Saints Festival Choir & Orchestra perform**

Saturday 24 November 2018 at 7.30pm

Mass in B ♭ - Hummel

Requiem - Faure

The Parish Church of All Saints, Bark Hart Road, Orpington BR6 0QD  
 Bookings & enquiries 01689 823857 [www.allsaintsfestivalchoir.co.uk](http://www.allsaintsfestivalchoir.co.uk)

### Polite Reminders

The Parish disabled parking spaces are for Blue Badge holders only.

Parking – Please be aware of our neighbours in the surrounding roads, please do not block driveways or double park your car.

Please refrain from eating and drinking in the church.

### Seeing a Chaplain if You Are Admitted to Hospital

- **Protecting personal information** (data protection) is really important when you become an inpatient in hospital.
- **So please specifically ask hospital staff to pass on your details** to the hospital's Roman Catholic chaplain as soon as you are admitted if you would like a Chaplain to visit you.
- **Fr David would always be very happy** to visit you too, so please ask a relative or friend to let him know about your admission. You, or they, can email Fr David on: [father.david@stjamespettswood.org](mailto:father.david@stjamespettswood.org), or phone the parish office on 01689 827100.

### Rotas for this week: *Thank you for helping*

#### Weekend 3-4<sup>th</sup> November 2018

#### Cleaning the Church

Patrick Driscoll, Janet Rogers, Maria Mitrovic (Tuesday team – 6 November)

#### Wednesday Coffee

S Barradell, M Howell

#### 4th November 2018

Mass	Saturday 6pm (Vigil)	Sunday 9.15am	Sunday 11am
<b>Welcomers</b>	K Drabowicz	F Mace M Howell	L McDonald S May
<b>Readers</b>	Jan Bajorek M. O'Mahony	R. Lim Sofia Cotta	Parade Mass
<b>Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Jan Bajorek Helen Rotheron Monica Cahill Chris Cahill C Wakefield	D.Hairs Bruno Cotta Will David Ken Chan T Forde	R del Guercio Z Bajorek A Bunnage P Murray V Terry
<b>Bar</b>	Mark Smith N Longhurst		
<b>Coffee</b>		L Lynch S Barradell	M Harrington Kay Walsh
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Jude Nathan Cracknell R Norman-Brown F Norman-Brown	Lydia Delamain	Francis Ikenye D Fernandes



	Peter Marshall		
<b>Tellers</b>	Chris Delf, Mary Troy		