

St. Joseph's Church, Lamb's Buildings, Lamb's Passage, off Bunhill Row, London EC1Y 8LE



Joseph of the House of David + Mary, Mother of the City
Icons by Stephane Rene

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE : <https://parish.rcdow.org.uk/bunhillrow/>

Clergy:
Fr. Chris Vipers, Fr. Saimon Gudime
Parish Administrator - Ingrid Bowie
St Mary Moorfields, 4 - 5 Eldon St.
London EC2M 7LS
e-mail: moorfields@rcdow.org.uk
bunhillrow@rcdow.org.uk
Tel. 020 7247 8390



APRIL 2021
NEWSLETTER

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH IS OPEN ON WEDNESDAYS, 11.30 - 12.45 FOR 12.05 MASS AND FOR PERSONAL PRAYER ON FRIDAYS, 11.30-12.30 with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE ST. JOSEPH'S WEEKEND MASSES : SATURDAY EVENING MASS, 18.00 with congregation & SUNDAY MORNING - 11.30 with congregation

DUE TO SOCIAL DISTANCING REQUIREMENTS NO MORE THAN 35 PEOPLE WILL BE ABLE TO ATTEND 11.30 MASS

Weekday Services: Wednesday Masses at St. Joseph's (12.05 pm).



Easter thoughts from Fr. Chris

Dear friends,
What a wonderfully rich journey we have shared through Lent this year, and much of it with our sister church of St Mary Moorfields: beautiful liturgies in our church and online, our Day of Recollection with Abbot Christopher, a prayerful gathering for Carmel-in-the-City, our Friday lunchtime Holy Hour and evening Stations of the Cross, our Monday evening Services of Night Prayer with Ministers and members of our local ecumenical family, the early morning 'Wednesday Word' each week, our powerful online 'Way of the Cross', all culminating in a tremendous Holy Week – a great turn out for Palm Sunday, a deeply prayerful candlelit Service of Tenebrae at St Giles, the Mass of the Lord's Supper on Maundy Thursday, and a wonderful coming together of our two churches, St Joseph's and St Mary's, for the Liturgy of the Passion on Good Friday and the Easter Vigil on Holy Saturday. It is amazing what we have packed into these six wonderful, powerful weeks. There are so many people to thank for helping to make this Lent a

real Lent to remember. I am grateful to them all. But I am so deeply grateful too that the two churches I serve seem to be more and more one family, with two homes. Thank you. Now as we enter together the joy and wonder of Eastertide, we open ourselves to whatever our Risen Lord calls us to do and to be – as faithful Catholics, as a faithful community, as, in Pope Francis' words, 'joyful missionary disciples'. Fr Saimon, Abbot Christopher, and I wish each of you, and your families too, a Happy and a Blessed Easter, and I leave you with a simple and heartfelt prayer:

Father,
by the love of your Spirit,
may we who have experienced
the power and peace of the Lord's resurrection
rise to the newness of life in joy.
Grant us this grace through Christ, our Risen Lord.
Amen.

Fr. Chris



Some 50 people from local Churches' were present in St. Giles' Cripplegate for the Candlelight Service of Tenebrae, Spy Wednesday, 31 March - another 60 + joined online. We also attracted the 'Mystery Worshipper' from the Ship of Fools website who scored us 8/10! See here for details: <https://shipoffools.com/mystery-worshipper/st-giles-cripplegate-barbican-london/>

St. Joseph's Icon Greeting Cards featuring, Joseph of the House of David, & Mary, Mother of the City, made by the Carmelite Sisters at Ware Carmel, £1.50 each. These are suitable as Mass Cards for those who have died, as well as for other intentions. Please ask Sylvia or Martin if you would like to buy some.

Access for all! The Lift operates every time the Church is open for Mass: Saturday evenings, Sunday mornings, Wednesday lunchtimes, & 1ST Saturdays, for CARMEL-IN-THE-CITY. It's very simple to use - you just need to keep your finger on the button if going down to the church (G-level), up to the Hall (2-level), or to the Car-Park area (1-level). Children must be accompanied if using the lift. If you need to drive to St. Joseph's - only vehicles registered with Islington Council are able to drive through Fortune Street, from Golden Lane to Whitecross Street.

ST. JOSEPH'S - A community generous in its giving - NEW Planned-giving envelopes are now available along with Gift Aid and Standing Order forms for those who would like to give to the parish in this way, or offering some backdated contributions, please? Having had no usual collections in Lockdown, in 2020 we lost over £7,000 in income, but there are still bills to pay! PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE NOW CHANGED TO ONLINE GIVING. WHY NOT MAKE THIS A NEW COMMITMENT TO THE PARISH? See the latest Parish Accounts on the Porch Notice-board. Times are tough but we've seen increasing generosity in this parish's giving!

THE YEAR OF THE WORD EXTENDED TO JANUARY 2022 - Do you have a bible in your home? Our target is for every home in the parish to possess God's word in Scripture at their heart so that we might all dwell in that Word and that the Word might dwell in us. A Bible is waiting here at St. Joseph's for YOU. Westminster Diocese Agency for Evangelisation, of which Fr. Chris is Director, has a number of excellent online events and downloadable resources - <https://rcdow.org.uk/faith/faith-formation/> WE WELCOME MORE PEOPLE TO JOIN THE READERS' ROTA - READING AT SATURDAY EVENING & SUNDAY MASSES AND ON OTHER OCCASIONS. IF YOU CAN HELP, PLEASE SPEAK TO FR. CHRIS. Liturgy at St. Joseph's: WE NEED YOU! If you have received your 1st Communion, then girls and boys are welcomed as altar-servers, not just on Sundays, but on other important Church Feast-days. We'd be delighted to have more young people reading at Mass from time to time, and we'd love to have more people to ensure the quality of our liturgies, including help with singing, reading, being Eucharistic ministers. Visitors often complement us on the welcome they receive, and the dignified Masses we celebrate. Age is no barrier, young or old, and we'd love to have people who represent the rich diversity of this community. So think about it, and speak to Fr. Chris, Martin, or Sylvia after Sunday Mass. Please contact Martin Pendergast for more details - 020 8986 0807.

The Cardinal Hume Quiet Garden is now open until the end of October 2021, 10.00- 17.00, Mondays- Fridays, 1st Saturdays, & Sunday mornings.



ALL ARE WELCOME HERE ! In Calais, and across the Mediterranean, there is still great need. For updates, please see www.seekingsanctuary.weebly.com or email Ben Bano at migrantssupport@aol.com about delivering goods. Also check out: Westminster Justice & Peace & www.calaid.co.uk Contact the J&P Office at Vaughan House, Westminster - **Colette Joyce**, Coordinator - 020 7798 9009 or bring to St. Joseph's. The Catholic Worker Community, whom we support, makes regular deliveries to Calais and they welcome volunteers. Take goods to their Haringey centre: Giuseppe Conlon House: www.londoncatholicworker.org/qchouse.html

JUSTICE, like charity, begins at home. Suzanna Hamilton is St. Joseph's representative for **Caritas Westminster**. Caritas (Love) is both an international network of Catholic organisations working for justice, human development and flourishing, working with and for the poor across the world, as well as here at home. **Caritas Westminster** speaks and acts for the poor in our midst, and those whose voice is not heard in the places of power - <https://www.caritaswestminster.org.uk/>. Suzanna will host **A PARISH CONVERSATION ON SOCIAL ACTION AND REACHING OUT TO YOUNG PEOPLE IN OUR COMMUNITY. This will take place on Zoom, 19.00, 22 April - Please register by 18th April by contacting Suzanna: zanna1221@gmail.com A PARTICULAR INVITATION IS EXTENDED TO ALL TEENAGE MEMBERS OF ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH AND THEIR PARENTS.**

The work of **Caritas Westminster** overlaps to some extent with what we do in **ISLINGTON CITIZENS** - www.londoncitizens.org.uk - We are a member-institution of Citizens UK - Islington. This helps us to see how local people can have a voice on things that matter to them, how we can respond to local needs and work for justice.

THE LONDON MAYORAL ASSEMBLY, 28 APRIL 2021 WITH 2 KEY PRIORITIES TO PLACE BEFORE CANDIDATES: YOUTH SAFETY & HOMES, HOUSING & HOMELESS. On **Wednesday 28th April, 6pm - 7:30pm**, mayoral candidates **Sadiq Khan and Shaun Bailey** will be held to account by people like you, on a manifesto crafted by people like you. Our accountability assembly will have a ticketed, interactive online broadcast for our member organisations and invited guests. The Mayor of London has a budget of over £17 billion. The upcoming Mayoral Election is an opportunity for us to hold the next mayor to account. We've created a manifesto that will benefit our city, the result of listening and strategy workshops involving thousands of ordinary Londoners over the last two years. With our 240+ member organisations, we chose these priority areas: **Housing and Homelessness; Youth Safety; Living Wage; A Welcoming London for Migrants; Just Transition: Green Jobs** In February, 500 Londoners on a Zoom meeting ratified our [London Citizens 2021 Manifesto](http://www.londoncitizens.org.uk). The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic means London can no longer wait for change. Without your support, we cannot win. Will you join us online on Wednesday 28th April, 18.00 - 19:30 ?

TICKETING - REGISTER: <https://applecartarts.ticketsolve.com/shows/1173609526> - GUIDE: Please follow this guide, as the ticketing system is originally meant for theatre bookings.

Choosing the number of tickets - Please note that each ticket will get its own special access code to view the event. You should not share your link.

Extra Info - Please enter your organisation, as well as the name and organisation of the person who invited you.

Login - Scroll down and click "Continue as Guest". You do not have to create an account.

Your Details - You do not need to enter an address. A phone number is required in case your email address bounces.

Froilan Legaspi is the Islington Citizens Organiser. If you'd like to be involved in Islington Citizens' training-events or local action speak to Sylvia Lucas/Martin Pendergast, or contact Froilan:

Froilan.Legaspi@citizensuk.org



The Government's so-called National Living Wage from 2020, for over 25's is **NOT** a Living Wage but an increased Minimum Wage, institutionalising inequality for younger workers under 25. **St. Joseph's is accredited as a local Living Wage Employer as is Westminster Diocese, and 9 out of 10 London's Catholic schools are as well! The REAL 2020/21 London Living Wage is £10.85;** outside London - **£9.50.** <https://www.livingwage.org.uk/what-real-living-wage>

If you are low-paid, are you being paid the London Living Wage, not just a minimum wage, or so-called National Living Wage, only for over-25's? This is far below the Real Living Wage. Islington Council, the City of London Corporation and the Barbican are all Living Wage Employers.

Carmel-in-the-City - Due to Covid-19 Regulations a revised programme operates. Check out the website for more news, Newsletters and our Programme for 2021: www.carmelinthecity.org.uk Next meeting: Saturday, 10 April Further details from Sylvia Lucas: **0788 943 6165** sylvia@carmelinthecity.org.uk

DO YOU KNOW WHAT'S GOING ON IN YOUR CHURCH ? Find out from Independent Catholic News: <https://www.indcatholicnews.com/> FREE COPIES OF THE TABLET ARE AVAILABLE IN THE PORCH

St. Joseph's Pastoral Council (SJPC) Due to Covid-19 Regulations, Pastoral Council meetings are currently suspended. The Minutes of the latest Pastoral Council Meeting (28 November 2019) are on the **Pastoral Council** section of the Church Notice-board. Further information - **Fr. Chris** or Martin Pendergast, **SJPC Secretary**, c/o St. Joseph's or e-mail/phone - martinjpendergast@gmail.com / 020 8986 0807.

Growth in faith for Children & Adults: Infant Baptism, 1st Communion, Adult Baptism, Reception into Full Communion, and Confirmation - Registration sheets are available now for **Confirmation 2021**. This will be for any children in Year 9 or above. Please speak to Fr. Chris or Jennylyn Williams for more information. **A Journey in Faith Group** - following the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA), for anyone who would like to explore becoming a Catholic - Please email the Parish Office and/or speak to either Fr. Chris or Fr. Saimon. **Baptism Preparation:** Every parent who would like to have their child baptised at either St. Joseph's must attend a short meeting, along with godparents, to discuss the meaning and purpose of Baptism. Baptisms usually take place during Sunday morning Mass. If you wish to prepare for **Marriage**, please speak to Fr. Chris. **Are you a parent of younger children - would you like to help with Sunday morning Children's Liturgy? If so, speak to Jennylyn, Maria, or Elizabeth.**

Ecumenical activities are at the heart of the life of St. Joseph's Church

..... doing together what we do not need to do separately

www.stgilescripplegate.com + www.wesleyschapel.org.uk + www.capeljewin.org



Jewin Welsh Church, St. Giles Cripplegate, Wesley's Chapel, & St. Joseph's have agreed An Ecumenical Partnership between Jewin Welsh Church, St. Giles Cripplegate, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, and Wesley's Chapel

Our ecumenical journey to Easter 2021 included weekly celebrations of Compline, led by each church, and a moving Tenebrae Service on Spy Wednesday, 31 March 2021.

The "Ship of Fools" website and its "Mystery Worshipper" reviewed this service, giving us a score of 8 out of 10 - <https://shipoffools.com/mystery-worshipper/st-giles-cripplegate-barbican-london/>

CITY EVENTS - The Friends of City Churches - www.london-city-churches.org.uk
The Friends of the City Churches' volunteer Church Watchers usually help to keep City churches open to visitors and worshippers on a regular basis.
<https://www.ourcitytogether.london/inspire/beating-the-bounds>

Next St. Joseph's Newsletter due 2 May 2021 - Deadline for information, events: 29/04/2021