



# ROMAN CATHOLIC PARISHES

## Our Ladye Star of the Sea (Crooms Hill)

### And St Joseph (Pelton Road)

### West & East Greenwich

PRIEST in Charge Fr. Kevin Robinson BD MA AKC  
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#### **Sunday 4 November 2012 (31<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Sunday Year B)**

For some time now, a number of motivated parishioners have been meeting to discuss the woeful state of the Church fabric and interior at Our Ladye Star of the Sea. This is a splendid and much loved building, with a proud history. Continuing on all that was accomplished by Fr John, it will come as no surprise to realise that the building needs a progressive programme of work. Before the interior can be tackled more work is required on the exterior. The heavy rains of this last year have tested the building to its limit. Damp and general deterioration means that vital remedial repairs to roofs, guttering, stonework etc need to be completed. You can see for yourselves, the interior has not been touched for many years and sorely needs attention. Preliminary opinions of specialist contractors have been sought who have been responsible for conservation projects elsewhere. These initiatives will serve as a prelude to a full scale long term project to bring the Church back to her former glory in a way that credits William Wardell & Augustus Pugin. Both of these famous architects saw *Gothic Revival* as a way to praise God. We are in the early stages of formulating a strategy to bring the vision of Wardell & Pugin back for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. There is a lot to be done - but a beautiful Church is a reflection of the people that worship in it, and a gift to those who come in search of spiritual inspiration. Restoration is more than a lick of paint. It's going to take time, passion, determination, belief and ambition. There is a swelling chorus to make this happen. A number of the Church's special features, including those on the ceilings, walls and floors, have been lost or covered over. Our hope is that they haven't

been lost forever. Many details remain but we need to breathe life back into these features and recreate the vivid interior. Such work is going to need substantial funds. Greenwich town revels in its rich history. The skyline is punctuated with landmarks – The Star of the Sea being important among them. A lot history is invested in the Church, and is in danger of disappearing. More on all this will follow in the coming months and a member of the group will speak to the parish. For the time being it is important for people to know that things are happening. The Psalm says: *“How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord God of Hosts.” Ps84.* Our Ladye Star of the Sea is more than lovely; behind the dilapidations remains something magnificent, a forgotten jewel at the heart of Greenwich. In the course of time OLSS will sparkle again but only if those living stones who dwell within sparkle with something brighter... *Through Jesus Christ our Lord!*

#### **A Christmas Choir?**

What about a choir for the midnight Mass at OLSS? There are many talented people and musical youngsters within the congregation. At St Joseph's, Mick has plans to make Christmas Day special. One thing that we have all got to do is to learn how to sing the new rites of the Mass. We are still singing the old settings with the wrong words! On Saturday Dec 1<sup>st</sup>, as an Advent project, Jeremy De Satge has offered to spend a day with us to learn and sing the new rites (myself included). He is a music scholar specialising in liturgical music and singing. – Can you attend this event? What about if we have a hot lunch in the Parish Room? It would also be great to have a choir or music group for the great festivals

*Fr Kevin*

**Entrance Antiphon Cf. Ps 37: 22-23**

Forsake me not, O Lord, my God;  
be not far from me!

Make haste and come to my help,  
O Lord, my strong salvation!

**Collect**

Almighty and merciful God,  
by whose gift your faithful offer you  
right and praiseworthy service,  
grant, we pray, that we may hasten  
without stumbling to receive  
the things you have promised....

**First reading Deuteronomy 6:2-6**

Moses said to the people: 'If you fear the Lord your God all the days of your life and if you keep all his laws and commandments which I lay on you, you will have a long life, you and your son and your grandson. Listen then, Israel, keep and observe what will make you prosper and give you great increase, as the Lord the God of your fathers has promised you, giving you a land where milk and honey flow.' Listen, Israel: the Lord our God is the one Lord. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength. Let these words I urge on you today be written on your heart.'

**Responsorial Psalm 17:2-4,47,51**

*I love you, Lord, my strength.*

I love you, Lord, my strength,  
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.  
My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
The Lord is worthy of all praise,  
when I call I am saved from my foes.

Long life to the Lord, my rock!  
Praised be the God who saves me,  
He has given great victories to his king  
and shown his love for his anointed.

**Second reading Hebrews 7:23-28**

There used to be a great number of priests under the former covenant, because death put an end to each one of them; but this one, because he remains for ever, can never lose his priesthood. It follows, then, that his

power to save is utterly certain, since he is living for ever to intercede for all who come to God through him. To suit us, the ideal high priest would have to be holy, innocent and uncontaminated, beyond the influence of sinners, and raised up above the heavens; one who would not need to offer sacrifices every day, as the other high priests do for their own sins and then for those of the people, because he has done this once and for all by offering himself. The Law appoints high priests who are men subject to weakness; but the promise on oath, which came after the Law, appointed the Son who is made perfect for ever.

**Gospel Acclamation cf. Jn 6:63,68**

Alleluia, alleluia! Your words are spirit,  
Lord, and they are life; you have the message  
of eternal life. Alleluia!

**Gospel Mark 12:28-34**

One of the scribes came up to Jesus and put a question to him, 'Which is the first of all the commandments?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first: Listen, Israel, the Lord our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. The second is this: You must love your neighbour as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.' The scribe said to him, 'Well spoken, Master; what you have said is true: that he is one and there is no other. To love him with all your heart, with all your understanding and strength, and to love your neighbour as yourself, this is far more important than any holocaust or sacrifice.' Jesus, seeing how wisely he had spoken, said, 'You are not far from the kingdom of God.' And after that no one dared to question him any more.

**Prayer over the Offerings**

May these sacrificial offerings, O Lord,  
become for you a pure oblation,  
and for us a holy outpouring of your mercy.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon Cf. Ps 15: 11**

You will show me the path of life,  
the fullness of joy in your presence, O Lord.

### **Come and See**

Informal meetings for enquirers looking at whether the Catholic Faith is right for you, Thursday at the Presbytery OLSS 7.30.

### **Anniversaries**

Sean Kearnes, Willie O'Brien  
Gladys Bastians, David Wyar  
Alice Clarke, Margaret Hynes  
Eleanor & Willie Sweeney  
Winifred Kenny, Margo Breakwell  
Frank Morgan, Dennis Murphy  
Michael Sexton, Bernard Boylan,  
Lottie Murray



mornings\*. For this brief period the Sacramental preparation must take precedence. At OLSS Please obtain a form from Fr. Kevin or Elisabeth and return as soon as possible. Make sure that your child is registered. If we have sufficient numbers, a separate programme may run at St. Joseph's please speak to the sisters \* in the past this has been after Mass on Sunday.

### **Towards Advent Festival 2012**

Saturday November 24<sup>th</sup> at Westminster Cathedral Hall. Opening at 10.30 with Abp Vincent Nichols. Admission Free, everyone welcome. This festival of Catholic Life has become an annual event with various stalls articles, music and art reaching across the whole London Area.

### **Christmas Cards, Calendars, Christmas Candles and Gifts** **will be on sale next weekend.**

### **Baptism Preparation**

If you are seeking the baptism of a child at either church the next evening will be WEDNESDAY Nov 14<sup>th</sup> at 7.00pm in the parish room at OLSS. It requires one attendance for just an hour.

### **Day of Recollection**

#### **For Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion and Readers**

Saturday 17th November, Bishop Thomas Grant School, Streatham. Theme: *'The Word of Life and The Bread of Life'*. 10.30am until 4pm with Mass. Please add your name to the list on the noticeboard if you would like to attend.

### **Help wanted Greenwich Area**

If you live in Greenwich SE10 area and are interested in helping with light housework and shopping etc for a chronically ill but fully aware person, for 1 hour every day. Would suit a retired person who would like to help. Rates of pay discussed on interview.

Tel 0208 691 7075

### **Thankyou for Your Offertory**

OLSS £798 Cafod £114  
St J's TBC

### **Cabrini (Catholic) Children's Society**

#### **National Adoption Week 5-11 Nov**

The society is seeking to recruit adoptive families for children in need of stable, loving homes. If you are single or in a couple and feel you have something to offer please contact the society:

49 Russell Hill Road Purley CR82XB  
020 8668 2181 adoption@cabrini.org.uk

### **Violin Tuition**

Violin tuition - spaces available for private lessons. All ages and abilities welcome.

Contact: suzannah.quirke@gmail.com

### **Healthy Heart**

#### **A Catholic Theatre Production**

Ten Ten Theatre, the Catholic theatre company, will be performing their play "Healthy Heart" at the Leicester Square Theatre on Saturday 24 November at 4pm. Telling the story of the relationship between an 11-year-old girl and her Polish grandmother, it is funny and moving play about faith suitable for the whole family. For tickets, please visit the Ten Ten Theatre website: [www.tententheatre.co.uk](http://www.tententheatre.co.uk)

Tel theatre box office: 08448 733 433

### **First Confession and First Holy Communion Preparation**

For any child attending OLSS or St. J's who will be 8 years old next year. Preparation will be on Saturday mornings 11am to 12 noon beginning 12th January, until First Holy Communion on 7th July. It is not possible to accommodate individual children who have other activities on Saturday

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK 4<sup>th</sup>–11<sup>th</sup> November

3<sup>rd</sup> Vigil Mass 18.00 OLSS Int: Sean Kearns 1<sup>st</sup> - Audrey Todd 10<sup>th</sup> RIP  
 4<sup>th</sup> Thirty First Ord Sun Mass 9.00 OLSS Int: Sean Kearns & Audrey Todd Annivers' RIP  
 Welcome Fr David St J's Mass 10.00 St J's Int: Parish & People  
 Mass 11.00 OLSS Int: Parish & People – Coffee Morning Today  
 Special Mass Today at 3.00pm for the Fellowship of Disabled and Handicapped Catholics.  
 5<sup>th</sup> No Mass on Monday  
 6<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Mass 9.30 OLSS Int: Sr Aurea OP RIP (ZIM) Mass 19.00 St J's Int: Nellie Haughey RIP  
 7<sup>th</sup> Wednesday Mass 9.30 OLSS Int: Sr Carla OP RIP  
 8<sup>th</sup> Thursday Mass 9.30 OLSS Int: Mass 11.00 St J's Int: Dcd Ln' of Mary RIP  
 9<sup>th</sup> Friday Lateran Basilica Mass 9.30 OLSS Int: Mick Delaney RIP  
 10<sup>th</sup> Baptism at St J's Joseph Penston Vigil Mass 18.00 OLSS Int: Patricia McFadden RIP (5<sup>th</sup> Ann)  
 11<sup>th</sup> ThirtySecond Ord Sun Mass 9.00 OLSS Int: Patrick Revell RIP  
**REMEMBRANCE DAY** Mass 10.00 St J's Int: Parish & People  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Collection Abp's Diocesan Fund Mass 11.00 OLSS Bptm Selina Omotola Raji

### **Guy Fawkes and other stories...**

The story of Guy Fawkes leaves more questions than answers: 36 barrels of gunpowder was 25 times more powder than was needed (ref UK Institute of Physics). The explosion would have taken out the central part of London - hence our traditional firework displays. The government tightly controlled all the gunpowder in Britain, so how and why did Fawkes (who was an explosives expert) and his pals get hold of that much? Why in such troubled times would a bunch of Catholics be allowed to rent a house so close to the Houses of



Parliament or gain access to a cellar beneath? Why were those otherwise neglected cellars, coincidentally searched on that very night? Why, when Victorians excavated the surrounding site was there no evidence of a tunnel? Why did the soldier who shot Robert Catesby and Thomas Percy receive such a large pension as a reward?

These men would have been more valuable taken alive. Or as one modern writer suggests: *"If Guy Fawkes' case came before the Court of Appeal today, the... judges would surely... acquit him"*  
*R. Crampton, The Gunpowder Plot (1990)*

### **MASSES AND SERVICES**

<b>Sunday Masses:</b>	Saturday	6.00 pm	Vigil (first Mass of Sunday) Star of the Sea
	Sunday	9.00 am	Star of the Sea
		10.00am	St Joseph's
		11.00am	Star of the Sea

If you would like a particular Mass intention remembered, please put your offering in an envelope with the Name, Purpose, Preferred Dates and Church clearly marked. Please allow alternative dates and give plenty of notice especially at the time of festivals and in periods when there may be conflicting requests.

**Weekday Masses:** Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 9.30 am  
 Star of the Sea  
 Unless otherwise indicated, the Church is open from 8.30 for:  
 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament - Rosary at 9.10 and Mass at 9.30

St Joseph's Tuesday at 7.00 pm and Thursday at 11.00am  
**Confessions:** Saturday at 10.00am at Star of the Sea & Tuesday 6.30 pm St Joseph

Items for the Newsletter should be emailed: [kevin\\_robinson@lineone.net](mailto:kevin_robinson@lineone.net) Or send a note during the week.

The Presbytery 68 Crooms Hill London SE10 8HG Tel: 020 8858 0662

**Enquiries for Baptisms and Marriage *for either church* after 7.00 Mass on Tuesday Evening at St Joseph's, or phone to make an appointment.**

**Ursuline Convent:** Crooms Hill Tel: 020 8858 0779

**Dominican Convent** Hyde Vale Tel: 020 8692 3382

**St Joseph's House** Franciscan Sisters Tel: 020 8858 1845

**St Joseph's RC primary school va,** Tel: 020 8858 4182

Commerell Street London SE10 9AN Headteacher: Mrs Catherine Green

**St Ursula's Convent School** Tel: 020 8858 4613

Crooms Hill, Greenwich SE10 8HN Headteacher: Mrs Ciara Warnock

