

**A festival for March  
St. Joseph  
March 19th**

In the gospel of Matthew, Joseph is depicted as a good man, a working carpenter, who trusted in God. He received God's messenger who shared with him God's will for him and for Mary, to whom he was engaged to be married. Luke's gospel describes how Joseph took the new-born child as if he were his own. He was with Mary when, on the fortieth day after the birth, Jesus was presented in the Temple, 'where every first-born male is designated as holy to the Lord'. The adoption of Jesus by Joseph also established Jesus in the descent of David, to accord with the prophecy that Israel's deliverer would be of the House and lineage of David.

Mass will be celebrated on his day, Monday  
March 19th, at 10am

God our Father,  
who from the family of your servant David  
raised up Joseph the carpenter  
to be the guardian of your incarnate Son  
and husband of the Blessed Virgin Mary:  
give us grace to follow him  
in faithful obedience to your commands;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**St. Augustine of Canterbury,  
Highgate**



**CHURCH NEWS**

**March 2018**

## The Vicar's Letter

Dear friends,

'How long, O Lord, how long?' begins Psalm 13.

It continues:

'Will you forget me forever?

How long will you hide your face from me?'

'How long' is something I found myself asking when, at time of writing, two young men have been stabbed to death just a short bus ride away from this parish.

'How long' must there be bereaved families?

'How long' must situations exist where stabbings are seen by some as the way to satisfy disputes or respond to perceived slights?

'How long, O Lord, how long?'

As Holy Week is approaching, I could say something about Jesus's way of the cross making it clear that new life can only be reached through what seems like a pointless act of violence. but it seems inadequate.

So as Holy Week approaches, I am urging everyone to make sure that Good Friday does not pass them by. It is a day when all Christians should if at all possible be in church somewhere. If not, then to take some time to recall that Jesus died for them, and for the world. Christians must not treat Good Friday as just another public holiday! This year, I will come to the foot of the cross with those in mind who, at a young age, find themselves caught up in violence. All I can do is, in silence, bring them to that cross, and ask, 'How long?' in the hope that those working with them will help to move them forwards to something better: new life in some form. There are some good news stories—often unreported—and I pray for more.

With my best wishes and prayers for the rest of Lent, and for Holy Week.

Fr. Peter

## Church contacts

### VICAR

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*The following may be contacted through the church  
phone number and email address:*

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Emma Cardoso	Sunday School
Sergio Cardoso	Treasurer
Mary Maclean	Electoral Roll
John Morley	PCC Secretary
Toby Nangle	Gift Aid
Carol Noble	Rotas
Natalie Sodeau	Safeguarding
Richard Winder	Servers

**Enquiries with regard to baptism, weddings  
and banns of marriage should be made to**

**Fr. Peter**

## Looking ahead

### April

1 Easter Day  
29 Annual Church Meeting

### May

10 Ascension Day Mass at 10am  
13 Sunday of the Ascension  
20 Pentecost  
27 Trinity Sunday

### June

3 Corpus Christi  
Parish Mass, Procession of the Blessed Sacrament  
and Benediction at 10am

## The Vicar's Notices

### LENT

Lent continues in March. There will be Stations of the Cross on Saturdays in Lent at 11.15am and Evening Prayer and Benediction on Sundays at 6pm. The Lent course will be on four Monday evenings downstairs in church at 8pm preceded by a light supper at 7.15pm, on March 5, 12, 19. We will be looking at parables that Jesus told.

If anyone would like to make their Confession, or would like to consider it, please speak to me.

### HOLY WEEK

This great week begins on Sunday March 25th, Palm Sunday. There are lots of services—full details on page 4 and on the church website.

### ANNUAL CHURCH MEETING

The meeting is after the Parish Mass on Sunday April 29th. It will elect the Churchwardens and members of the Parochial Church Council. Also, it will receive reports on different aspects of church life including the 2017 church accounts.

## Calendar for March 2018

- 3 Stations of the Cross at 11.15am and  
Mass at 12 noon
- 4 LENT 3  
Parish Mass at 10am  
Evening Prayer and Benediction at 6pm
- 5 Lent group downstairs in church at 8pm  
Light supper from 7.15pm
- 7 Mass at 10am
- 10 Stations of the Cross at 11.15am and  
Mass at 12 noon
- 11 LENT 4/MOTHERING SUNDAY  
Parish Mass at 10am  
Evening Prayer and Benediction at 6pm
- 12 Lent group downstairs in church at 8pm  
Light supper from 7.15pm
- 14 Mass at 10am
- 17 Stations of the Cross at 11.15am and  
Mass at 12 noon
- 18 LENT 5  
Parish Mass at 10am  
*Preacher: The Venerable Nick Mercer*  
Evening Prayer and Benediction at 6pm
- 19 Mass for St. Joseph's Day at 10am
- 21 Mass at 10am
- 24 Stations of the Cross at 11.15am and  
Mass at 12 noon
- 25 PALM SUNDAY  
Procession and Parish Mass at 10am  
Evening Prayer and Benediction at 6pm
- 26 Monday in Holy Week Mass at 10am
- 27 Tuesday in Holy Week Mass at 7.30pm

- 29 Maundy Thursday Liturgy of the Lord's  
Supper at 8pm and Watch until midnight
- 30 Good Friday  
Walk of Witness from All Saints', Highgate  
at 9.30am  
Stations of the Cross at 1pm  
Good Friday Liturgy at 2pm
- 31 Holy Saturday Easter Vigil at 8pm

## Bible readings for the Parish Mass

- 4 LENT 3  
Exodus 20.1-17; 1 Corinthians 1.18-25;  
John 12.13-22
- 11 LENT 4/MOTHERING SUNDAY  
Colossians 3.12-17; John 19.25-27
- 18 LENT 5  
Jeremiah 31.31-34; Hebrews 5.5-10;  
John 12.20-33
- 25 PALM SUNDAY  
Isaiah 50.4-9a; Philippians 2.5-11;  
Mark 15.1-39