

2 December 2018  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

Sundays Year C – Weekdays Year 1 – Psalter Week 1



St Joseph's Parish, Diocese of Northampton

Order of Discalced Carmelites (OCD)

St Joseph's Priory, Austenwood Common, Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire SL9 8RY

Fr Michael Spain OCD (Prior & Parish Priest), Fr Robert Davies OCD, Fr Maurice Flynn OCD, Fr Matt Blake OCD

02 December	First Sunday of Advent
03 December	St Francis Xavier – memorial
05 December	St Birinus, Bishop – memorial
07 December	St Ambrose, Bishop & Doctor – memorial
08 December	Immaculate Conception of BVM - solemnity

**RITE OF ACCEPTANCE/WELCOME:** Today at the 9am Mass, the Church welcomes **Yue Mei Mellon** who is seeking Baptism and **Marian Fitzpatrick** who desires to join the Catholic Church. Please pray for them both as they respond to God's call to follow the way of Christ on their journey of faith.

**THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION** last weekend amounted to **£2,568**. Your continued support is appreciated.

**VIGIL OF THE FEAST OF THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION** on 7 December: Please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this country. Your prayer and fasting is urgently needed, and it really does save lives. [www.GoodCounselNetwork.com](http://www.GoodCounselNetwork.com)

The **CLOSING MASS FOR THE YEAR OF PRAYER AND VOCATION** takes place on Saturday 8 December at 11:30am in the Cathedral. Bishop Peter will be joined by the Apostolic Nuncio, Archbishop Edward Adams, who will preside and preach at the Mass. He invites clergy and laity from across the Diocese to join him for this special occasion. Three seats are available in Fr Michael's car.

**MASS WITH THE SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING** will take place on Saturday 15 December at 3:30pm in St Joseph's Church. Fr Michael will celebrate Mass for the Third Sunday of Advent and there will be anointing with the oil of the sick and the opportunity for prayer. All of us need healing be it in mind, body or spirit so everyone is welcome to attend. The SVP invites you for tea and cake after the service in the First Committee Room.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Please pray for the sick of our parish and for those who have asked for our prayers.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR ADORATION** which takes place on Wednesdays/Thursdays in the Oratory. **Can you volunteer one hour of your time once a week? Or even once a fortnight?** For more information please contact Joan Barham at the Parish Office.

## DIOCESAN YEAR OF PRAYER AND VOCATION

*As we come to the end of the Year of Prayer and Vocation we thank God for all who have shared in so many ways during the year. May this commitment continue as part of our daily life as Christians.*

The saint to accompany us this month is **Our Lady**. She is the co-patron with Thomas Becket of our Diocese. It was her hidden life of prayer that graced her with the strength to say "yes" when the big question was asked.

We are asked this month to regularly set aside a little time for personal prayer and listening to God's call in our everyday lives. It may lead to discerning a radical new way of life but it starts in small ways, and at any age. Try to find a regular time for personal prayer, in your home, on the commute or even walking the dog.

## FINAL CALL FOR YOUTH WALK

**London '18** which takes place next Saturday, 8 December from 3:30pm until 10pm. If you're aged 13-18 you are invited to join Fr Michael and young people from the Pastoral Area for a "London by Night" walk. Discover London as you've never seen it, enjoy time with friends, have dinner on the go, see the Christmas Lights and many other surprises...finishing with a visit to NightFever at St Patrick's Church. This event is totally FREE. Limited availability - book via the parish website.



**CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** Richard Cottle and the Holy Name Choir, joined by some of their singing friends from St Joseph's, will present a Christmas Concert on **Sunday, 9 December** at 7pm in the Most Holy Name Church in Denham. You are invited to join them as they welcome in the festive period with a lovely evening of seasonal music and carols.

**CAMEROON - Bamenda Kidnapping:** You may have heard the recent news that 79 children and teachers were kidnapped from their school in Bamenda, with the children being returned, but not the teachers. This is the neighbouring diocese to Kumbo in the Cameroon. The violence and war on the streets continues and innocent people are suffering. Life is extremely difficult with insecurity throughout the area and people whom we know and care for there are in great danger. Please continue to keep them in your prayers during these extremely worrying and perilous times.



Help those less fortunate than ourselves this Christmas. Take a gift tag from our Giving Tree on the altar, buy and wrap a present and return it when you come to Mass next Sunday.

An EMAIL "ADVENT 2018 @ ST JOSEPH'S" was sent to all parishioners this week. If you are not online or we don't have your email address, you can pick up a paper copy from the Parish Office. This is also an opportunity to provide an email address or register with the parish. Get in touch via [admin@stjosephs.org.uk](mailto:admin@stjosephs.org.uk).

**CHRISTMAS CARDS, CALENDARS and CATHOLIC DIARIES** are now on sale from the Repository at very reasonable prices.



**THANK YOU:** This year's supply of apple juice sold out in record time. Thank you to everyone who bought some, it raised **£173.75** for the parish.

**CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE** Christmas Raffle in aid of the London Run will be held this Sunday 2 December following the 9am and 11am Masses. Please support this raffle, good prizes to be won.



**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT:** Thanks to you and your fellow supporters our evening was very successful. We are delighted to report that we smashed our target which means we can guarantee this year's Slough Winter Shelter once again. This could not have been done so successfully without your help. The homeless and the Trustees are extremely grateful.

**CHRISTMAS LONDON & SLOUGH RUN:** We will be taking Christmas bags of food with a gift to street homeless on **Monday 17 December**. Please see flyer attached for the contents of the bags. Your donations are very much appreciated.

**LONDON AND SLOUGH RUN FOR THE HOMELESS:** Please bring your sandwiches, boiled eggs, crisps, drinks, fruit, biscuits, etc. to the Parish Centre by 3:30pm on Monday. Many thanks for your continued support.



The **November 200 Club** was drawn by the Children's Liturgists whilst they were making their Advent Wreaths and the lucky winners are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Mary E Clancy
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Kate Turner
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Holy Cross Sisters
- 4<sup>th</sup> Richard Cottle

This was the last draw in the current scheme. Enrolment details/application forms for next year will be available mid-January. Thank you to everyone who has supported the club and congratulations to all our lucky winners.

There will be a sale of **TRAIDCRAFT** goods after the 9am and 11am Masses next Sunday.

**PRIORY SIDE PARKING:** Please be reminded that the driveway leading up to the Priory must be kept clear at all times for emergency access.

### ADVENT THOUGHTS

*"Be vigilant at all times and pray..."*

#### PRAY

Lord, you call us to be watchful because we do not know what tomorrow may bring. We pray that we may be ready to answer your call without delay and help one another along the way. Amen

#### REFLECT

How do you care for God's creation – the world in which we live and work – in your daily life?

#### ACT

This week, make a list of ways that you notice God's goodness through creation.

### Sunday Mass Times

St Joseph's, Chalfont St Peter: Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:30pm, Sunday at 7:45am, 9am, 11am and 5:30pm  
 Holy Name, Denham: Sunday Mass at 9:30am  
 Bridgettine Convent, Iver Heath: Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:30pm, Sunday at 9am

All the following take place at St Joseph's, Chalfont St Peter

**Weekday Mass:** Monday to Friday at 7am and 9am, Saturday and Bank Holidays at 10am

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturday from 10:30 – 11am and 4:45 – 5:15pm

**Rosary:** Tuesday and Friday at 7:30pm in the Oratory (enter via Sacristy)

**Eucharistic Adoration:** Wednesday and Thursday from 10am until 9pm in the Oratory

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