

13 January 2019

The Baptism of the Lord

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

17 January St Anthony, Abbot - Memorial

THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION last weekend amounted to **£2,195**. Your continued support is appreciated.

BELONGING MASS: Today children from our parish and school come together to begin their First Holy Communion preparation. They recall that they became part of God's family through their Baptism. Please keep the children and their families in your prayers as they journey to the Eucharist.

The **WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY** from **18-25 January** has the theme "*Justice, and only justice, you shall pursue*" (Deuteronomy 16:18-20). In a world marked by diversity in language and culture, we express our Christian faith in diverse ways. During this week we are called to celebrate this diversity and be faithful to Christ's call for the unity of his Church. You are asked to join with brothers and sisters of various churches in prayer.

PRAYER SERVICE FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY: Bishop Peter Doyle will lead an evening of prayer at the Bridgettine Convent on **Friday 25 January** at 6pm. Ecumenism is the main Charism of the Bridgettine Order and the Sisters invite you to join them for this service, followed by refreshments, as we mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. All are most welcome.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY sessions are held every Sunday during term time at the 9am Mass. There are five different age groups covering pre-schoolers to teens which all children and young people are invited to join in. We go out after the welcome and return after the bidding prayers. Each group covers the gospel of the day in an age appropriate way. The younger groups take part in a mix of activities – colouring, puzzles, songs, etc to bring the story to life, whilst the older groups are helped to think about the real meaning of the reading and how they can relate it to their lives. We look forward to welcoming everyone when we resume next week after our Christmas break.

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

EXPLORE LIFE, FAITH and MEANING: Do you know anyone who has questions about the Christian faith or is searching for meaning in their life? Bring them along to

Alpha – a series of sessions exploring these questions in a relaxed environment, free of charge. Each session includes a main talk, some time to say what you think, dessert and drinks. Come and see what it is like by joining us for an introductory meal at The Breadhouse on 21 January at 7:30pm. Sessions begin on Monday, 28 January from 7:45pm to 9:30pm. To reserve a place please contact the Parish Office.



THE GOSPEL OF LUKE : A Four Week Course at St Joseph's Church Led by Fr Matt Blake OCD: This short course is open to anyone who attends Sunday Mass and is ideal for those involved in the Liturgy (readers, children's liturgists, music leaders, etc). The aim is to enable participants to deepen their understanding of the context, meaning, significance and message in Luke's Gospel. By helping us to read and thereby enter more deeply into this gospel, our experience of the Liturgy will be enriched and we will see how meaningful it is for our lives today. The four sessions will run on Wednesday evenings and Thursday mornings commencing on **Wednesday 16 January at 7:45pm or Thursday 17 January from 9:30am. Please bring your bible with you to each session.** Pick up a flier from the Church porch. The course is free but contact the Parish Office on 01753 886581 to sign up.

'Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the scriptures?'
(Luke 24:32)

JUSTICE AND PEACE: Next meeting is on Thursday 17 January at 7:30pm at Holy Cross Convent.

KEEP CHURCH DOORS CLOSED:

Now that the cold weather is upon us, please help us keep the building warm by closing the door behind you when you enter or leave the Church. Thank you.



NO FOOD OR STICKY DRINKS IN CHURCH: Help us to keep our church clean and looking beautiful. Please do not take food or sticky drinks into the church. Thank you.

YOUTH GROUP will be meeting on Sunday 20 January from 6:30pm until 8pm in the Parish Hall.

The **CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE** monthly meeting is being held on Wednesday 16 January at 2pm in the First Committee Room. We will be voting for the next National President, so all members attend please.

The **LONDON & 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. Please leave your donations in the metal box provided as this protects them from the elements; do not leave goods outside the Parish Centre. Many thanks for your continued support.

The **ST JOSEPH'S 200 CLUB 2019** is now open to new members so please do join for a chance to win one of four prizes each month. The maximum 200 members would result in a monthly prize fund of £1,000 to be paid out to four lucky winners as proceeds are split 50% prize fund: 50% contribution to parish funds.



For further information please see the Parish website, leaflets which are available from the back of the Church, or email 200club@stjosephs.org.uk.

Closing date is 31 January, with the first of 12 draws taking place in February. Please consider joining our club, your support is very much appreciated.

WANT TO KNOW MORE ABOUT YOUR CATHOLIC FAITH? Join us for a basic introduction to the Catholic Faith in four parts: God – The Church – The Moral Life – Prayer. Cost is £25 per person per day, which includes a full lunch (£10 for the unwaged). No qualifications needed – just interest, good will and a sense of humour! The launch and part one takes place on 31 January 10am-3pm at the NORES Centre, Holy Ghost Parish, Luton LU4 8JD. To book contact admin@nores.org.uk or phone Jackie on 01582 723312.

AUDITOR WANTED: St Joseph's School is looking for a volunteer to audit its school fund. It is a small, single bank account which has to be audited by a qualified auditor or accountant. If you can help, please contact the school office on 01753 887743 or office@st-josephsprimary.bucks.sch.uk.

The **ANNUAL SHOC QUIZ** is being held on **Saturday 9 February** in Stoke Poges. Several parish families will be there and it would be great to see some new faces. Light supper included, tickets £12. Please contact: alanmadgeslough@aol.com and see the parish website Diary Dates for the flyer. Donations of modest raffle prizes for the SHOC Quiz would be very welcome. Please leave with the Parish Office.



NYMO EVENTS IN 2019: The Northampton Youth Ministry Office (NYMO) offer many opportunities for young people aged 11-18, as well as young adults up to 30 years old. One of the upcoming events:

➤ **LUX Residential Weekend:** 1 – 3 February in Northampton. A mix of fun, games and teaching. Very popular, so book early. Please see the website www.nymo.org.

APF MILL HILL MISSION: Thanks to the supporters of the Mission within the Parish, the Red Box Mission boxes have yielded the following revenue in 2018:

St Joseph's collections	£4,352.98
Converted foreign currency	£164.67
Total	£4,517.65
Bridgettine Convent collections	£86.13

UPDATE – UNPROVOKED ATTACK ON FAMILY: Last year, a family from our parish was attacked in a Gerrards Cross by three local youths and a number of parishioners kindly signed a petition in support of more police presence and collaboration and operational CCTV to help prevent further attacks. An incredible 1,500 local people signed the petition and as a result the family met with Dominic Grieve who followed up with Thames Valley Police. The family and friends are continuing to work with the police and local councils around greater collaboration between South Bucks and Chiltern PCSOs and operational CCTV. All three defendants in this case have been charged. The most violent defendant pleaded guilty and will be sentenced at the end of January in conjunction with a number of other offences. The other two will appear in court in February. We will update you on any further progress and would like to thank you once again for all your support.

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
Website: www.stjosephs.org.uk

Telephone: **01753 886581**
Registered Charity Number 234091

Email: office@stjosephs.org.uk