



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

10 March 2019

First Sunday of Lent

Sundays Year C – Weekdays Year 1 – Psalter Week 1

THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION last weekend amounted to **£2,703** Your continued support is appreciated.

CAFOD'S FAMILY FAST DAY this Lent



is an opportunity to support our brothers and sisters around the world. Drought, floods and storms are having a devastating impact on our global family. Like Mahinur from Bangladesh. She makes a living from fishing but a drought last year killed all the fish and she's struggling to support her disabled husband and son. On **Friday 15 March**, can you eat a simple meal in solidarity and give what you save to help people like Mahinur? Through CAFOD's global church network – one of the largest aid networks in the world – your support can reach to the ends of the earth. **Next weekend there will be an appeal and second collection at all Masses. Please use the Family Fast Day Envelope attached to the newsletter this week and give what you can next week.**

SOUP LUNCH: Join us this coming **Friday 15 March** from 12 noon until 2pm in the Parish Centre for our Lenten Soup Lunch. Enjoy a selection of delicious home-made soups in a very welcoming and pleasant atmosphere. All donations in aid of CAFOD.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Anne Lipscomb** who died recently. The funeral will take place on Wednesday 13 March at 12 noon at St Joseph's Church. We extend our deepest sympathy to all her family and friends.

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

THANK YOU to everyone who came along to assemble the census mailing. Cracking job – much appreciated!



FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT runs until Sunday 10 March.

Calling all chocolate fans! Join the campaign to ensure that cocoa farmers are paid fairly for their work. £1.86 is the amount a cocoa farmer in West Africa needs to earn each day to achieve a living income. This means enough money to live a simple life, paying for essentials such as clothing, medicine and school. Currently, a typical farmer earns around 74p a day, so almost all live in poverty. For the women the situation is even worse. They may plant and harvest on the farm, look after children, carry water, collect wood, cook and clean for the family, and transport the cocoa beans to market but often with fewer rights than men. This Fairtrade Fortnight, support cocoa farmers – buy Fairtrade chocolate and cocoa and encourage others to do the same. **#SheDeserves**

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD

Pope Francis calls us to link our Lenten reconciliation each year with time spent in adoration of the Blessed Sacrament along with churches around the world in offering **24 Hours for the Lord**. The theme chosen for this year is *"Compassion"*.

'As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him'. Psalm 103:13

St Joseph's Church will have adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 5:30pm Friday 29 March to 5:30pm Saturday 30 March and individual confessions will be offered on Friday evening 7-9pm; Saturday morning 10:30-11:30am and Saturday afternoon 4:15pm-5:15pm.

This is the form our Lenten Celebration of Reconciliation will take this year.

Please sign up to cover an hour on the rota which can be found at the back of the Church (three names per hour). Everyone is welcome to visit the Blessed Sacrament at any time during the day, even if you are unable to commit to an hour on the rota.

RECONCILIATION TALKS – Find forgiveness, peace and freedom in the Sacrament of

Reconciliation: Fr Matt Blake will present two sessions to help us approach this sacrament of reconciliation and healing with renewed confidence:

Session 1: Wednesday 13 March 7:45pm or Thursday 14 March 9:30am

Session 2: Wednesday 20 March 7:45pm or Thursday 21 March 9:30am

Talks take place in the First Committee Room. Please sign up at the Parish Office on 01753 886581.

The **CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE** invites you to join them next Saturday **16 March** for a Lenten Day of Recollection. It begins with Mass at 10am, followed by a Marian themed talk by Fr Matt Blake in the First Committee Room, concluding with Mary's Way of the Cross.

MARY'S WAY OF THE CROSS: Follow Mary as she walks the road to Calvary: "*I knew it had to be, so I walked on silently.*" Join the CWL next Saturday 16 March at 2pm in St Joseph's Church for this intimate journey of faith, reflecting on the suffering of Jesus as seen through the eyes of His Mother.

FILMS ABOUT ST JOSEPH: We will be showing "*The Trusted Man*", "*Exile*" and "*The Weight of a Man*" in the First Committee Room at 10am on **Tuesday 19 March**. These short films are about St Joseph and his encounter with an angel at different points in his life as he does the best he can to carry out the mission assigned to him by God.



FROM THE SVP for your clothing donations. If you have any lightweight (spring/summer) clothing for a tall, slim boy (age 10-11 or 10-12), also shoes size 2 If you can help, please contact the Parish Office.

JOB VACANCY - Full Time Youth Ministry Coordinator – NYMO to join our youth ministry office (NYMO). For full details of the role, job profile and an application form, please call 01604 714840 or visit www.northamptondiocese.org/vacancies

PLANT A POT FOR PARISH DAY: Calling all green-fingered parishioners – we need your help! Spring is in the air and many of us are turning our thoughts to flowers and plants for our homes and gardens. Would you please consider nurturing some seeds or plant plugs over the coming months and bring them along to **St Joseph's Parish Fête on Saturday 13 July** for our popular plant stall.



WAITROSE GREEN TOKENS: Shoppers at Waitrose in Gerrards Cross can support **The London and Slough Run** by popping their green tokens into their section of the 'Community Matters' box.

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

BISHOP PETER'S PASTORAL LETTER FOR LENT which was read at Masses last weekend is now available on the website.

PARISH CENSUS 2019: All registered parishioners should receive a yellow census form in the post this week. Please complete and return to the Parish Office as soon as possible. If you do not receive a letter and wish to register, please go to the parish website. Any questions? Email admin@stjosephs.org.uk.

NORTHAMPTON DIOCESE will be hosting a weekend for those men considering the Vocation to the Priesthood. This will be held at the Cathedral from **Friday 22 March until Sunday 24 March**. If you are interested, please contact the Cathedral Parish Office on 01604714556 and speak to Fr Mark Flood.



GIFT AID enables the Parish to increase your donations under the government's Gift Aid scheme. The government tops up your offering by 25p for every £1 at no extra cost to you, the giver. Parishioners who wish to join the scheme may do so by completing a Gift Aid declaration form which is available from the website or Parish Office.

DISRUPTION TO CAR PARK OVER COMING WEEKS: Remedial works must be undertaken to the church roof as a matter of urgency. Contractors are now on site to effect these essential repairs. Scaffolding has been erected on both sides of the church to provide access to the roof. It is anticipated that these works will be completed before Easter. Every effort is being made to minimise disruption to the car park. Thank you for your patience and co-operation.

The 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. 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.

APF MILL HILL MISSION supporters are asked to pick up your copy of Mission Today from the back of the Church.

Email: office@stjosephs.org.uk