



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 John Williamson OCD, Fr Matt Blake OCD

5 January 2020

## THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD

Sundays Year A – Weekdays Year 2 – Psalter Week 2



Fathers Michael, Bob, Maurice, John and Matt would like to express their grateful thanks to parishioners for their Christmas cards, gifts and offerings as well as their help, support and prayer throughout the past year.

Thanks also to everyone involved in organising, ministering and serving at this year's Christmas liturgies, as well as those who made our churches look so beautiful – your time and effort is much appreciated.

### WELCOME TO FR JOHN

**WILLIAMSON:** Fr John took up his ministry here the weekend before Christmas. He was posted at St Joseph's in the early years of his priesthood and has remained a relatively familiar figure over the years, supplying for us when help was needed. He is looking forward to his new appointment.

**THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION** last weekend amounted to **£1,400**. The collection for the weekend 21/22 December amounted to **£2,297**. Your continued support is appreciated.

**PRAYING THE ROSARY** will resume this coming Tuesday 7 January.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** will start again on Wednesday 8/Thursday 9 January.

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

**SUNDAY OF THE WORD - 26 JANUARY 2020:** "Devoting a specific Sunday of the liturgical year to the Word of God can enable the Church to experience anew how the risen Lord opens up for us the treasury of His Word and enables us to proclaim its unfathomable riches before the world." (Pope Francis *Aperuit illis* 2)

Christ Jesus is knocking at our door in the words of sacred scripture. If we hear His voice and open the doors of our minds and hearts, then He will enter our lives and remain ever with us. (Pope Francis *Aperuit illis* 8).

### THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW:

Fr Matt Blake will be presenting a four session course to enable people to deepen their understanding of the context, meaning, significance and message in this book of the scriptures written by St Matthew. In this Year of the Word, we are each encouraged to listen afresh to the Word of God so we can become more open to the God who speaks. The sessions will be running Wednesday evenings at 7:45pm or Thursday mornings at 9:30am January 15/16; 22/23; 29/30 February 5/6. The course is free but donations are welcome. Flyers are available at the back of the church.

### CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR

**MESSAGES:** If you missed Fr Michael's Christmas message or the Carmelite Community's New

Year message, these are now available to read from the website under Parish Newsletter.



### PRAYER FOR THE YEAR OF THE WORD

Living God,  
you walk alongside us  
and speak to us throughout the Scriptures.  
Your Son, Jesus Christ, listens to our hopes and fears  
and shows us how to live for one another.  
Send us the Holy Spirit to open our hearts and minds  
so that we may be your witnesses throughout the world.  
Amen

V. Your word is our path and your truth is our light.

R. This day and every day.

Our Lady of the Annunciation  
Pray for us

St Matthew  
Pray for us

St Jerome  
Pray for us

**BISHOP PETER'S PASTORAL LETTER FOR THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY** which was read at all Masses last weekend is now available on the website.

The parish is now providing a **LIVE STREAMING** service. This enables those not able to attend Mass in person to watch and listen to what is happening during Services in St Joseph's Church. All Sunday Masses, Saturday morning 10am Mass and weekday 9am morning Mass are broadcast. The live stream can be accessed via the parish website.

**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.

The **LONDON & SLOUGH RUN FOR THE HOMELESS RESUMES** this **MONDAY 6 JANUARY**. 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.

**PLEASE NOTE WE DO NOT REQUIRE ANY CLOTHING AT PRESENT.**



**RECYCLE OLD CRISP PACKETS FOR HOMELESS:** An artisan in Hastings has come up with an inventive way to help the homeless – creating sleeping bags and liners from old crisp packets. The crisp packets are fused together using an iron to form a sheet of plastic. It takes 150 empty bags to create one sleeping bag where the foil packets work as insulation. If you would like to support this imaginative project and cut down on landfill, please bundle up your empty, clean crisp packets and bring them to the Parish Office.

**TEA IN THE POT** our popular cafe for parents, carers and little ones, re-opens this coming Wednesday 8 January from 8:30am in the Parish Centre.

**THE ST JOSEPH'S 200 CLUB 2020** is now open so please do join or renew your current membership for 2020 by 31 January!

Each member is entered into 12 draws held monthly for the next year, with a chance to win one of four prizes each month. The maximum 200 members means a prize fund of £1,000 for each prize draw, as 50% of the proceeds are paid out to winners each month with the remaining 50% providing a valuable contribution to parish funds. The prize fund was £830 for each of the last six months but will increase as membership increases. This year we have added two new "Bonus Prizes" of £100 each, so there is a total of 50 prizes to be won by a maximum of 200 members in this next year.

St Joseph's 200 Club is an important fundraiser for the church and your support is much appreciated. Full details will be available from leaflets at the back of the Church, from the parish office and the website, or simply email [200club@stjosephs.org.uk](mailto:200club@stjosephs.org.uk) to join online or if any queries.

Please pick up the January edition of **THE VINE** from the Church porch.



**NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION - Make a difference through CAFOD:** Try something that is calorie-free and life giving. We really need people

who are interested to go into our Catholic schools and inspire students to act on their sense of justice.

You don't have to be a teacher to do this role, only a passion for CAFOD's work and an ability to communicate well with children and young people. If you are good at motivating others, we have the ideal role for you - inspiring other volunteers in nearby parishes.

Also, we would love to share more of the great acts of love carried out by our parishes and schools via media. So if you are able to help promote our work in this way, we would love to hear from you. All necessary training, travel expenses and resources will be provided.

To get in touch email [northampton@cafod.org.uk](mailto:northampton@cafod.org.uk) or 01494 863 777.

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### 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](http://www.stjosephs.org.uk)

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