

**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

26 February Ash Wednesday

ASH WEDNESDAY, 26 February is the start of Lent. It is a day of fasting and abstinence. Mass with distribution of ashes at 7am in the Oratory as well as at 9am and 7:30pm in St Joseph's Church.

**THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION** last weekend amounted to **£1,790.** Your continued support is appreciated.

The SECOND COLLECTION for the Comboni Missionaries amounted to  $\pounds1,191.90$ .

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Frank Duffy** who died recently. The funeral will take place at 1pm on Monday 24 February at St Joseph's Church. We extend our sympathy to all his family and friends.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Since early times, on Wednesdays, Catholics have made a special devotion to St Joseph and it has also been a day of fasting in remembrance of the Betrayal of Christ. This year after the 9am Mass every Wednesday in Lent there will be Stations of the Cross.

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

DIOCESAN MULTI ACADEMY TRUSTS: Bishop Peter welcomes new Multi Academy Trusts - 1 February sees the formation of two new Multi Academy Trusts in the diocese. Our Lady Immaculate Catholic Academies Trust (OLICAT) will encompass schools in Bedford, Northampton town and Northants whilst St Thomas Catholic Academies Trust (STCAT) will cover Luton, Central Bedfordshire and Slough. Around half of our schools are currently members of these new MATs and it remains the Bishops wish that all schools will join in time. For more information about your local Catholic school and the new MATs check the NORES website or contact us on <u>admin@nores.org.uk</u>.

**PANCAKE MORNING:** The St Vincent de Paul invites you to join them on Shrove Tuesday **25 February**, for a pancake morning. Come along to the Parish Centre from 9:45am onwards and enjoy freshly prepared pancakes. All are most welcome.

#### REDEDICATION OF ENGLAND AS THE DOWRY OF

**MARY:** All Cathedrals in the country will celebrate this rededication on 29 March. There is an invitation from The Dowry of Mary in Walsingham for each person to also make a personal consecration to Our Lady, call the True Devotion, and the preparation started on 21 February and will end on 25 March, the Feast of the Annunciation. Follow this personal retreat online each day (approx. 10 minutes) with Fr Adrian Farrelly 33 Days to Morning Glory. Please pick up a booklet from the Church porch or visit <u>www.ewtnireland.com/33days/</u>.

**15-18 YEARS OLD...why not do something different this Lent?** Discover "CHRISTUS VIVIT" – a letter written by Pope Francis addressed to all young people. He has a message for you, "Christ is alive and he wants you to be alive." Come and join us for five Sunday evenings in Lent, starting on 1 March from 6:30pm to 8pm in the First Committee Room. Food included! Please let us know if you're interested by sending an email to youth@stjosephs.org.uk.

**WORLD BOOK DAY:** Children from Pre-School to Year 6 are invited to join us on World Book Day, Thursday 5 March, as we celebrate the bestselling book of all time – The Bible. Come along to the Parish Centre after school from 3:15pm onwards where we will explore the characters, stories and messages in the Bible for different age groups. Snacks provided for children and refreshments for parents/carers.

WOMEN'S WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: This global ecumenical movement, led by Christian women, welcomes you to join them in prayer for peace and justice. The 2020 Prayer Service, "Rise! Take Your Mat and Walk", has been written by the women of Zimbabwe, who need our support as they seek love, peace and reconciliation within their country. We celebrate with local churches on Friday 6 March at 10:30am in St James, Fulmer.

**SOUP LUNCH:** Come and join us for delicious homemade soup on Friday 6 March to mark the CAFOD Lent Fast Day. Lunch will be served from 12 noon until 2pm in the Parish Centre. All donations in aid of CAFOD.

The JUSTICE & PEACE MEETING scheduled for Thursday 27 February has been deferred to Thursday 5 March. It will take place at 7:30pm in Holy Cross Convent.

# **FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT** 24 February - 8 March 2020

During FAIRTRADE FORTNIGHT thousands of individuals, companies and groups across the UK come together to celebrate the people who grow our food; people who live in some of the poorest countries in the world and who are often exploited and badly paid. This year we continue to focus on the people – in particular the women – who grow the cocoa in the chocolate we love so much. Help make a difference - buy Fairtrade and encourage others to do the same. **#FairtradeFortnight** 

St Joseph's Parish has been a Fairtrade Parish since 2012. We support Fairtrade in our parish by using Fairtrade products, most noticeably tea, coffee and sugar when serving refreshments after Mass.

#### SALE OF TRAIDCRAFT GOODS NEXT SUNDAY

**1 MARCH** after 9am and 11am Masses – please show your support.

**GIFT AIDERS:** Please collect your boxes of envelopes for the next twelve months from the back of the Church. Many thanks for your continued support of this scheme. 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.

**PLANT A POT:** Calling all green-fingered parishioners – we need your help! Spring is approaching 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 11 July for our popular plant stall.

An EMAIL "LENT 2020 at ST JOSEPH'S" was sent to all parishioners this week. If you are not on email or would like a copy for someone who is housebound, please collect one from your Mass Representative. Paper copies also available from the Parish Office. If you are online and didn't receive this message then it means we don't have your email address or the details we have are incorrect. Please get in touch via admin@stjosephs.org.uk.

## 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.

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



**ENTERTAINMENT NIGHT:** Richard Cottle will provide the music and guest singers the song at our event in celebration of the British Isles on Saturday 14 March. All are welcome to join us for a two course supper and a relaxed evening's entertainment. Doors open at 7pm. Tickets priced at £15 per person (£10 for under 15's) are now available and will be on sale after all Masses next weekend. Admission includes food, entertainment, a free raffle and spot prizes. Cash Bar. Bookings and payment to be made by Monday 9 March for catering purposes.

### FATHER MICHAEL'S COAST TO COAST RIDE: This

Summer Father Michael and friends, the Mikes on Bikes, will be challenging themselves to another mammoth ride. This time it is Coast 2 Coast across the USA from June to August. They will cycle 4,500 miles and climb over 200,000 feet. They are raising money for three charities:

- St Joseph's Primary
- > Water Aid
- Adventure Cycling

The website for charity donations is https://www.justgiving.com/team/MikesCoast2Coast2020

You can follow their training leading up to the event and their gruelling ride on Facebook on the page Coast 2 Coast 2020 @ccoast2020. They would love people to join them on their training rides, please get in touch with Fr Michael if you would like to join them. They will also be having a shorter social ride for all, details to follow in due course.

**SAVE THE DATE – FAMILY RETREAT** led by Fr Matt Blake 15-17 May. See website www.pulse-retreats.com.

### 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 10amSacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday from 10:30 – 11am and 4:45 – 5:15pmRosary: Tuesday and Friday at 7.30pm in the Oratory (enter via Sacristy)Eucharistic Adoration: Wednesday and Thursday from 10am until 9pm in the OratoryWebsite: www.stjosephs.org.ukTelephone: 01753 886581Registered Charity Number 234091

Email: office@stjosephs.org.uk