



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 March St Patrick, Bishop – Patron of Ireland - Feast

THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION last weekend amounted to £2,825. Your continued support is appreciated.

NEXT WEEKEND there will be a second collection for Easter flowers for the Church.

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 Catholic Women's League this coming Wednesday 14 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. Afterwards tea and cake will be served in the Parish Centre. Everybody is welcome to join us.

FEAST OF ST JOSEPH: Celebrate the feast of our Patron Saint on Monday 19 March. Mass takes place at 7am in the Oratory and at 9am in St Joseph's Church, followed by coffee and cake in the First Committee Room. All are welcome.

CAFOD RICH MAN POOR MAN

LUNCH: Join us on Saturday 17 March at Our Lady of Grace Church, Booker from 12 noon until 3pm. 3 out of 4 people will have a two course meal with wine, 1 out of 4 will not be so lucky! Tickets priced at £10 each can be purchased from Sheila Ashmore on 07703358102.



DIOCESAN YEAR OF PRAYER AND VOCATION

In March we pray together for the grace of repentance and the joy of forgiveness.

The saint to accompany us in March is **St Josephine Bakhita of Sudan**. She was born to a warm and homely family but was kidnapped by slavers as a young woman. As a slave she was sold many times until she was eventually shipped to Italy where she encountered Christianity and eventually became a religious sister. With great joy she forgave her captors and taught others both to accept and offer forgiveness.

We are asked to receive the grace of the Sacrament of Reconciliation this Lent.

MOTHERING SUNDAY: Today we pray for all mothers in our Parish and hope they have a lovely day with their families.

HELPING OUR PARISHES PASS ON THE FAITH – A day led by David Wills from the Diocese of Arundel & Brighton. The morning will explore RELIT – a DVD programme that trains those who have had an encounter with Jesus Christ to lead others to Him. The afternoon will look at restoring the primary role of parents as catechists using the 'Growing Up Catholic' resources for First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion. This will be held in St Teresa's Church Hall, Beaconsfield, HP9 2PL on **Saturday 17 March** from 10am – 4pm. Booking is required through NORES on 01582 723312. Leaflets are available at the back of the church.

DIVINE MERCY RETREAT led by the Marian Fathers will take place on **Saturday 17 March** in Iver Heath at the Bridgettine Convent from 11am to 4:30pm. All are welcome. Please bring a packed lunch.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS take place every Friday morning after 9am Mass throughout Lent.

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

RECENTLY DECEASED: Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Mavis Cross** who died recently. The funeral will take place on Monday 12 March at 12:30pm in St Joseph's Church. We extend our deepest sympathy to all her family and friends.

Bishop Peter's **CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE** with your **family** which was due to take place Saturday 3 March at The Holy Family Catholic Church in Langley has now been **rescheduled to Saturday 14 April**.

HEALING PRAYER MINISTRY - Encountering the God who heals: In the Gospel stories, we read that many people were healed when they met with Jesus. We believe that He is still healing people today. Quiet individual prayer is offered in the Oratory after 9am Sunday Mass each week with the focus on encouraging people to sense the presence of Jesus and to find His love, forgiveness and healing.

YOUTH GROUP takes place this Sunday 11 March from 6:30 until 8pm in the Parish Hall. Open to young people in Year 6 and above. Come and join us, meet new friends and have fun. Why not give it a try?

**COME ON IN TO FAIRTRADE
CLOSE THE DOOR ON EXPLOITATION**

Fairtrade Fortnight may have just finished but it is vital that we continue to support the farmers who grow our food in developing countries. There's never been a more important time to stand with producers through Fairtrade and to protect the progress achieved alongside them. Support the drive for much-needed change because these farmers deserve fair terms of trade. Close the door on exploitation – buy Fairtrade and encourage others to do the same. **St Joseph's Parish is proud to support Fairtrade.**

EASTER CARDS are now on sale in the Repository.

APF MILL HILL MISSION: Members are asked to pick up their spring copy of "Mission Today" from the back of the church.

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.

Please use the metal box provided: do not leave goods outside the Parish Centre.

SIMPLY PERFECT will hold a sale of First Holy Communion wear and accessories in the Parish Hall on **Wednesday 14 March** from 5pm – 8pm.

The **ANNUAL SHOC QUIZ** is being held on **Saturday 28 April** in Stoke Poges. Following the very successful appeal on Homeless Sunday to support our local homeless, might you consider taking a table at this annual enjoyable event? Light supper included, tickets £12. Please contact alanmadgeslough@aol.com and see the parish website Diary Dates for the flyer.

NATIONAL CATHOLIC MEN'S PILGRIMAGE TO WALSINGHAM – Sunday 22 April – 10:30-17:30pm: A warm invitation to the first, annual pilgrimage for Catholic men. Meet, talk and share the faith with other men; listen to speakers, celebrate confession and Mass, pray for families and for the country; process to the old Abbey grounds for Benediction. We welcome lay and religious, single and married, young and old, fathers and sons. *"When England returns to Walsingham, Our Lady will return to England"*. Pope Leo XIII, 1887.

In partnership with the Catholic National Shrine of Our Lady and Catholic Man UK. For more information visit www.catholicman.co.uk.

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.



GIFT AIDERS please collect your boxes of offering envelopes for the next twelve months from the back of the Church.

Lent at St Joseph's

The definition of Insurance is the act or system of insuring property, life, one's person, against loss of any of these. We are encouraged to insure anything valuable. Nothing is more valuable to us than our soul and eternal life and happiness.

The prophet Jeremiah tells us the best protection which brings lasting security comes to those who are obedient to God. True peace and security come when we trust in God and obey his word.

This Sunday, Laudate Sunday is considered a day of relaxation from normal Lenten rigours; a day of hope since Easter at last is in sight. Without God, happiness is impossible, although for a time it may appear otherwise.

True and enduring happiness is to be a true friend with God.

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

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

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