

20 December 2020

Fourth Sunday of Advent

Sundays Year B – Weekdays Year 1 – Psalter Week 4



St Joseph's Parish, Diocese of Northampton

Order of Discalced Carmelites (OCD)

St Joseph's Priory, Austenwood Common, Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire SL9 8RY

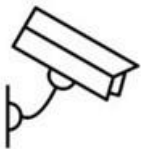
Fr Michael Spain OCD (Prior & Parish Priest), Fr Robert Davies OCD, Fr Maurice Flynn OCD

Fr John Williamson OCD

THIS NEWSLETTER IS ONLY AVAILABLE ONLINE.
**THERE WILL BE NO NEWSLETTER ON
26/27 DECEMBER OR ON 2/3 JANUARY.**

25 December	The Nativity of the Lord – Solemnity
26 December	St Stephen, the first Martyr – Feast
27 December	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph – Feast

● WASH HANDS ● COVER FACE ● MAKE SPACE ●
The Most Holy Name Church, the Bridgettine Convent and the Parish Office remain closed until further notice.



We continue to broadcast **MASSES** live from St Joseph's in real time via our live stream at www.stjosephs.org.uk/Live.

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH
[CLICK HERE FOR THE MASS SCHEDULE](#) which lists all services taking place between **Saturday, 19 December and Friday, 1 January**. There will be no Private Prayer or Holy Hour during this time. The church will be open for Masses unless listed as "live stream only". Currently we have sufficient stewards to cover all these services but circumstances can change; [check the website](#) for any alterations. Mass times return to normal from 2 January.

If you booked for a Christmas Mass you will receive an email confirming your allocation. **The 5pm and 8pm Masses on Christmas Eve and the 9am Mass on Christmas Day are fully booked.** There are spaces left at the 10pm on Christmas Eve and at 7:45am and 11am on Christmas Day. [CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#). Please do not arrive at church without a confirmed reservation; we may not have enough space to accommodate you safely.

Prayer for Lighting the Advent Wreath Candle

Fourth Week of Advent

God of new beginnings, you announced through an angel's message how you would enter the world as one of us so you could love us more deeply.

As we light these candles, we reflect on Mary and how we can freely say "yes" to what you ask, just as she did. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

The **FAMILY (NATIVITY) CHRISTMAS MASS** which features singing and readings by our Children's Choir has been filmed and will be [broadcast via our website](#) at 5pm on Christmas Eve and at 9am on Christmas Day. This means when you click the live stream link at these times you will be watching the pre-recorded Mass, not what is happening live in the church. Fr Michael, who is the celebrant, is delighted that we can still share the joy of the Christmas Story in an uplifting and engaging way with families throughout the parish.

CHRISTMAS PHOTO PROJECT: Fr Michael is working on a special project for Christmas. He invites parishioners to send him a festive theme photo of themselves which will form part of our Family Christmas Masses. Please email your photo to pastoral@stjosephs.org.uk, clearly stating your consent that the image can be used on our website and live stream. If the image includes anyone under 18 their names must be listed within the consent.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Angela Wilcox** who died recently, may she rest in peace. We extend our sympathy to all her family and friends.

Please **PRAY FOR ALL THOSE WHO ARE SICK** and those who care for them. May they know the presence of Christ in their illnesses and in their work. We pray for those affected by the pandemic and those struggling with their mental health. May they seek the support they need and turn to God in prayer for divine assistance.

ADOREMUS – COME LET US ADORE: Friday 1 January from 10:30am to 11:30am. We start every new year with the Solemnity of Mary, the Holy Mother of God. Following the 10am Mass, there will be adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. We can come to the Lord, with all that is happening in our lives, and spend some time with Him who welcomes each one of us just as we are.

"In a world where there is so much noise, so much bewilderment, there is a need for silent adoration of Jesus concealed in the Host.....It is a source of comfort and light, particularly in those who are suffering."
Pope Benedict XVI

NEWSLETTER: The next newsletter will be **Sunday, 10 January**; any articles to be included should be with the Parish Office by lunchtime on Thursday, 7 January.

BISHOP DAVID TEACHES: Bishop David continues to lead us in a series of talks exploring some contemporary questions on faith. [Click here to watch the talks](#), recorded in the chapel at his home in Northampton.

Our **ADVENT GIVING TREE** is a little different this year! Our gifts will be going to the homeless in Slough and London. [Click here for a list of gifts needed](#) which should be wrapped in Christmas paper and labelled with what is inside. Please bring them the London Run box outside the Parish Centre **by this Sunday 20 December**. Thank you so much for your generosity.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS are a range of virtual charity gifts that will delight the people you give them to and help transform the lives of families living in poverty.

ST JOSEPH'S GRAND DRAW took place on Saturday, 5 December; [click here for the list of lucky winners](#). The amazing sum of **£10,723** was raised through the sale of tickets and several generous donations. Thank you to everyone who supported the raffle in any way.

CHRISTMAS OFFERING FOR OUR PRIESTS: The Carmelite Community continue to diligently serve our parish in extraordinary circumstances. Historically the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day collections are for the priests in appreciation of their ministry to us throughout the year. Whilst we cannot show our thanks in the usual way, below are the options for Christmas Offerings:

One-Off Payment via Your Bank

The information required to make a one-off donation is:

Bank	NatWest
Sort Code	60-06-11
Account Number	46714456
Account Name	RCDN St Joseph's Parish
Payment Ref	Name CHRISTMAS

NB: Some banks only accept "St Joseph's Parish" or "St Joseph's Catholic Parish" as the account name.

Cheque via Post or Through Priory Letterbox

Make out a cheque payable to "St Joseph's Parish", mark it CHRISTMAS OFFERING on the reverse, then either post to the Parish Office or drop through Priory letterbox.

Christmas Offering Envelope Through Priory Letterbox

If you normally use offertory envelopes then you will find a CHRISTMAS one in your box. Use this for your cheque or cash offering and drop through Priory letterbox.



The **LONDON** and **SLOUGH RUN**
Helping the homeless and people in need

Christmas Run



We will be taking food and gifts to street homeless this **MONDAY 21 DECEMBER**. [Click here to see what we are appealing for this year](#). Your donations are very much appreciated, more so than ever this year.

LONDON & SLOUGH RUN FOR THE HOMELESS: There will be **NO RUN on Monday 28 December**. Everything will be back to normal as from **MONDAY 4 JANUARY**.

The **DECEMBER 200 CLUB DRAW** was held at St Joseph's Furniture Market last Saturday. The monthly prize-fund of £920 is shared by four lucky winners as follows:

1 st	Michael Murnane (£460)
2 nd	Mark & Marian Tinsley (£230)
3 rd	Catherine Woodgates (£138)
4 th	Mark McGrath (£92)

The Christmas Bonus prize (£100) was won by Eileen Carkett.

Congratulations to this month's lucky winners. We thank all members for their continued support and wish you and your families a Merry Christmas!

ST JOSEPH'S FURNITURE MARKET distributed £2,000 in December as follows:

£1,000	The Parish
£250	Scan Appeal
£250	Leonard Cheshire Home
£250	Magdi Yacoub Institute
£250	Thames Valley Hospice

In addition, £500 was donated to Helen & Douglas House and £250 to The Horse Trust in memory of Grace Gaskell.

The market will be **CLOSED on 26 December** and then will re-open on Saturday, 2 January 2021.

We wish all our customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

You can [follow us on Facebook](#) or [contact us by email](#).

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: *Suspended until further notice*

Bridgettine Convent, Iver Heath: *Suspended until further notice*

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 *

Rosary: Tuesday and Friday at 7.30pm

ALL BROADCAST VIA LIVE STREAM

Website: www.stjosephs.org.uk

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