

2 May 2021

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sundays Year B – Weekdays Year 1 – Psalter Week 1



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 Martin McDonald OCD (Prior & Parish Priest), Fr John Williamson OCD, Fr Robert Davies OCD,

Fr Maurice Flynn OCD

THIS NEWSLETTER IS ONLY AVAILABLE ONLINE.

3 May	Ss Philip and James, Apostles – Feast
4 May	The English Martyrs – Feast

MONDAY 3 MAY is a **BANK HOLIDAY** so there will be only one morning Mass at 10am.



The Most Holy Name Church in Denham and the Parish Office remain closed until further notice.



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

This weekend St Joseph's Church will be open for **Saturday 5:30pm Mass** and for both **Sunday 9am and 11am Masses**.

This coming week St Joseph's Church will be open **Bank Holiday Monday for 10am Mass** **Tuesday to Friday for 7am Mass** and **Wednesday and Thursday for 9am Mass**.

See [MASS TIMES](#) for latest information.

The **NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS OF ABUSE** will be observed on **Tuesday 4 May**. The traumatic effects of abuse cause a person to experience in mind, body and spirit all sorts of long-lasting conflicts and struggles; it can be like a battlefield in the body. When one part of the 'Body of Christ' is hurting, everyone is aware and affected. Pope Francis says the Church must be like a field hospital in battle, ready to respond, ready to heal the wounds. We are asked to pray for all those impacted by abuse – for the victims themselves, their families, friends and communities. [Prayers and reflections available here](#). Our **Diocesan Prayer Service** to mark this day begins at **6pm** in the Cathedral, led by Bishop David. It will be live-streamed and recorded for watching at another time; access to this is through [the Cathedral website](#).

EPHRAIM LUKONG RIP

It is with great sadness that we report the death of our good friend Ephraim Lukong in Cameroon. Ephraim died from COVID-19 in Shisong Hospital in his home village on Monday 26 April at the age of 70. His wife Theresia is currently still recovering in the hospital from COVID-19.

Some of you will remember their visit to our Parish in 1995. They inspired everyone with their commitment to the family through their work as Co-Directors of the Family Life Apostolate in the Diocese of Kumbo, Cameroon. The Family was seen as the tree, with the branches representing the various needs. These included everyone especially the vulnerable and the poor. They offered Marriage preparation and help, supported single mothers especially when faced with the pressure of abortion of the unborn baby in the womb, HIV support and young people. The **Cameroon Education Fund** was set up at Ephraim's suggestion to support the education of the orphaned and vulnerable children following the visit of two of our parishioners to Cameroon. We thank the Carmelites and parishioners for their generous support and continued commitment over the years.

Please pray for Theresia and all her family in your prayers at this sad time.

PRAY IN MAY WITH POPE FRANCIS: The Holy Father has invited Catholics and 30 Marian Shrines around the world to dedicate the month of May to a marathon of prayer for an end to the pandemic. After more than a year, with the world still in the grips of COVID-19, the Pope and the Church are once again leading the way in imploring God for an end to the suffering which so many people are forced to bear. Please see [Pray in May with Pope Francis](#) for intentions, prayers and resources.

"CLEARING OUT THE JUNK": The Diocesan summer webinar series reading [Divine Renovation](#) and exploring together the possibilities for making our parishes truly missionary communities continues this Monday 3 May at 7:30pm. This session covers Chapter 4 and the speaker is **Dr Gemma Simmonds CJ**, well known spiritual guide and writer. She will reflect on some of the baggage that holds us back in our faith lives and finding new inspiration in the Gospel. [CLICK HERE to register](#). You can [catch up with any sessions you've missed here](#).

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH: Let us follow St Joseph's example as we remember this compassionate and obedient man of God. We pray for all fathers as they strive to protect and provide for their family. May this honourable saint, who watched over the Virgin Mary and Jesus, now care, and watch over all of us. We continue to reflect his many virtues this month with "[St Joseph the Provider](#)".

HOW HAS THE PANDEMIC YEAR IMPACTED ON OUR FAITH LIFE? Bishop David asks 'What has been your experience over the past year? How have you experienced prayer, liturgical worship, service and witness to others? It would be very helpful to those of us seeking to discern the way forwards, if you were able to share your experiences by engaging with a survey which seeks to learn from everything that has happened since the pandemic took hold of our world.'
[CLICK HERE to complete the survey.](#)

CATHOLIC BASICS: This engaging introduction to the Catholic faith, with its own bespoke course text, is open to anyone wishing to learn more about our Catholic faith. It is offered in four parts: God, The Church, The Moral Life and Prayer. Sessions take place on Monday evenings 7, 14, 21 and 28 June via Zoom from 7pm to 8:30pm. There is a £20 cost for course literature. For more information and booking please contact Ann Collon at admin@nores.org.uk or call 01582 723312.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION for May 2021 is The World of Finance – Let us pray that those in charge of finance will work with governments to regulate the financial sphere and protect citizens from its dangers.

"THE DAY OF THE LORD": Our Bishops have issued a reflection on post-pandemic recovery and the challenges faced by the Church in encouraging people back to the Church and her Sacraments. In it they praise families, parish communities and those who have worked tirelessly in hospitals, care homes, schools and prisons during these challenging times of ill-health, grief and isolation. They salute the leadership of our priests and also express gratitude for the 'immense efforts' of those who have provided food for those most in need. You can [download "The Day of the Lord" reflection here.](#)

Please **PRAY FOR ALL THOSE WHO ARE SICK** and their caregivers whether at home, in hospital or in care homes. We pray that God embraces those in pain and physical suffering. May they feel Him close to them.

PASTORAL AREA NEWS: Bishop David has decided to amalgamate the two pastoral areas of South Bucks and Chilterns into one larger area. The new Pastoral Area (PA) is made up of ten parishes and the Dean is Mgr Seán Healy, Parish Priest of St Teresa's, Beaconsfield. The combined PA Councils are to meet shortly to see how we can further the mission of the Church in this part of the Diocese.

THE LONDON & SLOUGH RUN continues this Bank Holiday Monday 3 May. Please bring your sandwiches, boiled eggs, soft fruit, crisps, drinks, individually wrapped cakes and small chocolate biscuit bars to the **Parish Centre by 12 noon on Monday.** You can leave your donations on the table just inside the door from 7:30am onwards. **WE ARE IN URGENT NEED OF TINNED RICE PUDDING, TINNED CUSTARD, SUGAR, TEA, COFFEE, RICE POUCHES, CHEDDAR CHEESE and SOFT SPREAD BUTTER.** We have plenty of pasta at the moment. Many thanks for your continuing support.

APF MILL HILL MISSION - MISSIO: It is hoped Parish Supporters of [Missio](#) will have seen in a recent Parish Newsletter that our Parish's Red Boxes yielded **£4,143.22** in 2020 to aid the UK's mission work but it was a difficult year for fund raising due to Covid and the difficulties remain. If any supporter has a full Red Box, requires a replacement Red Box or simply wishes to become a supporter please call at the Parish Centre on Monday 3 May between 3pm and 5pm where the Parish Missio Representative will be happy to assist.

ST JOSEPH'S 200 CLUB 2021 welcomed four new members in April, bringing the total membership to 198, with an increased monthly prize fund of £990. The April draw was held at the Furniture Market last Saturday morning and the winners were:

1 st	Michael Murnane (£495.00)
2 nd	Jennifer Sharp (£247.50)
3 rd	Florence Ruffles (£148.50)
4 th	Eilish Kelly (£99.00)

Congratulations to all four winners!

From 1 May, we are delighted to report that we have 200 members, achieving the maximum monthly prize fund of £1,000! Thank you to all members for your support, together you have raised almost £12,000 for the parish this year which is really appreciated.

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: See the [Bridgettine Order website](#) for details of Masses and Services.

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 via Zoom

ALL BROADCAST VIA LIVE STREAM

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