

19 November 2023

Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sundays Year A – 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 Robert (Bob) Davies OCD (Prior & Parish Priest), Fr Jerome Ituah OCD, Fr Maurice Flynn OCD,
Fr John McGowan OCD, Fr Martin McDonald OCD and Fr Theophilus (Theo) Nyamali OCD



Today is the seventh **WORLD DAY OF THE POOR**, with the theme of “Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor” (Tobit 4:7). In [his message for this World Day of the Poor](#), Pope Francis reflects on the example of Tobit. He considers how the Book of Tobit teaches us to be realistic and practical in whatever we do with and for the poor, writing that “caring for the poor is more than

simply a matter of a hasty hand-out; it calls for reestablishing the just interpersonal relationships that poverty harms.”

Loving Father, your risen Son sent us out into the world as ambassadors for the kingdom of God; inspire us with your Spirit of compassion, justice and truth to declare the Good News to those who are poor, to work for the relief, defence and liberation of all who are trapped in oppressive circumstances. We make this our prayer through Christ our Lord. Amen.

21 November	The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Memorial
22 November	St Cecilia, Virgin, Martyr – Memorial
24 November	Ss Andrew Dũng-Lạc, Priest, and Companions, Martyrs – Memorial



We broadcast all Masses/Services live from St Joseph's Church (not the Oratory) in real time via our live stream at www.stjosephs.org.uk/Live.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Thomas Bolger** who died recently. May he rest in peace. His funeral will take place on Friday 24 November in St Joseph's Church at 11am. We extend our sympathy to all his family and friends.

RECENTLY DECEASED: Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Alan Smith** who died recently. May he rest in peace. We extend our sympathy to all his family and friends.

Please pray for the sick of our parish and for those who have asked for our prayers.

CHILDREN'S MASS AND PRACTICE: We have a Childrens Mass next Sunday celebrating the feast of Christ the King. This will become a monthly event next year. The children will stay in the church and the Mass will be all inclusive with as many as are able/wish to join in, having the opportunity to do so, whatever their age. They will be involved in Welcoming, Readings, Bidding Prayers, Offertory, Collections, Singing and Music. If your child has a particular interest in any of these areas, please let us know. **We will be having a practice session after Mass this Sunday in the church so please do join us.** We encourage all families to sit at the front so that the children can see better. The very young ones will be included too – we will be making crowns this Sunday and would love them to join in with the Offertory Procession wearing them next week.

YOUTH MASS AND MUSIC PRACTICE: The next **Youth Mass will be Sunday 26 November** at 11am. All singers and musicians are invited to the practices which will be held at **7pm** in the church on Thursday 23 November. Come along, give it a try!

WORLD YOUTH SUNDAY is coming up on **Sunday 26 November**, the Feast of Christ the King, a day on which Pope Francis invites the global Church to pray for young people. We will be celebrating with a **Children's Mass** and a **Youth Mass**. In Lisbon this year, he told young people that “Jesus door is always open: Come and See!” This has inspired this year's theme for World Youth Day celebrations in England and Wales for 2023, and there are several [World Youth Day resources available here](#).

HOLY SOULS: During November we pray especially for all the Holy Souls: those who have died in the past year, past members of our parish, our own departed relatives and friends and those who have no one to pray for them. As in recent years, we will have the golden Holy Souls box on the altar throughout November. Parishioners are invited to place names of loved ones in the golden box so we can remember them in our prayers.

ADVENT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

There will be an **Advent Service of Reconciliation** on **Tuesday 5 December** at 7:30pm in St Joseph's Church.

There will be a **Mass with the Sacrament of Anointing** on **Saturday 9 December** at 3pm in St Joseph's Church.

PREPARING FOR ADVENT: Join us on **Wednesday 22 November** at 7:30pm for the latest in a series of online Zoom sessions exploring the upcoming Lectionary Readings and sessions of the liturgical year. A valuable opportunity to develop our engagement with the Scriptures that we hear proclaimed at the Liturgy of the Word at Mass. To book please email Dcn Peter Collins.

INSPIRING WOMEN is a webinar hosted by the National Board of Catholic Women next **Saturday 25 November** from 11am until 12:45 pm. Professor Tina Beattie will explore how we can express our creativity and share our gifts as women; encourage and support women's many different abilities and callings; celebrate achievements and learn from frustrations and failings. Please email nbcw@abdiocese.org.uk to register your interest.

ROSARY EVENING: You are invited to join in a beautiful, peaceful evening of rosary, litany, reading, music and prayer ministry on **Wednesday 29 November** at 7:30pm, at St Augustine's, High Wycombe (HP13 6NZ). Come and find the peace you're looking for. Bring your family and friends. Everyone is welcome and there is plenty of extra parking just over the road.

ADVENT RETREAT: Canon John Udris together with Avril Baigent will be leading an Online Advent Retreat entitled "**Let the Wilderness Bloom!**" Drawing on the life of John the Baptist, we will explore themes of silence, solitude, dryness and vulnerability, moving towards resilience, promise and hope. The retreat will run Monday evenings from 7:30pm to 8:30pm on 27 November and 4, 12, 18 December. It will offer a wonderfully reflective time to just BE and prepare spiritually for Christmas. Please [use this link to register](#) and receive the link for the sessions which can be followed live or anytime thereafter.

RECVING THE CHALICE

A reminder to everyone that here in our parish we [receive the chalice by self-intinction only](#) (receiving the host in your hand, then dipping the host into the precious blood and consuming it) and [on Sundays only](#). In order to be sensitive to those who are conscious of spreading viruses by saliva we do not want to drink from the chalice as it will put other people off. In a Christian spirit we want to accommodate all sensibilities.

We are very happy to visit you in your own home and bring you Communion. Please phone us at the Priory if you would like someone to call on you.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION for November is FOR THE POPE – We pray for the Holy Father; as he fulfills his mission, may he continue to accompany the flock entrusted to him, with the help of the Holy Spirit.

FAIRTRADE/TRAIDCRAFT: There will be a **Parish Sale this Sunday 19 November after the 9am and 11am Masses** in the First Committee Room which will include Christmas Cards. Why not pop in for a tea/coffee and stop by the stall and see what's on offer? The need for support is greater than ever.

MYCOLOGIST TALK: We have got mushrooms/fungi in the Priory garden that are unique to Buckinghamshire. A fungi expert, Jesper Launder, has agreed to talk to anyone who might be interested, this coming **Thursday 23 November** after the 9am Mass.

TEA AND A CHAT: Our fortnightly social group meets together for a chat over a cuppa this coming **Thursday 23 November** from 2pm to 4pm in the First Committee Room at St Joseph's Priory. We look forward to seeing you there. Everyone is most welcome.

THE ALISTAIR ROBERTS MEMORIAL FUND (ARMF): Kim & Jane Roberts would like to say a very big thank you to all those who so generously supported Alistair's Fund last weekend – we are deeply grateful. We will let you know the total amount raised once all the banking is complete. God bless all of you for your kind words of encouragement which help us to keep going.

APF MILL HILL MISSION (Missio): Supporters are asked to collect their 2024 Calendar from the back of the church this weekend at St Joseph's, The Most Holy Name and the Bridgettine Convent.

THE [LONDON & SLOUGH RUN](#) continues this Monday 20 November. Please bring your donations to the **First Committee Room by 12 noon**. There will be tables set out by the side door to the car park where you can leave your contributions. **WE ARE IN NEED OF TINNED VEGETABLES, FRESH GREEN MILK, UHT GREEN UHT MILK, COFFEE, TEA, SUGAR, SATSUMAS and INSTANT MASH POTATO.** Thank you for your generosity and support, which is much appreciated.

2023 ANNUAL REPORT: We have recently published [St Joseph's Parish Annual Report 2023](#). Paper copies are available on request from the Parish Office.

Sunday Mass Times

St Joseph's, Chalfont St Peter: Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:30pm*, Sunday at 7:45am*, 9am*, 11am* and 5:30pm*

The Most Holy Name, Denham: Sunday at 9:30am

Bridgettine Convent, Iver Heath: Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:30pm, Sunday at 9am

The following take place at St Joseph's, Chalfont St Peter

Weekday Mass: Monday to Friday at 7am (in the Oratory) and 9am*, Saturday and Bank Holidays at 10am*

Rosary: Tuesday and Thursday at 7:30pm via Zoom

*BROADCAST VIA LIVE STREAM

Website: www.stjosephs.org.uk

Telephone: 01753 886581
Registered Charity Number 234091

Email: office@stjosephs.org.uk

CAFOD ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CRISIS APPEAL: Donate to CAFOD's Israeli-Palestinian Crisis Appeal by [clicking here](#) or call 0303 303 3030 to support those affected and get funds to local trusted experts in Gaza and southern Israel who have been working alongside communities helping those most in need. Your donation will help support aid workers providing urgent humanitarian aid including food, water and emergency shelter to those in need. Thank you for your prayers.

PARISH RAFFLE: The Autumn Raffle Grand Draw will take place on **Friday, 8 December** at 2pm. Please support us if you are able. Send your counterfoils and payment to the Priory by post or drop through letterbox.

NEW PARISHIONERS and those **NOT REGISTERED.** If you do not get a raffle letter, you are not registered in the parish and therefore do not get our weekly newsletter, Sunday Mass Sheets and children's activity sheets. [Please click here if you wish to register.](#)

A selection of religious **CHRISTMAS CARDS, MASS BOUQUET CARDS, ADVENT CALENDARS, CANDLES AND 2024 DIARIES** are now in stock in the Repository at very reasonable prices. Please put your payment in the box provided or hand into the Parish Office.

APPLE JUICE: The apples from the orchard have been harvested and used to make apple juice. The price is £3.50 for one bottle or £3 per bottle if buying more than one. Payment can be made by cash, cheque payable to "St Joseph's Events" or bank transfer. Selling fast from the Parish Office during opening hours. **On sale this Sunday 19 November after Mass at Denham.**

FOSJS CHRISTMAS BAZAAR: All aboard the Polar Express at St Joseph's School next **Saturday 25 November** from 2pm to 5pm. The popular school Christmas Bazaar returns with a fun-filled afternoon for everyone to enjoy – shopping village, craft stalls, gift and bottle tombolas, Santa's grotto, elf's workshop, festive food and much more. Pop in if you can, all are welcome. All proceeds will go towards FOSJS funded school improvement projects to enrich the children's lives.

The **FURNITURE MARKET** has lots of **Christmas Trees** and beautiful **Christmas Decorations** for sale. Don't miss out! Come along soon and buy. Open on Saturday mornings from 9am until 12:30pm. All money goes to local charities.

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PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

Following Bishop David's two visits to our parish plus a meeting with the new Diocesan Chief Operating Officer we wanted to share with everyone that the plans for a **new Parish Community Centre building** are underway.

Our existing funds from the sale of the church in Chalfont St Giles will be made available to pay for the necessary work to demolish the Parish Hall and Centre. The funds raised in the Events Account will be used to fund the immediate and necessary planning work and applications to get our new hall over the line.

We have an urgent need to get underway with a fundraising plan alongside the building plans and would **welcome anyone, especially a fundraiser**, who would like to lend their professional expertise or energy to this project. Please get in touch with the Parish Office [via email](#) so we may follow up.

We are thrilled we are able to finally move on this and look forward to working together with the parish to make it happen.

ALL SAINTS CATHOLIC ACADEMY TRUST (ASCAT), which includes St Joan of Arc Catholic Secondary School, is currently seeking to appoint up to five additional Foundation Directors to the Trust board as part of the ongoing expansion of the Trust in line with the Diocese of Westminster's Academy Strategy. Foundation Directors are key strategic decision-makers and the legal responsibility for the performance of each academy rests with them. Their role is strategic rather than operational much in the same way that the role of a Foundation Governor is within a single non-academy Catholic school. This is an exciting opportunity to play a role in a vibrant and collaborative Trust that is in the process of expansion and development. [More information is available on the Trust website.](#) If this is something that is of interest, please [contact Christina Reffold by email.](#)

CHURCH CLEANERS: We are looking to **recruit two teams** to help with church cleaning. Can you spare an hour or so to help clean St Joseph's Church once every 8 weeks? It is very straightforward, nothing complicated to do and would help us to save money. Maybe you could ask two or three friends to form a team? If you would like to know more, please get in touch with Joan Barham [via the Parish Office.](#)