



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

10 March 2024  
Fourth Sunday of Lent

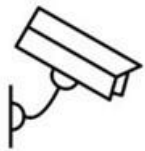
Sundays Year B – Weekdays Year 2 – Psalter Week 4

**Bishop David** has written and recorded a series of Lenten Gospel reflections for each week of Lent.

In the video and audio versions you can listen to the Gospel of the day as well as the reflection.

[Week 4 Video](#) | [Week 4 Audio](#) | [Week 4 Letter](#)

This **MOTHERING SUNDAY** we give thanks to all mothers, for their never-ending care and compassion and for showing us the true meaning of unconditional love and forgiveness. Today we pray for all mothers, that they may receive many blessings. Have a lovely day.



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](http://www.stjosephs.org.uk/Live).

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **John Heeney** who died recently. May he rest in peace. His funeral will take place on **Thursday 14 March** 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 **Charles Strutton** who died recently. May he rest in peace. His funeral will take place on **Friday 5 April** in **St Joseph's Church** at **11am**. We extend our sympathy to all his family and friends.

**POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION** for **March** is **FOR THE NEW MARTYRS** – We pray that those who risk their lives for the Gospel in various parts of the world inflame the Church with their courage and missionary enthusiasm. [Click here to watch the Pope's video](#).

**CRAFTS AFTER MASS:** During Lent we invite children to join us after 9am Mass in the First Committee Room for crafts, with a Lenten theme each week. **This Sunday** we shall be making Easter and Mother's Day cards.

**EMMAUS – OPENING THE SCRIPTURES:** The topic of our March talk was 'The Suffering in the Book of Job' and the speaker was **Mgr Seán Healy**. [Click here to watch a recording](#). Go to [www.stjosephs.org.uk/Emmaus](http://www.stjosephs.org.uk/Emmaus) for more details and links to recordings of previous talks.

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

#### PARISH 2024 LENTEN PROGRAMME

In this Year of Prayer for the Jubilee, our parish Lenten programme takes its inspiration from the prayer that Jesus Himself taught us – The Our Father. Over five weeks we will journey together with Jesus, reflecting on his words, commemorating His last day on earth as man and retracing His final journey.

Each session begins with a reflection/talk at 7:30pm and this is followed at 8pm by Stations of the Cross.

**Week 4 – Tuesday 12 March**  
*Forgive us, as we Forgive others!*

The final session will be our Lent Reconciliation Service at 7:30pm, an opportunity to bring our own brokenness, weakness, pain and suffering before Jesus and renew our personal relationship with Him.

**Week 5 – Thursday 21 March**

Lead us not into Temptation, deliver us from evil!

All sessions will take place in St Joseph's Church and will be broadcast via [our live stream](#).

**ROSARY CIRCLE:** During Lent we are called to be more fervent in prayer. The Rosary is the perfect prayer to pray communally for the needs and intentions of our parish and the wider world. You are invited to join our parish Rosary Circle this Lent. Pray with us via Zoom on **Tuesdays 12 and 19 March** at 7:30pm ([contact Christine Cornwell](#) for Zoom details). Join us in person in The Oratory on **Thursday 14 March** at 7:30pm.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** follow the path of Jesus from the time He was condemned to His burial in the tomb. It is a way to pray and meditate on His sacrifice for us and it helps us examine our life in light of the cross. Join us for this devotion on **Thursdays 14 and 21 March** after 9am Mass in St Joseph's Church.

**SONGS OF PRAISE FOR ST PATRICK'S DAY:** Included in this broadcast will be a five-minute segment from **Father Michael Spain's** parish in Derry. Parishioners may wish to watch or record it.

♣♣♣ **ST PATRICK'S DAY** is 17 March ♣♣♣

There is a varied selection of cards, rosettes and ribbons on sale from the Repository at very reasonable prices.

**TEA AND A CHAT:** Our social group will meet together for a chat over a cuppa this coming **Thursday 14 March** from 2pm to 4pm in the First Committee Room at St Joseph's Priory. We look forward to seeing you there.

**INSPIRING WOMEN:** Webinar organised by the National Board of Catholic Women on **Saturday 16 March** from 11am – 12:45pm. Avril Baigent and Helen Burgess will share the feedback from the Assembly on the theme of 'Women and Synodality'. [Email to register your interest.](#)

**FEAST OF ST JOSEPH:** Join us as we celebrate the feast of St Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, Protector of the Discalced Carmelite Order and Patron of our Parish on **Tuesday 19 March**. **Morning Mass at 10am** (no 7am or 9am Mass) in St Joseph's Church, followed by refreshments in the First Committee Room. **Evening Mass at 7pm** in St Joseph's Church where we will be joined by other Carmelite Communities to mark this special feast day, followed by a celebration in the First Committee Room.

**BISHOP DAVID ANNIVERSARY:** **Tuesday 19 March** will be the fourth anniversary of Bishop David's Episcopal Ordination. There will be a special Mass at 11am in the cathedral and refreshments will be served in the St Thomas Centre afterwards. He warmly invites us to join him as he celebrates this occasion.

**COACH TO CHRISM MASS:** On **Maundy Thursday 28 March** the Chrism Mass at Northampton Cathedral will begin at 11am and will be followed by refreshments in the St Thomas Centre. This is a good opportunity for our diocesan family to be together and we are all encouraged to attend. The parishes in our Pastoral Area are hiring a coach if there are sufficient numbers. Pick-up from St Joseph's at 9:15am. If you would like to join this trip, please get in touch with the Parish Office by Wednesday 13 March.

**EASTER GIFTS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE IN NEED:** This Easter, our Children's Liturgy team is collecting gifts for local elderly residents and families with young children. Please spend up to £5 on an Easter gift – Easter Egg, Mini Eggs, Chocolate Bunny, Potted Plant, Easter Toy, etc. Place the unwrapped gift in an open bag and leave it on the altar after Sunday Mass or drop it into the Priory on Monday 9-12 or Friday 10-12. We would be grateful to receive all gifts no later than Monday 25 March so we can deliver before Easter.

**PILGRIMAGE TO LISIEUX:** Fr John will lead a pilgrimage by coach to Lisieux from **2-6 September**. Package price is **£655** which includes coach, ferry, accommodation and services of a courier with visits to Caen, Alencon and Mont St Michel. For more details, please speak to Fr John or see the poster on the noticeboard.

**DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGES:** As we prepare for the Jubilee year in 2025 as 'Pilgrims of Hope' you are invited to join our diocese on pilgrimage. There are plenty to choose from including Walsingham in June 2024, Lourdes in August 2024, the [Shrines of Northern France](#) in October 2024 and [Rome and Assisi](#) in 2025. For more information on all of these pilgrimages and our diocesan walking pilgrimage, 'The Way of Our Lady of Guadalupe' visit <https://northamptondiocese.org/pilgrimage/>. **Bookings for Northern France and Rome and Assisi Pilgrimages open on Monday 18 March.**

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE A YOUTH MINISTRY LEADER IN THE LAKE DISTRICT?** Castlerigg Manor (Diocese of Lancaster Retreat Centre) are looking for a Programme Leader to join their youth ministry team. The work involves working on retreats in the heart of the Lake District and occasionally working on outreach visits around the area. The post is residential and comes with a salary package in the range of £26-28k, made up of paid salary, accommodation, food, etc. Would suit somebody with youth ministry experience perhaps recently graduated. Contact [jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk](mailto:jack@castleriggmanor.co.uk).

**APF MILL HILL MISSION – MISSIO:** Red Box supporters of Missio are asked to collect their spring edition of "Mission Today" from the back of their church. This edition gives details of 30 Missionaries who met violent deaths worldwide in 2023, including 3 Nigerian Missionaries so your continued support of [Missio](#) is essential but, regrettably, due to the increasing use of credit card purchases and the resulting decline in cash purchases the proceeds from Red Box donations continues to decline – from £5,110 in 2019 down to £1,290 in 2023 and a mere £115.88 so far in 2024 so please consider changing your support to a Direct Debit. The appropriate form and a freepost envelope to enable you to do so are on the final pages of Mission Today but please keep your Red Boxes for any unwanted foreign coins and notes.

A selection of **EASTER CARDS** is now on sale from the Repository at very reasonable prices.

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### 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

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Telephone: 01753 886581  
Registered Charity Number 234091

Email: [office@stjosephs.org.uk](mailto:office@stjosephs.org.uk)



**SAHARA TREK:** This weekend parishioners Rebecca and Imogen Gaskell are on a 60K Sahara Desert trek in memory of Grace Gaskell to raise funds for [Helen & Douglas House](#) children's

hospice. **Thank you to everyone who supported the family's fundraising appeal last weekend.** You can still [donate online via their gofundme webpage](#).

**THE [LONDON & SLOUGH RUN](#) continues this Monday 11 March.** 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 INDIVIDUAL CARTONS OF ORANGE/APPLE JUICE, FRESH GREEN MILK, UHT GREEN MILK, COFFEE, TEA BAGS, SUGAR, JAM, CEREALS and TOILET ROLL.** Thank you for your continued generosity and support, which is very much appreciated.

*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.*



There is now a **DEFIBRILLATOR IN THE SACRISTY** at St Joseph's Church, located alongside the First Aid Kit.



**Next weekend there will be a second collection at all Masses for Easter Flowers.**

**TEACHING INTERNSHIPS:** Have any of your family members or friends, who are currently studying for a degree, expressed an interest in teaching in either a primary or secondary setting? Our local [STCAT](#) family of schools (which includes St Joseph's School) is delighted to be offering the opportunity to undergraduates interested in teaching for a three-week, school-based Internship Placement between 24 June and 12 July 2024. For more information and application details, please go to our webpage – [STCAT Summer Internships 2024](#).

**OFFERTORY APPEAL:** As announced at all Masses this weekend, we are making an appeal to all parishioners to consider reviewing their offertory contributions. With the significant increase in utility bills, we are not covering the running costs of the church. The finance team is looking at ways to contain cost increases and generate income. Whilst there are other initiatives they are looking at; our main source of income is the weekly offertory collection. Given the challenge everyone faces we have been reticent in asking for any increases and have not asked parishioners to consider their offertory gifts for five years. However, in this current situation we would ask if you could look to increase your donations. Any amount, however small, will make a difference when added together with everyone else. Also, if you are a taxpayer, please do consider Gift Aid. Thank you for your support and generosity.



**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 can be found in the church porch, obtained from the Parish Office or [downloaded from the website](#).

**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 the parish using this scheme.

***"To be a mother is a great treasure. Mothers, in their unconditional and sacrificial love for their children, are the antidote to individualism; they are the greatest enemies against war."***

*Pope Francis*

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