



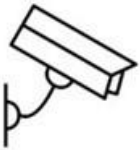
St Joseph's Parish, Diocese of Northampton  
Order of Discalced Carmelites (OCD)

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

**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 5 Video](#) | [Week 5 Audio](#) | [Week 5 Letter](#)

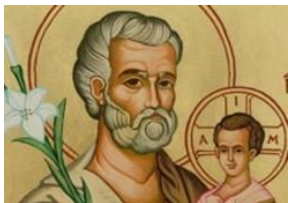


We broadcast all Masses/Services live from St Joseph's Church (not the Oratory) in real time via our live stream at [www.stjosephs.org.uk/Live](http://www.stjosephs.org.uk/Live).

18 March	St Patrick, Bishop Patron of Ireland – Feast ( <i>transferred from Sunday</i> )
19 March	St Joseph, Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary; Patron of the Universal Church; Protector of Carmelite Order – Solemnity

**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.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Agnes Feltham** who died recently. May she rest in peace. Her funeral will take place on **Monday 8 April in St Joseph's Church at 1:15pm**. We extend our sympathy to all her family and friends.



#### 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 where we will reminisce by watching video recordings and looking at photo streams of the parish's 75<sup>th</sup> and 100<sup>th</sup> celebrations.

**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.

**There will be a second collection at all Masses this weekend for EASTER FLOWERS.** Your generous contributions, together with the work of our flower ladies, always ensure our churches look lovely.

**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES:** Please read and keep the Easter booklet (available from the church porch) which gives times of all the services across the parishes in our Pastoral Area over Easter. This includes details of all Masses in St Joseph's, The Most Holy Name and the Bridgettine Convent. Please take one booklet per family. The Easter Triduum is a very special celebration of the Passion, Death and Resurrection of Christ. We very much look forward to celebrating these special liturgies with full congregations; please do join us.

#### 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.

The final session will be our **Lent Reconciliation Service**. *Lead us not into Temptation, deliver us from evil!*

This takes place on **Thursday 21 March at 7:30pm** in St Joseph's Church and is an opportunity to bring our own brokenness, weakness, pain and suffering before Jesus and renew our personal relationship with Him.

**'COME BACK TO THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART'** and go to confession in preparation for Easter. Lent Services of Reconciliation across our Pastoral Area are:

- **Thursday 21 March** at 7pm at [St Aidan's](#), Little Chalfont
- **Monday 25 March** at 7pm at [St Columba's](#), Chesham
- **Tuesday 26 March** at 7pm at [St Augustine's](#), High Wycombe
- **Wednesday 27 March** at 7:30pm at [St Teresa's](#), Beaconsfield

*"Don't be afraid to go to the Sacrament of Confession, where you will meet Jesus who forgives you."*  
Pope Francis

**ROSARY CIRCLE:** Tuesday evening is the Feast of St Joseph and Thursday evening is the Lent Reconciliation Service so there will be NO ROSARY this coming week.

**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 Palms and Easter cards.**

**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.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Commemorate Jesus' last day on earth as man by retracing his final journey. This is a way to pray and meditate on His sacrifice for us and it helps us examine our life in light of the cross. The final one this Lent takes place on **Thursday 21 March** after 9am Mass in St Joseph's Church.

**YOUNG ADULT GROUP:** We have started a young adult group in the parish for those aged between 18 and 35. They will meet together on **Friday 22 March at 7:30pm** in the Priory. Young people are invited to come and join us. If you want to find out more speak to Fr Theophilus or [click here to join the WhatsApp Group](#).

**MASS WITH THE SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING:** On **Saturday 13 April at 3pm**, there will be a Mass for the Third Sunday of Easter with the Sacrament of Anointing held in St Joseph's Church. We are all in need of a little healing, so this is an opportunity for all to personally receive the holy oils. This Mass fulfils the Sunday obligation. Light refreshments will be served afterwards in the First Committee Room.

**LIFE IN THE SPIRIT SEMINARS:** Beginning on **Tuesday 16 April** and running for six weeks including a retreat day on Saturday 18 May, Life In The Spirit Seminars are designed for anyone looking to know more about life in the Spirit of God. The seminars are free to attend and can be joined at Northampton Cathedral or one of the 'hub' venues – our nearest is Our Lady of Peace Church in Burnham (SL2 2NL). [Click here for more information](#).

*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.*

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

**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.

**EASTER GIFTS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE IN NEED:** 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, 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.

**A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR ALTAR SERVERS**, many of whom gave up time recently for additional training. We welcome any child/young person who has made their first communion to join our team of servers. Please [provide your information here](#) or give your name to one of the priests and we will provide the training!

**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](#).

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

**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, Alençon 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 this Monday 18 March.**

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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)

**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).

**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](#).

**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.

**THE [LONDON & SLOUGH RUN](#) continues this Monday 18 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.

**OFFERTORY APPEAL:** As announced at all Masses last 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.

**NEWSLETTER:** There will be a newsletter next Sunday 24 March – deadline for content is lunchtime on Thursday 21 March. The next one thereafter will be Sunday 14 April; any articles to be included that week should be with the [Parish Office](#) by lunchtime on Thursday 11 April.

**HOMEBOUND PACKS:** Mindful that not everyone is in a position to get to church, we provide monthly packs with Sunday Mass sheets, parish news and other liturgical materials on request to parishioners who are not online. Please get in touch if you know someone who would benefit from a pack or would like a visit.

**DIOCESAN SAFEGUARDING REPORT PUBLISHED:** The key findings of this audit are that the Diocese of Northampton is at the overall grading of **Comprehensive Assurance** at this time. [Click here for more details](#).

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