



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

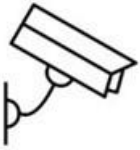
24 March 2024

Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

Sundays Year B – Weekdays Year 2 – Psalter Week 2

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

[Passion Sunday Video](#) | [Passion Sunday 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.

MASS TIMES ON MONDAY 25 March will be 7am and **9:30am (NOT 9am as usual)**. All the children from St Joseph's School will be attending the morning Mass in the church as they mark the end of the spring term.

HOLY WEEK & EASTER

Easter is the highlight of the Church's year when we recall and represent the great mysteries of the suffering, death and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. This Holy Week, let our participation in the Easter Services be an expression of our commitment as disciples of Jesus in the modern world. Together let us listen again to the story of how one man's love and fidelity to the truth changed the world and continues to change millions of lives today. Let us see how his cross and resurrection are well-springs of hope for all humanity and speak to every life in need of hope and healing.

We very much look forward to celebrating these special liturgies with full congregations. Please do join us if you are able to, you will be warmly welcomed.

[CLICK HERE FOR THE MASS SCHEDULE](#) which lists all services taking place in St Joseph's Church, The Most Holy Name Church and the Bridgettine Convent between **Sunday 24 March and Friday 5 April**. Masses return to normal from Saturday 6 April.

 **Clocks go forward 1 hour** 
at 1am on Easter Sunday 31 March

FROM BISHOP DAVID...

[Click here to read a summary of Bishop David's feedback](#) on his recent Pastoral Area Visitation, along with a message from our Dean, Mgr Seán Healy.

[Click here to read Bishop David's Homily](#) for the Solemnity of St Joseph which was the fourth anniversary of his episcopal ordination.

'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:

- **Monday 25 March** at 7pm at [St Columba's](#)
- **Tuesday 26 March** at 7pm at [St Augustine's](#)
- **Wednesday 27 March** at 7:30pm at [St Teresa's](#)

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

EASTER CONFESSIONS: You are invited to experience the gift of God's mercy and forgiveness in the Sacrament of Reconciliation on **Saturday 30 March from 10:30am to 11am**. If you are nervous about coming to confession or if it has been a long time since your last confession, please be reassured that what awaits you is the joy and peace of God's loving mercy.

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.

NB: There will be **NO 10AM MASS TODAY** due to the funeral taking place.

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.

ROSARY CIRCLE is now on a break until Tuesday 9 April when it will resume on Tuesdays online via Zoom and on Thursdays in person in the Oratory. [Contact Christine Cornwell](#) for further information. All are welcome.

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH CLEANING FOR EASTER will take place on **Wednesday 27 March at 9:30am** (after morning Mass). If you can spare an hour or so to help our Cleaning Team prepare the church, they would be delighted to see you – many hands make light work!

The **PARISH OFFICE & PRIORY WILL BE CLOSED** from Maundy Thursday until Monday 8 April – no clergy/staff available. During this time if you need a priest urgently, please call 01753 886581 and follow the prompt.

INTERACTIVE STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Children's Liturgy has a special activity after Mass this week for Palm Sunday. Join us outside (or in the Hall if wet) to learn about the Passion of Jesus and accompany Him on the road to Calvary. Our Interactive Stations of the Cross describe the events of Jesus' last day on earth, from His arrest to His crucifixion to being buried in the tomb. There are 14 stations depicting his final journey of love, all in a format that's easy to follow, offering simple meditations and actions that even young children can participate in.

The **Interactive Stations of the Cross** will remain in place after the 9am Mass until 5:30pm. Parishioners of all ages are invited to come along at any time during the day and take a self-guided journey around the stations using the prayer leaflet provided.

EASTER GIFTS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE IN NEED: Please hand in your unwrapped Easter Gift in an open bag this weekend or drop it to the Priory on Monday 9-12. We would be grateful to receive all gifts no later than this Monday 25 March so we can deliver before Easter.

CHRISM MASS: On **Maundy Thursday 28 March** at 11am you are invited to join Bishop David and the priests of our Diocese to celebrate the Chrism Mass. During the Mass the bishop will bless the three holy oils – sick catechumen and chrism. It will also be [broadcast via the cathedral's live stream](#). *Unfortunately, there were not sufficient numbers in the end to hire a coach.*

GOOD FRIDAY CHILDREN'S STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Good Friday is the day when Jesus died on the cross for us. Join the Children's Choir on **Friday 29 March at 11am** as they follow Jesus on the road to Calvary.

EASTER COLLECTIONS: The Good Friday collection is for the Holy Places of Palestine. The Easter Vigil and Easter Sunday collections are for the clergy of the parish. If you wish to make your Easter Offering via cheque then please make it payable to "Carmelite Community" and mark it 'Easter Offering' on the reverse. If you normally use offertory envelopes then you will find an EASTER one in your box. If you wish to make an offering but are not at church in person over Easter then you can either [make a bank transfer](#) using as the reference 'Easter Offering', post a cheque to the Parish Office or drop it through the Priory letterbox.

Sunday 7 April is DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY, where we remember the tremendous love and mercy that Jesus Christ has for us. The message of Divine Mercy was given by Jesus to St Faustina, known for her diary and for promoting devotion to Jesus as the King of Mercy which is particularly done by praying the [Divine Mercy Chaplet](#).

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY CELEBRATIONS at St Andrews Shared Church SL1 5RE on **Sunday 7 April** at 2pm. The service will be led by Mgr Seán Healy and will include Holy Mass, Time of Mercy with Merciful Jesus, Benediction with Adoration and Veneration of the Image of Merciful Jesus. All Welcome. Please call Millie on 07957594646 for more information.

EMMAUS – OPENING THE SCRIPTURES: Our next talk takes place on **Wednesday 10 April** at St Teresa's in Beaconsfield. The topic is 'You are my witnesses' (Isa 43:10): Chosen and Sent and the speaker is Fr Pius Amoako. You can attend in person or [watch live via our YouTube Channel](#). For more details please visit www.stjosephs.org.uk/Emmaus.

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](#).



CONGRATULATIONS to Molly Devine who was awarded her Guild of St Stephen's Medal for two years of regular serving at the 9:30am Sunday Mass in Denham. Well done and thank you!

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

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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Registered Charity Number 234091

Email: office@stjosephs.org.uk

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.](#)

A small number of **EASTER DAY BY DAY** booklets which feature daily readings and inspirational quotes will be available next weekend from the bookshop priced at just £1 each. Please put your money in the box provided.

FAIRTRADE/TRAIDCRAFT: You can buy fairtrade goods from Margaret Dykes at the monthly Coffee Morning at the Village Hall in Church Road. The next one takes place on **Wednesday 3 April** from 10am until 12 noon.

TEA AND CHAT will take a break over the Easter period. Our next get-together will take place on **Thursday 11 April** from 2pm to 4pm in the First Committee Room at St Joseph's Priory. We look forward to seeing you.

NEWSLETTER: The next parish newsletter will be **Sunday 21 April**; any articles to be included that week should be with the [Parish Office](#) by lunchtime on Thursday 18 April.

HOMEBOUND PACKS/VISITS: 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. The priests are happy to make home visits, to hear confession, to take communion or simply to chat. Please get in touch if you know someone who would benefit from a pack or would like a visit.

THE [LONDON & SLOUGH RUN](#) continues this **Monday 25 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.

ST JOSEPH'S FURNITURE MARKET

will be open as normal from 9am until 12:30pm on Easter Saturday 30 March.

[Get in touch via email](#) or [follow us on Facebook](#).

We wish all our customers a very Happy Easter.

PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK: Escorted tour to Knock from **26 to 31 May**. £899 PPS. Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, accommodation in 4* Castlecourt Hotel with dinner, bed and breakfast and lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick and Ashford Castle. For details or contact Patricia/Natali on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com.

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.

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: [We are making an appeal to all parishioners](#) to review 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 costs and generate income. 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 giving for five years. However, in this current situation we ask if you could look to increase your donations. Any amount, however small, will make a difference when added together with everyone else. If you are a taxpayer, please do consider Gift Aid. Thank you for your support and generosity.

GIFT AID enables us 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](#).

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