

5 May 2024

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Sundays Year B – Weekdays Year 2 – Psalter Week 2



St Joseph's Parish, Diocese of Northampton

Order of Discalced Carmelites (OCD)

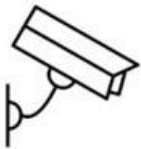
St Joseph's Priory, Austenwood Common, Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire SL9 8RY

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

This weekend there will be a second collection at all Masses for Sick & Retired Carmelite Priests.

MONDAY 6 MAY IS A BANK HOLIDAY so there will be only one morning Mass at 10am in St Joseph's Church.

THURSDAY 9 MAY is the **FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD** and is a Holy Day of Obligation. Mass in The Oratory at 7am and Mass in St Joseph's Church at 9am and 7:30pm.



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.

9 May	The Ascension of the Lord – Solemnity
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MAY IS KNOWN AS "MARY'S MONTH", a special time of the year when devotions are performed in honour of Our Lady. Our parish **ROSARY CIRCLE** meets twice a week to pray for peace in the world and the needs of our parish. Join us via Zoom on **Tuesdays at 7:30pm** ([contact Christine Cornwell](#) for Zoom details) or in person in The Oratory on **Thursdays at 7:30pm**. Everyone is most welcome.

PENTECOST NOVENA: The novena in honour of the Holy Spirit is the oldest of all novenas, since it was Jesus himself who sent his apostles back to Jerusalem to await the coming of the Holy Spirit on the first Pentecost. It is the only novena officially prescribed by the Church. We are all encouraged to join the nine days of prayer in preparation for a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon our world. The novena **starts on Friday 10 May** and **ends** on the eve of Pentecost, **Saturday 18 May**. Pick up a card from the church porch or [click here](#) for the novena prayer and daily intentions.

EMMAUS – OPENING THE SCRIPTURES: Our May talk was 'The Holy Spirit and Evangelisation' and the speaker was **Michelle Moran**. [Click here to watch a recording](#). For more details and links to recordings of previous talks, please visit our [Emmaus webpage](#).

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.

The **YOUTH MUSIC GROUP** will meet for a practice on **Thursday 9 May** at 7pm in the Priory.

RETURN TO THE UPPER ROOM: Mission Northampton will host a virtual gathering exploring the call to return to the upper room and prepare our hearts for Pentecost. Join them on **Friday 10 May** at 7:30pm on Zoom. [Click here for more details and to sign up](#).

CALLED & EQUIPPED: What is God calling you to do next? Our year-long formation course isn't for everyone but covering the foundations of Catholic teaching alongside developing a personal spirituality, it might just be for you. It is open to anyone active in parish life or coming into ministry. [Find out more here](#) and at our introductory webinar on **Thursday 23 May** at 7:30pm.

JESUS AND ME – WOMEN'S DAY RETREAT: Saturday 1 June at St Augustine's in High Wycombe, starting at 9am and finishing with Mass at 4:30pm. Theme is "An Encounter with the King" with guest speaker Barbara Reed Mason. A day to set aside and encounter Jesus in scripture, prayer, fellowship and reflection. Tickets £15, including lunch. Spaces limited – booking essential. Please bring a bible. Contact Marian on 07910467588 or marian_dunsire@outlook.com.

SAVE THE DATE: MEN'S DAY RETREAT: Saturday 15 June at St Augustine's in High Wycombe. Theme is "Father Heart of God". More details to follow.

ENCOUNTER FESTIVAL: The Carmelite Young Adult Ministry Team invites you to Encounter Festival 2024. The theme is 'Prayer: Where Pilgrims Meet.' It is a weekend of prayer, workshops, talks and deepening friendships for young adults. This year's festival will be held at the Kairos Retreat Centre, Roehampton, London, from **Friday 28 to Sunday 30 June**. See the poster in the porch for details or contact Fr Jerome to book a place.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION for May is **FOR THE FORMATION OF RELIGIOUS AND SEMINARIANS** – We pray that religious women and men, and seminarians, grow in their own vocations through their human, pastoral, spiritual and community formation, leading them to be credible witnesses to the Gospel.

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

A small number of **MAY 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.

TEA AND A CHAT: Our social group will meet together for a chat over a cuppa on **Thursday 9 May** from 2pm to 4pm in the First Committee Room. We look forward to seeing you there. Everyone is most welcome.

THE LONDON & SLOUGH RUN continues this Bank Holiday Monday 6 May. 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 URGENT NEED OF NEW MENS BOXER SHORTS AND SOCKS. WE ARE IN NEED OF FRESH GREEN MILK, UHT GREEN MILK, TEA, COFFEE, SUGAR, INDIVIDUAL CARTONS OF ORANGE/APPLE JUICE, TINNED FISH, TINNED MEAT and CRISPS.** Thank you for your continued generosity and support, which is very much appreciated.

UPDATE – PARISH COMMUNITY CENTRE

[Click here](#) for an update on the New Parish Community Hall which includes an appeal for extra help on our New Hall Project Team. Please take time to read it and reflect if you have some experience and skills to offer to this vital project. You can get in touch with via our **email address** below so we may follow up.

newhall.stjosephgerrardscross@northamptondiocese.org

CLEANING CONTRACT FOR PARISH PREMISES: The Finance Committee has reviewed our existing cleaning arrangements for parish premises and is inviting tenders for the duties currently undertaken by the professional cleaner. The tender was issued on 1 May and quotes should be submitted by 5pm on Wednesday 15 May. If parishioners own, or can recommend, a professional cleaning company who might be interested in tendering for this work, please let the Parish Office know **ASAP**.



JAZZ NIGHT: Due to popular demand the boys are back in town! Following two super evenings last year, **The Cottle Brothers** will be presenting a **Jazz Night** at

The Hub on **Friday 24 May** at **7:30pm**. All proceeds will go to the [Open Doors](#) charity. Tickets cost £15 and can be [booked online](#) or over the phone on 07543 630968.



CONGRATULATIONS to **Leo McCormick** and **Jordan Pallipuram** who were recently enrolled into the Guild of St Stephen and were awarded medals for two years of regular serving at Mass. **Congratulations to Reuben and Lionel D'Souza** who were awarded wooden crosses for one year of regular serving at Mass. *Well done and thank you all!*

Recently, our diocese was the focus of a **Safeguarding Audit** undertaken by the [Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency](#) (CSSA). The key findings are that we are at the overall grading of **Comprehensive Assurance** at this time. Exemplary practice was seen in respect of the compassionate and innovative ways in which the diocese seeks to engage with, and support, victim-survivors. **Bishop David** has issued a **Pastoral Message** reflecting on our recent audit report from the CSSA.

[Read the Bishop's Letter](#) | [Watch the Bishop's Video](#)
[Read the CSSA Executive Summary Report](#)

SITUATIONS VACANT: The Diocese is currently recruiting for a Financial Accountant and an Accounts Assistant to join their central team based in Northampton. Full information for both positions, including how to apply, [can be found here](#). The closing date for applications is Friday 17 May 2024, however we reserve the right to close the vacancy earlier if a sufficient number of applications have been received. Interviews dates to be confirmed. All candidates should complete a Diocesan application form and [email it to HR](#), together with a covering letter detailing their qualifications, experience, and why they are interested in the position.

ST JOSEPH'S 200 CLUB 2023/2024: The 200 Club for **April** was held last week and the lucky winners are:

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|-----------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 st | Mary Keenan (£265) |
| 2 nd | Sonia Chin-See (£132.50) |
| 3 rd | Lester & Doreen D'Souza (£79.50) |
| 4 th | Ciaran Coakley (£53) |

Thanks to all those who have joined recently. The club continues to grow and new memberships are still available. For more details and to register please contact Alastair by email at 200club@stjosephs.org.uk or pick up an application form from the church porch.

Next Sunday is World Communications Day and there will be a second collection at all Masses for the Catholic Communications Network.

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