



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 (Retired),  
Fr John McGowan OCD, Fr Martin McDonald OCD and Fr Theophilus (Theo) Nyamali OCD

16 March 2025  
Second Sunday of Lent

Sundays Year C – Weekdays Year 1 – Psalter Week 2



Catholic Agency for  
Overseas Development

### LENT APPEAL 2025

This Lent, your donations to [CAFOD's Family Fast Day](#) appeal will give mums like Lokho, who lives in Keyna, a safety net with the skills, seeds and tools they need to grow food in harsh climates. In this Year of Jubilee, Pope Francis calls on us to be tangible signs of hope for those of our sisters and brothers who experience hardships of any kind. Please be a pilgrim of hope with us by supporting communities worldwide to fight poverty, injustice, conflict and climate change, and so restore their hope. [Click here to watch our Lent Appeal video.](#)

***This weekend there will be an appeal and second collection at all Masses on behalf of CAFOD.***

If you are a tax payer, please use one of the envelopes you'll find at the back of church for your donation so that the gift aid can be claimed. Alternatively, you can make an online donation at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or call us on 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10. Please keep us in your prayers.

### LENT 2025 IN OUR PARISH

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** During the season of Lent, we take a journey with Jesus. The Stations of the Cross follow His path 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 **Tuesday and Friday after 9am Mass** in St Joseph's Church.

**ROSARY CIRCLE:** We are called to be more fervent in prayer during Lent. The Rosary is the perfect prayer to pray communally for the needs and intentions of our parish and the wider world, especially at this time. You are invited to join our parish Rosary Circle this Lent. **Pray with us via Zoom on Tuesdays at 7:30pm** ([contact Christine Cornwell](#) for Zoom joining details) and/or **join us in person in The Oratory on Thursdays at 7:30pm.**

**ADORATION:** Spending time in Eucharistic Adoration draws us closer to Jesus and helps us deepen our faith. You are invited to spend some time resting and praying in the presence of the Lord for **30 minutes after 9am Mass on Thursday morning** in St Joseph's Church.



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).

17 March	St Patrick, Bishop Patron of Ireland – Feast
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 **David Waring** who died recently. May he rest in peace. His funeral will take place on **Friday 21 March at 11:30am in St Joseph's Church.** We extend our sympathy to all his family and friends.

**EMMAUS – OPENING THE SCRIPTURES:** Our March talk was “**Judge not that you may not be judged**” (**Matthew 25:36**) - A Christian Response’ and the speaker was Sr Lilian Ehidihamen. [Click here to watch a recording.](#) You'll [find Sr Lilian's handout here](#). For more details and links to recordings of previous talks, [visit the Emmaus webpage](#).



**GROWING IN HOPE:** This Lent we are encouraging everyone to do **Acts of Kindness throughout Lent.** We are asking people (young and old) to let us know what they have done every week by adding a leaf (or leaves) to our “**Jubilee Year of Hope Through Kindness Tree**” that will be in St Joseph's Church throughout Lent. You'll find [ideas to get you started here](#) and a [blank calendar to fill in here](#). Please do get involved and help us let our tree flourish so that it is fully grown by Easter.

### LENT PRAYER

The Ignatian Spirituality Centre offers [Fruits of the Spirit online prayer](#) which we'll use for Morning Prayer via Zoom on Lent **weekdays from Wednesday 5 March to Friday 18 April.** A booklet is also available.

The **Diocesan Women in Ministry Group** will be praying with the 2nd half of **40 Women: Unseen Women of the Bible** with a morning email and early evening prayer via Zoom in Weeks 1-4 of Lent, from **Monday 10 March to Friday 4 April.**

[Contact Joanna Hale by email](#) for more information.



**FEAST OF ST JOSEPH:**  
**Wednesday 19 March** is the feast of St Joseph, Patron of the Universal Church, Protector of the Discalced Carmelite Order and Patron of our Parish. There will be **Mass at 7am** in the Oratory and **at 9am** in St Joseph's Church.

Our patronal celebration will take place next **Sunday 23 March** with the **11am Mass** reflecting the diversity of our parish. This will be followed by a **get together in the School Hall at 12 noon**.

We invite all parishioners to join us for an afternoon of fun and fellowship, celebrating the various cultures within our parish community, sharing foods and delicacies from around the world and enjoying the talent in our parish.  
**No tickets, no registrations required...just show up.**

WELCOMING ALL PARISHIONERS TO CELEBRATE  
**FEAST OF ST JOSEPH**  
**PATRON SAINT OF OUR PARISH**

Join us for an afternoon of fun and community, celebrating the various International cultures within our parish community, sharing food and celebrating Talents in our Parish

**ST. JOSEPH'S GOT TALENT**

INTERNATIONAL CUISINE FROM DIFFERENT CONTINENTS

**SAVE THE DATE!**  
**MARCH 23, 2025**

FOR TALENT SHOW REGISTER VIA LINK ON [WWW.STJOSEPHS.ORG.UK](http://WWW.STJOSEPHS.ORG.UK)

IF YOU CAN BRING FOOD TO SHARE REACH OUT ON WHATSAPP LIAM +44 7900564558 SHAILESH +44 7510684039

YOUTH MASS : 11AM  
 @ ST JOSEPH'S PRIORY  
 GET TOGETHER: 12 NOON  
 @ ST JOSEPH'S PRIMARY SCHOOL HALL

If you want to **showcase your talent @ the St Joseph's Got Talent show** please [click here to sign up](#). We are limited to a maximum of 10-15 entries due to time constraints and **places are filling up quickly**, so don't delay and book your place now.

If you can bring food to share, please get in touch with the organising team by WhatsApp or Text ([see above for names and contact numbers](#)).

**POPE FRANCIS ANNIVERSARY: Thursday 13 March** marked the twelfth anniversary of The Holy Father's election and he officially began his pastoral ministry as Bishop of Rome and head of the Universal Church on **19 March**. When he appeared on the balcony in St Peter's Square, having just been elected, his first message was simply **'please pray for me'**. Let us pray that the Lord may bless Pope Francis with a return to good health and give him the strength and help he needs to continue carrying out his mission with dedication and generosity.

**BISHOP DAVID ANNIVERSARY: Wednesday 19 March** marks the fifth anniversary of his Episcopal Ordination. Let us pray that guided by the Holy Spirit, Bishop David may continue to shepherd our diocese with wisdom, compassion, and unwavering faith, teaching the Gospel with clarity and leading our community in unity and love.



**DEMENTIA PRAYER WEEK** runs annually from 12-19 March with the aim to raise awareness and a deeper understanding of the spiritual needs of people living with dementia. We pray for all those experiencing dementia and those who care for

them. May the peace of Christ be with those who have a diagnosis and their loved ones, providing strength and resilience, and may the Holy Spirit bless and protect them on their difficult journeys.

**YOUNG ADULT LENTEN RETREAT:** The Carmelite Encounter Young Adult Ministry, led by Fr Jerome, is organising a Lenten Retreat followed by Easter Party on **Saturday 29 March** at the Carmelite Priory, Boars Hill, Oxford. Tickets are FREE and a return coach (also FREE) from Kensington through Gerrards Cross is available. **Booking ends this Sunday 16 March**. There are limited spaces available. [Click here for details and to book](#).

**LENT CALENDAR:** The Catholic Bishops Conference invite you to join them on a spiritual journey this Lent, thoughtfully designed to deepen your love of Scripture. Every day, you can reflect on an image, a Bible text and action point as we journey with Christ towards his death and resurrection. [Click here for the calendar](#).

**PASTORAL LETTER:** Bishop David has issued a strong call to prayer and action against the **Terminally Ill (End of Life) Bill**, which is currently under parliamentary scrutiny. [Read his letter here](#). [Watch his video here](#).

### 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 at 7:30pm via Zoom and Thursday at 7:30pm in the Oratory

\*BROADCAST VIA LIVE STREAM

Website: [www.stjosephs.org.uk](http://www.stjosephs.org.uk)

Telephone: 01753 886581  
 Registered Charity Number 234091

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

## OLIVE WOOD CARVINGS FROM THE HOLY LAND:

The Good Shepherd Company from the Holy Land (Bethlehem) is based in Nottingham and works to support and help Christian families in the Holy Land. 90% of the Christians there rely on income from olive wood carving, otherwise they leave in search of better job opportunities. According to a recent survey by the Bishops of Jerusalem, there is only 41,000 Christians left in the area. There will be a sale of goods (cribs, rosaries, crosses, religious statues, etc) **after all Masses on the weekend 29/30 March** in St Joseph's Church.

*Cash and card payments accepted.*

## POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION for March is FOR FAMILIES IN CRISIS

– Let us pray that broken families might discover the cure for their wounds through forgiveness, rediscovering each other's gifts, even in their differences.

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

**HELPERS NEEDED to serve refreshments after 11am Mass on Sundays.** If you can help out once a month or so, and are willing to go on a serving rota, please get in touch with Joan at the Parish Office.

**GIFT AIDERS:** Please collect your boxes of envelopes for the next twelve months from the back of the Church.

**2024 ANNUAL REPORT:** We have now published [St Joseph's Parish Annual Report 2024](#). In it you will find a review of the last twelve months, a report on our parish finances from the Finance Committee and a Financial Statement for the year ended 31 March 2024. Also included are reports on from our parish representatives for Health & Safety and Safeguarding. Paper copies are available on request from the Parish Office, which is where queries should be directed in the first instance.

**THANK YOU FROM SHOC:** The Slough Homeless Our Concern (SHOC) Trustees and the Slough Day Centre Team would like to thank St Joseph's parishioners for your generous donations at the recent appeal and second collection. The **£1,309.67** received, together with gift aid, will help us to continue this vital service. If you were unable to contribute at that time, but would like to make a donation, please go to the SHOC website at [www.sloughhomeless.org.uk](http://www.sloughhomeless.org.uk) and click on the donate button where you can also do gift aid.

THE [LONDON & SLOUGH RUN](#) continues this Monday **10 March**. Please bring your donations to the **First Committee Room by 12 noon**. **WE ARE IN URGENT NEED OF INDIVIDUAL CARTONS OF ORANGE/APPLE JUICE, PLAIN CHEESE SANDWICHES, SATSUMAS, BANANAS, BOILED EGGS and CRISPS.** WE ALSO NEED FRESH GREEN MILK, UHT GREEN MILK, COFFEE, SUGAR, PEANUT BUTTER, JAM, TINNED FISH and TOILET ROLL. Thank you for your continued support and generosity every week.

**LOST PROPERTY:** We have jackets, hats and gloves, bags and various miscellaneous items in our Lost Property box. If you think an item in it might belong to you, can you please call into the Reception on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday morning to check. If the items are not claimed within the next month the items will be disposed of to a Charity Shop. Thank you.

**SVP AND CAFOD WORK EXPERIENCE:** The [St Vincent de Paul Society](#) (SVP) and [CAFOD](#) are collaborating to offer a week of free residential work experience for 20 young adults in England and Wales. The program will run from **22 to 27 June** in London. Candidates must have completed their first or second year at university and have a passion for social justice. [Click here for more details and the application form](#). For any queries, please [contact Kezia Harrow](#). Applications close on 20 April.

**VACANCY: St Teresa's in Beaconsfield** is currently recruiting for a **Housekeeper** to manage and carry out the housekeeping duties for the presbytery, including all cooking and cleaning needs for the resident priest/s. The role is **20 hours per week** with a start date of 1 June. [Click here for job description and application form](#). All candidates should send their completed application form to [hr.admin@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:hr.admin@northamptondiocese.org). The vacancy will remain open until filled, but we may close it early if we receive a high volume of applications.

**JOB OPPORTUNITY – DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION:** The Diocese of Northampton is seeking to appoint a Director of Education. This full-time role is vital in supporting the Bishop's mission and vision for Catholic education, ensuring the continued growth and excellence of our diocesan schools. [Click here for details and to apply](#).

*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.*

---

## 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 at 7:30pm via Zoom and Thursday at 7:30pm in the Oratory

\*BROADCAST VIA LIVE STREAM

Website: [www.stjosephs.org.uk](http://www.stjosephs.org.uk)

Telephone: 01753 886581  
Registered Charity Number 234091

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

**CURRY NIGHT:** By special request, the Bridgettine Sisters are hosting a Curry Night next **Saturday 22 March at 6:30pm**. The price is £20 per person and there will also be a raffle with lots of prizes at £5 for a strip of tickets. All the **proceeds will go towards our new Grotto**. Please contact Ann Saunders on 07787 774356 to book your place. **CASH ONLY**.

**FILM NIGHT:** Pinewood Studios have kindly offered the Bridgettine Sisters their cinema for fundraising towards their Grotto. They will host a **Film Night at Pinewood Studios** showing 'Fly Me to the Moon' on **Thursday 24 April** at 6pm; film starts at 7pm. On arrival there will be some finger food and soft drinks. The entry for the evening is **£15 per person**. There will also be a raffle at £5 per strip which will be drawn at the end of the show; Pinewood has donated some of the prizes. Please get in touch with Ann Saunders on 07787 774356 to book your tickets. Payment is by **CASH ONLY** in advance. No payment can be taken at the door on the night. Last date to book is Monday 21 April. Looking forward to seeing you there on the night.

**SHOC GOLF DAY:** [Slough Homeless Our Concern](#) (SHOC) is grateful for the support that it receives from St Joseph's parishioners. The charity continues to provide a vital service with 80 rough sleepers on its books and 40-50 people coming to its day centre every day. The **SHOC Charity Golf Day** provides an annual source of funds for the charity. This year it will be held on **Friday 9 May** at Burnham Beeches Golf Club, which offers an attractive championship course. [Click here for the registration form](#) which includes more details about the day.

**ST JOSEPH'S FURNITURE MARKET** is open on **Saturday mornings from 9am until 12:30pm**. Please arrive by 12 noon to view, buy or donate. Payment by cash or card. We can deliver items locally for a small charge.

You can contact us at this **email address:**  
[stjosephsfurnituremarket@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsfurnituremarket@gmail.com)

You can also **Follow us on Facebook** at:  
[www.facebook.com/groups/150493297972](https://www.facebook.com/groups/150493297972)

If you have furniture to donate, please bring it, or at least a photograph, to the market on a Saturday morning. You can also make contact with us by email – let us know what you have to donate (include a picture if you have one) and we will get back to you. We can collect from Gerrards Cross, Chalfont St Peter and Chalfont St Giles subject to volunteer availability.

### 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 at 7:30pm via Zoom and Thursday at 7:30pm in the Oratory

\*BROADCAST VIA LIVE STREAM

Website: [www.stjosephs.org.uk](http://www.stjosephs.org.uk)

Telephone: 01753 886581  
Registered Charity Number 234091

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



### PARISH FINANCES – UPDATE

Thank you for your generosity in response to the recent appeal to help us eradicate the shortfall in funding for the parish. The deficit had been

forecast to reach £30,000 for the year ending at the end of this month, March 2025. There has been a notable increase in the weekly collections during the Masses.

The demand for Gift Aid forms has risen substantially, indicating that in future there will be a significant increase in the 25% received from the tax authority for every £ donated to the parish.

Whilst it has not been possible yet to forecast exactly the effect of your greater donations by way of bank transfers and Gift Aid envelopes, the indications are that your increased giving is putting us on the path to a sustainable financial position.

We note that many, many Gift Aid forms have been picked up from the church porches – some of which have not yet been returned. If you have any questions or need any help with the forms or gift aiding, please email [giftaid@stjosephs.org.uk](mailto:giftaid@stjosephs.org.uk) or contact the Parish Office to get assistance.

We will keep you informed regularly regarding the parish funds as we know that you will want to hear about our progress towards financial stability, so that we can continue to support all the selfless work done by our priests and the many groups within the parish.

*Your continued support is greatly appreciated.*

The next **PASTORAL AREA COUNCIL MEETING** will take place on **Tuesday 18 March** at St Teresa's. St Joseph's, together with nine other parishes, belongs to the South Bucks Pastoral Area. The Pastoral Area Council (PAC), which includes both lay and clergy representatives from each parish, meets in person to communicate parish news, strengthen relationships and progress pastoral area-wide initiatives. Our focus for this next meeting is how we celebrate the Jubilee Year and finalising our programme of events. Mgr Seán Healy is the Dean. Joan Barham is the Chair. Christine Cornwell is our parish representative and also serves as the Secretary.

***Next weekend there will be a second collection at all Masses for Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham.***