



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

7 September 2025

Twenty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sundays Year C – Weekdays Year 1 – Psalter Week 3

*Congratulations to Sr Mary Christa and Sr Patsy from the Holy Cross Convent who celebrated their Platinum Jubilee last weekend. May the Lord continue to bestow His blessings upon them as they mark 70 years of commitment to religious life. We give thanks for their faithful witness and service, and we hold them in our prayers as they celebrate this joyful milestone. Ad multos annos.*

#### CHANGES TO REGULAR MASS TIMES

Due to fewer priests being available, there will be reduced Masses in the parish during September.

**NO Sunday 5:30pm Mass**

on 7, 14, 21 or 28 September

**No 7am Weekday Mass**

week beginning 22 September

week beginning 29 September

**MASS TIMES ON Wednesday 10 September** will be 7am and **9:30am (NOT 9am as usual)**. Children from St Joseph's School will be attending the morning Mass in the church as they mark the start of the school year.



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).

8 September	The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Feast
13 September	St John Chrysostom, Bishop, Doctor of the Church – Memorial
14 September	The Exaltation of the Holy Cross – Feast



#### SEASON OF CREATION

The [Season of Creation](#) runs from 1 September until 4 October. During this time, we are encouraged to pray and engage in community events in order to deepen our relationship with God, our neighbour and the earth we share, being ever more attentive to the cry of the earth and the cry of the poor. [Pope Leo's message for the Tenth World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation](#) stresses that environmental justice – implicitly proclaimed by the prophets – can no longer be regarded as an abstract concept or a distant goal. You will [find a Prayer for Creation here](#).

## Welcome Back Sunday

**CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE'S LITURGY** resumes on **Sunday 7 September** at the 9am Mass, gathering in different groups from toddlers to teens away from the congregation. Here they share the Gospel, after which the reading is explained to them at a level appropriate to their age. We really look forward to seeing all the children and young people after the summer holidays.

Parishioners of all ages are invited to join us for some crafts and games after Mass (outside on the decking and grass weather permitting), along with coffee and biscuits to celebrate the start of the new school year.



#### INVITATION TO EUCHARISTIC

**ADORATION:** As the summer holidays conclude for most, we transition back into our regular weekly routines. We invite you to participate in a brief and peaceful 30-minute prayer session in the presence of

Jesus. A wonderful opportunity in our busy working and student lives to experience the quiet strength and joy of Eucharistic Adoration. Join us throughout September on **Monday evenings from 6:30pm to 7pm** in St Joseph's Church or on **Thursday mornings after the 9am Mass until 10am**. Whether you are available for a few minutes or the full duration, your attendance is valued and offers an opportunity for spiritual renewal.

**EMMAUS – OPENING THE SCRIPTURES:** Our September talk was 'Put On Love' and the speaker was Fr Simon Penhalagan. [Click here to watch a recording](#). For more details and links to recordings of previous talks, [visit the Emmaus webpage](#).

This Sunday, Blessed [Carlo Acutis](#) will be the first **Millennial Saint to be canonised**. Born in London and raised in Milan, he was just 15 when he died. But in his short life he was renowned for his charity work and his constant pursuit of holiness. The Word of God and the Holy Eucharist were the centre of his life. His legacy lives on, and he is a worldwide source of inspiration to many, especially young people. We pray that his canonisation will inspire our young people to embrace holiness, a compassion for the poor and a life of generosity and service to God and neighbour.

*"To always be close to JESUS, that's my life plan."*

**BAPTISM COURSE:** Our next course in September is now fully booked. The next one thereafter will be **Sundays 16, 23 and 30 November**. Parents are invited to attend the 9am Family Mass, followed by a preparation session in The Library. Each session lasts about 45 minutes and is led by facilitators from the Baptism Team. If you would like your child baptised, please [click here and complete the online baptism registration form](#).

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026:** There will be an Open Meeting for **Holy Communion on Tuesday 16 September at 7:30pm in the First Committee Room**. This will be led by Fr Bob who will outline the plans and expectations for our 2026 programme. Sessions will begin mid-November and run fortnightly on Saturday afternoons during term time until mid-May. [Click here for information about COMMUNION 2026](#).

**CONFIRMATION 2026:** There will be an Open Meeting for **Confirmation on Monday 15 September at 7:30pm in the First Committee Room**. This will be led by our Confirmation Team who will outline the plans and expectations for our 2026 programme. Sessions will begin mid-October and run fortnightly on Saturday afternoons during term time until early-September. [Click here for information about CONFIRMATION 2026](#).

**ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR BOTH SACRAMENTS** will open on **Wednesday 17 September and close on Monday 6 October** for those who wish to enrol their child(ren) in either of these programmes. More details will be published on the parish website shortly.

**RCIA PROGRAMME FOR 2025/2026:** We invite applications for those interested in learning more about Catholic Faith. You may have a child in school you want to support; are married to or about to be married to a Catholic; were baptised but never received Confirmation; are wanting to return to the Church; come from another Christian denomination of another faith or have not had a faith or you might be interested in sharing your faith with those who are enquiring about theirs. The programme is open to all. Please come and join in the conversation. We will start the weekly meetings on **Tuesday 16 September at 7pm in the Priory**.

*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 **NATIONAL EMERGENCY ALERT TEST** will take place this **Sunday 7 September at 3pm**. The Emergency Alerts system warns the public of nearby dangers to life, including extreme weather. Since the first national test in April 2023, five alerts have been issued, including during major storms when lives were at risk.

**POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION for September is FOR OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH ALL OF CREATION** – Let us pray that, inspired by Saint Francis, we might experience our interdependence with all creatures who are loved by God and worthy of love and respect.

A small number of **SEPTEMBER DAY BY DAY** booklets which feature daily readings and inspirational quotes are available from the bookshop priced at just £1 each.

**APF MILL HILL MISSION – MISSIO:** Red Box holders and supporters are asked to collect their Summer Edition of "Mission Today" from the back of their church.

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

**TEA AND A CHAT:** Our fortnightly social group will meet together for a chat over a cuppa on **Thursday 11 September from 2pm to 4pm** in the First Committee Room at St Joseph's Priory. We look forward to seeing you there. A warm welcome awaits anyone who pops in.

**TEA IN THE POT**, our 'pop-up' café for parents, carers and little ones, re-opens on **Friday 12 September** after the summer break. Join us every Friday from 8:30am in the First Committee Room.

Fundraising for

**MACMILLAN  
CANCER SUPPORT**

The **WORLD'S BIGGEST COFFEE MORNING** is one of **MACMILLAN's** main fundraising events.

Our Children's Liturgy group has decided to show its support and do some fundraising by organising **COFFEE MORNING** and a **CAKE SALE** on **Friday 26 September**. Come along to Tea in the Pot in the First Committee Room from **8:30am to 11am AND/OR** pop along to our stall in the church car park from **3pm to 4pm**. Donations of sweet or savoury bakes (cakes, tarts, pies, scones, biscuits, bread, etc – no cream) can be left in the First Committee Room on Friday morning.

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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 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)



RESPONSE  
IN GAZA  
Your donations

since the start of the conflict have been a vital lifeline. Right now, CAFOD's partner, Caritas Jerusalem, is delivering essential medical treatment to displaced people and providing medicines to treat chronic illnesses. We have helped 1,400 households with cash to buy supplies in the last month and we are currently feeding 2,000 people with new stocks of flour and rice. Despite the restrictions on aid coming into Gaza, CAFOD's local partners are working tirelessly to help people. And with your ongoing support, they will do all in their power to keep doing so. You can find out more about how you can make a difference in Gaza at [cafod.org.uk](http://cafod.org.uk). Thank you for backing our work and continuing to pray for peace in the Middle East.

### ST JOSEPH'S 200 CLUB 2025/2026

The first draw for the new year 2025/2026 was held on 31 July. The lucky winners of the prize-fund are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Sheila McCarthy (£270)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Jean Wood (£135)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Catherine Bolger (£81)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Patrick Howe (£54)

The August draw was held at the end of the month. The lucky winners of the prize-fund are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Susan Gosnell (£280)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Maria Rosa Robbins (£140)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Denis Zekic (£84)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Ray Waite (£56)

Congratulations to the winners. Thank you to everyone who renewed or joined for the first time. We are grateful for your support of this parish fundraising scheme.

Club memberships are still available for 2025/26. Please contact Alastair at [200club@stjosephs.org.uk](mailto:200club@stjosephs.org.uk) to join, or pick up a form from the church porch.



### NOTICE FOR PARENTS & CARERS

Please be aware that parents/carers are responsible for the safety and supervision of their children at all times whilst on parish premises.

At the current time the Orchard is not suitable or safe for children so please do not allow them to play in there.

ST JOSEPH'S FURNITURE MARKET distributed £2,000 in August as follows:

- £1,000 Parish
- £500 Chalfont St Peter Scouts
- £250 Slough Refugee Support
- £250 Stroke Association

The Parish is very grateful for the regular donation it receives which is a valued source of income and helps to cover essential day-to-day running costs. Thank you to all the volunteers who work so hard to make the Furniture Market the success it is.

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)

**THE LONDON & SLOUGH RUN** continues this **Monday 8 September**. Please bring your sandwiches (especially Tuna, Plain Cheese and Marmite), boiled eggs, individual cartons of juice, small chocolate biscuit bars, individually wrapped cakes, satsumas, bananas and crisps to the **First Committee Room by 12 noon**. Also needed is green milk (both fresh and UHT), coffee, sugar, peanut butter, jam, tinned fish and toilet rolls.

*Thank you for your continued generosity and support, which is very much appreciated by our beneficiaries.*

**VOLUNTEER(S) NEEDED:** Someone to wash out the soup and tea urns and load the van with food donations for Slough on a **Tuesday morning**. This is a physical task which takes about 30-40 minutes. It can be done by an individual or a small group on a rota basis. If you, or someone you know, can offer their time please call Malcolm on 07508 733503.

### THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

Nature can be awe-inspiring, even to the point of being almost incomprehensible. The richness of a sunset, the twinkle of stars and the diversity of animals all witness to a creator and designer.

Seeing God's creation can invite us into a deeper admiration for God and His handiwork. In nature, surrounded by His creation, we may feel closer to Him. The beauty of creation is a reminder of God. When we respect any part of God's creation, be it nature or another human being, we are seeing value in what God created and admiring the creator.

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