



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, Fr Theophilus (Theo) Nyamali OCD and Fr Deepu Daniel OCD

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY is observed this weekend. It is the day the Church focuses on the need to oppose racism and pursue racial justice with renewed vigour and celebrate diversity. This year's theme is "**Whoever loves God must also love his brother**" (1 John 4:21): **Promoting Racial Justice in our Parishes.** Where racial justice is concerned, we must never tire of repeating what has been said before, though we always seek new ways to convey our message. In an increasingly tense climate, it is imperative that we listen to, and learn from, the experiences, challenges and opportunities encountered in the mission of promoting racial justice in Catholic parishes today. Our parishes should be places where we can all truly grow in ever-deeper knowledge and love of each other, ourselves and God.



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.

2 February	The Presentation of the Lord – Feast
4 February	Blessed Marie-Eugene of the Child Jesus, Priest of our Order – Optional Memorial
5 February	St Agatha, Virgin, Martyr – Memorial
6 February	St Paul Miki and Companions, Martyrs – Memorial

The **POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION** for February is **FOR CHILDREN WITH INCURABLE DISEASES** – Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.

EUCARISTIC ADORATION continues throughout February on **Monday evenings from 6:30pm to 7pm** in St Joseph's Church and 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.

ROSARY CIRCLE FEBRUARY INTENTION: Our special intention this month is to pray for **all families in our parish**. The family stands at the very heart of Christian life; it is the cornerstone on which everything else is built. We pray that all our families may be strengthened in faith, united in love, and supported through every joy and challenge they face.

1 February 2026
Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
Sundays Year A – Weekdays Year 2 – Psalter Week 2

WORLD DAY FOR CONSECRATED LIFE: Pope Saint John Paul II instituted this day of prayer for women and men in consecrated life. It is attached to the **Feast of the Presentation of the Lord** on 2 February. This feast is also known as Candlemas Day; when candles are blessed symbolising Christ who is the light of the world. Please pray for all those who have committed themselves to religious life, that they may continue to be inspired by Jesus Christ and respond generously to God's gift of their vocation.

Heavenly Father, in your wisdom you have called certain women and men to a life of special consecration so that in prayerful observance of a lifestyle of poverty, chaste celibacy and obedience, they might be witnesses to us that as St Paul says, "our true citizenship is in heaven." Give them, Lord, the grace of joy and perseverance in their holy vocation.

We ask this through Christ, our Lord. *Amen.*

Remember especially those who live and serve in our parish; the Carmelite Community, the Holy Cross Sisters and the Bridgettine Sisters.



Next Sunday 8 February, there will be a **CHILDREN'S MASS** at **9am**. Only the very youngest children will go out to hear the Gospel message at a level appropriate to their age. All the other children will stay in the church. The Mass will be all inclusive with as many as are able/wish to join in, having the opportunity to do so, whatever their age.

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

JOURNEY WITH JESUS THROUGH LENT: During Lent, the Pastoral Development Vicariate is offering the opportunity for online small group sessions once a week for **six weeks beginning 16 February**. During each **45 minute session**, facilitators will be using St Beuno's Outreach Prego resources, allowing you to pray and reflect on Scripture for the coming Sunday. Within the session, there will also be time for silent reflection and sharing what spoke to you from Scripture. Sessions will be available on various days and times. [Watch the taster session video](#). For more details and to register [click here](#).



EMMAUS – OPENING THE SCRIPTURES:

Our next talk takes place on **Wednesday 4 February** at St Teresa's Church in Beaconsfield (HP9 2PL). The topic is **Trauma and Healing - Learning from the Prophet Elijah** (1 Kings 19:1-18) and the speaker is **Fr Jerome Ituah OCD**.

Powerful biblical figures are often remembered primarily for their moments of strength and triumph, a perspective that can unintentionally distance their experiences from our own struggles. This talk revisits the prophet Elijah through a different lens, focusing on 1 Kings 19:1-18, where Elijah appears not as a triumphant hero but as a weary, fearful, and deeply distressed individual. In the aftermath of a great victory, Elijah faces threats, exhaustion, isolation, and despair - experiences that closely mirror what is now recognised as trauma. Drawing on this passage, the talk clarifies the meaning of trauma and explores how Elijah's response reflects its realities, including emotional collapse, withdrawal, and loss of purpose. It also examines God's response to Elijah - marked by presence, patience, restoration, and recommissioning - as a model of healing. Elijah's journey shows that vulnerability does not negate faith and that healing remains possible even amid profound distress. Through Elijah's story, we are offered hope that trauma is neither the end of the story nor beyond healing and renewal.

Fr Oseagwina Jerome Ituah is a Discalced Carmelite priest of the Anglo-Irish Province. He is the Sub-Prior of St Joseph's Carmelite Priory, Gerrards Cross, England and Promoter of Vocations and Young Adult Ministry for the Discalced Carmelites in the UK. He holds a Licentiate in Sacred Scriptures from the Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome and is currently doing a Doctorate in Biblical Theology at St Mary's University, Twickenham, London. You can attend in person or [watch live via our YouTube channel](#), see www.stjosephs.org.uk/Emmaus for more details as well as links to recordings of previous talks.

LOVE & BEAUTY IN ST JOHN'S SPIRITUAL CANTICLE: 2026 marks 100 years since St John of the Cross was declared a Doctor of the Church. To celebrate this anniversary, **Fr Matthew Blake OCD** will lead a reflective weekend exploring the themes of love and beauty in the saint's most celebrated poetry from **20–22 February**. [Further information and booking details can be found via the Christian Heritage Centre in Stonyhurst.](#)

DILEXI TE: An opportunity for parishioners to come together to study and discuss 'Dilexi Te', Pope Leo's document on Love of the Poor. This will take place on five consecutive Thursday evenings – **26 February, 5 March, 12 March, 19 March and 25 March** – at 7pm in the First Committee Room. **Scott Albrecht BA, MA Theol** has lived with destitute men, women and children for over 30 years. He will be helping to facilitate a study and discussion process, in which our relationship to the last, the lost and the least can grow and deepen.

CATECHIST FORMATION – Bishop's Certificate in Catechesis (Level 1): Are you called to be a catechist? Do you want to grow in confidence and understanding as you accompany others on their faith journey? This online course draws from Scripture, Church documents and lived experience. It is ideal for both new and experienced catechists. It comprises seven virtual sessions, **starting on Friday 27 February** from 7:30pm to 9pm. No fixed fee – donations welcomed. [Click here for more details.](#)

PATMOS PILGRIMAGE: JC Journeys are organising a pilgrimage to Patmos, led by **Fr Jerome**. Known as the site where St John the Theologian received the Book of Revelation, Patmos is a place where faith and history intertwine. Dates are **Monday 1 June to Sunday 7 June 2026**. The cost is £1,595 (based on two people sharing). [See the poster](#) for more details. You'll find the [booking form here](#). For more information, speak to Fr Jerome or contact JC Journeys by phone on 01886 812862 or via email at enquiries@jcjourneys.com.

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 LONDON & SLOUGH RUN continues on Mondays throughout February. Please bring your contributions to the First Committee Room by 12 noon. We welcome any of the following – sandwiches (tuna, plain cheese, marmite), boiled eggs, individual juice cartons, small chocolate biscuit bars, individually wrapped cakes, satsumas, bananas, crisps, green/UHT milk, 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.*

WE CANNOT TAKE ANYTHING OTHER THAN FOOD at present due to limited space. Our new premises in Langley is eight times smaller than Dukes House.

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

Telephone: 01753 886581
Registered Charity Number 234091

Email: office@stjosephs.org.uk

FAIRTRADE/TRAIDCRAFT: You can buy fairtrade goods from Margaret Dykes at the monthly Coffee Morning at the Village Hall in Church Lane. The next one takes place on **Wednesday 4 February** from 10am until 12 noon.

CHALFONT DEMENTIA SUPPORT will host its **Wednesday Café** on 4 February in the First Committee Room from 10am until 12noon. The Café gives a very warm welcome to those living with dementia, their families and carers. We have a range of enjoyable activities, a chance to chat and, of course, tea, coffee and cakes! Ours is always a positive approach in dealing with the difficulties so often associated with dementia. Come along or contact Sally Blackden on 07932 643949.

SVP COFFEE MORNING: Tuesday 17 February is Shrove Tuesday. No pancakes this year sadly, but we have the next best thing – the St Vincent de Paul Society will be serving tea, coffee and cakes in the First Committee Room from 9:30am until 12 noon. All are welcome, do come along and see this year's fabulous selection of cakes.



QUIZ NIGHT
A fundraiser for St Joseph's New Community Hall
Saturday 21st February
Chalfont St Peter Community Centre SL9 9QX
7.30pm for 7.45 start
bar opens at 7pm
Teams of 8—tickets £10
Bar • BYO Snacks • Book Here
www.stjosephs.org.uk/QUIZ
Contact: newhall.stjosephgerrardscross@northamptondiocese.org

[Click here for more details and to book.](#)

Thank you to the London Run Packers for organising this event.

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BARN DANCE
CHALFONT ST PETER COMMUNITY CENTRE
A fundraiser in aid of St Joseph's New Community Hall

LIVE MUSIC
CALLER • LIGHT SUPPER • BAR
SATURDAY 7TH MARCH 7 TO 11

TICKETS £25

www.stjosephs.org.uk/BarnDance

TABLES of 8
tables will be moved out for dancing

Online payment available

[Click here for more details and to book.](#)

SMARTPHONE FREE CHILDHOOD – Thursday 5 February from 7pm to 8pm at St Joseph's School. Come and join us for a relaxed parent talk with **Andy Cockburn** from the Smartphone Free Childhood movement. We will discuss the impact of smartphones and how we can work together as a community to make a difference. It's an open, honest conversation in the digital age – everyone's welcome. The event is FREE but please [book a ticket using this website link](#).

LOST CONTACT: We are trying to find a lady called **Mari Boynton** who lives (or used to live) in Chalfont St Giles. She went to Warwick University and had two children called **Hal** and **Jessica**. If you know the family, or where they are now, please [contact Joan](#) in the Parish Office.

“Racism is a virus that quickly mutates and, instead of disappearing, goes into hiding, and lurks in waiting. Instances of racism continue to shame us, for they show that our supposed social progress is not as real or definitive as we think.”

Pope Francis, Fratelli Tutti, 97