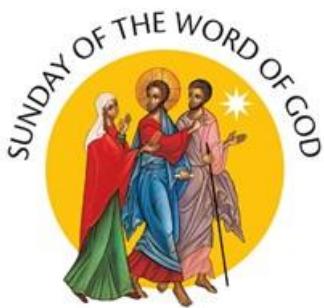




St Joseph's Parish, Diocese of Northampton
Order of Discalced Carmelites (OCD)
St Joseph's Priory, Austenwood Common, Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire SL9 8RY

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



SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD is a special day devoted to “the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God”. God’s Word shapes our prayer and worship and shows us how to understand the world – how we are

called to live and relate to each other. This year’s motto is taken from Colossians 3:16, “**The word of Christ dwells among you**”. St Paul does not ask that the Word be merely listened to or studied; he wants it to dwell, that is, to take up stable residence, to shape our thoughts, guide our desires, and make credible the witness of the disciples. This Sunday we pray for all who teach and preach the Word of God: that their words may renew and rejuvenate the faith of those who listen and encourage them to trust in the promise of God.

This weekend there will be a **Rite of Commissioning** and renewals of Ministers of the Word at each of our Sunday Masses. At the 9am Mass the celebrant will bless our Children’s Liturgists who open the Word of God for our children and teenagers.

In Northampton Cathedral at 3pm, Fr Jerome Ituah OCD will lead the reflection during a liturgy to celebrate the Word of God. This [service will be live streamed](#) for those who cannot attend in person.



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.

26 January	Ss Timothy and Titus, Bishops – Memorial
28 January	St Thomas Aquinas, Priest, Doctor of the Church – Memorial
31 January	St John Bosco, Priest – Memorial

THE POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION for January is **FOR PRAYER WITH THE WORD OF GOD** – Let us pray that praying with the Word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.

25 January 2026
Third Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sundays Year A – Weekdays Year 2 – Psalter Week 1

RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Therese Lawton** who died recently. May she rest in peace. Her funeral will take place on **Thursday 29 January at 11am in St Joseph's Church**. We extend our sympathy to all her family and friends.

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.

As we reach the end of the **WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY**, we continue to unite with Christians locally and around the world in prayer for reconciliation and fellowship. This year’s theme, inspired by Ephesians 4:4, reminds us: “**There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling.**” [More information and resources can be found here.](#)

EUCARISTIC ADORATION continues throughout January 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.

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 the week of 16 February**. During each weekly small group 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. To find out more, to sign-up for our **introductory webinar on Tuesday 27 January at 7:30pm** or register for the programme, please [visit our webpage](#).

Our next **BAPTISM COURSE** will be **Sundays 1, 8 and 15 February**. 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](#).

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**. 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**, participants will be invited to delve into the spiritual richness of The Spiritual Canticle and deepen their appreciation of St John's timeless insights into God's love. [Further information and booking details can be found via the Christian Heritage Centre in Stonyhurst.](#)

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.](#)

FOR READERS – In LENT there will be an afternoon of **REFLECTION AND TRAINING** for all those who read at The Most Holy Name and St Joseph's Churches. This will be led by **Fr John** and will take place on **Sunday 8 March** from 2:30pm to 4:30pm in the First Committee Room. Please mark this date in your diaries – thank you.

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.

THE LONDON & SLOUGH RUN continues on Mondays throughout January. 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.*

thank you! We are truly grateful for the great response to our **Homeless Sunday Appeal** on 18 January, especially in these uncertain times. Every penny donated will go directly to alleviating the real need that exists both locally and in London. Every contribution makes a difference.

NEW HALL FUNDRAISERS

A QUIZ NIGHT has been organised for **Saturday 21 February** for the benefit of the New Hall. This will be at Chalfont St Peter Community Centre. Put on your thinking caps and grab some friends to have a challenge and good fun! [Click here for details and to book.](#)

You are invited to the **BARN DANCE** to be held on **Saturday 7 March** at Chalfont St Peter Community Centre. We hope you can join us for a rowdy evening of dancing! [Click here for details and to book.](#)

Our recent **grant from the Albert Gubay Trust** for the building project is conditional on us matching their funding. We encourage parishioners to [make donations to the new hall fund](#) and/or to support our fundraising events so that we can match that figure of £250,000.

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.

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

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