

26 April 2026

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Sundays Year A – Weekdays Year 2 – Psalter Week 4



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

Thank You!

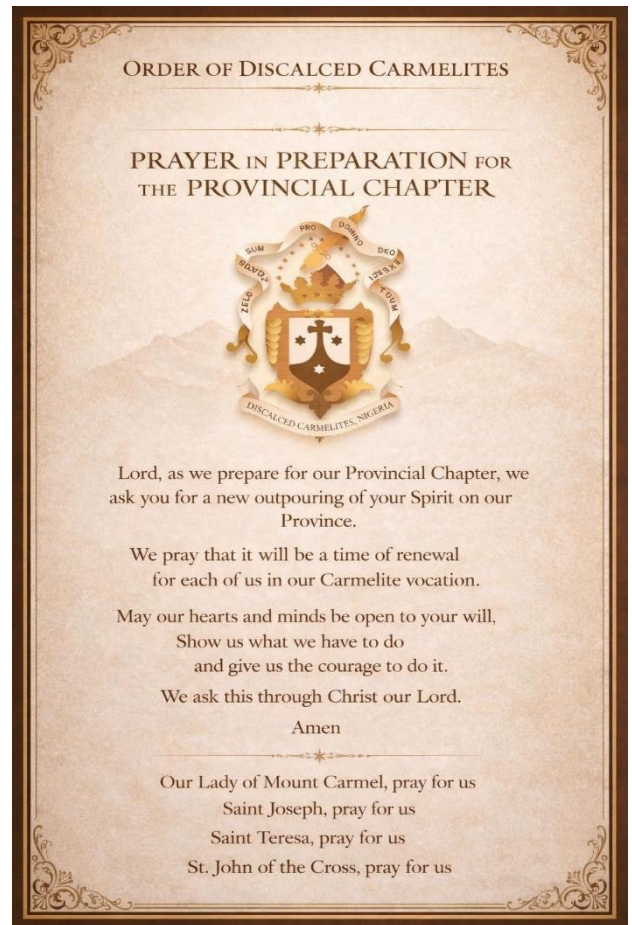
On behalf of the Carmelite Community, I would like to thank parishioners for their thoughtfulness and generosity this Easter, received in the form of cards, messages, chocolates, sweet treats and offerings. We are truly blessed to receive such magnificent support and are especially grateful to you all for your prayers.

I was delighted that so many of you embraced Acts of Kindness and was heartened to see so many pebbles on the parish display representing all kindness you showed to others during Lent.

Thank you to those who organised the Holy Week and Easter liturgies in all our churches, as well as the cleaning teams who ensured they were beautifully presented and the flower ladies who once again created gorgeous displays. Our thanks to everyone who welcomed, ministered, served, provided music or volunteered their help in any way during the services; this coming together enabled us to reverently mark the Triduum and joyfully celebrate the Resurrection.

Fr Bob

The triennial **PROVINCIAL CHAPTER** takes place in Derry during the **first two weeks of May**. Please pray with us, and for us, as we prepare to gather together.



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.

Today is **GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY**, also known as Vocations Sunday, and it is the 63rd **World Day of Prayer for Vocations**. The theme of [Pope Leo's Message for Vocations Sunday](#) is "The Interior Discovery of God's Gift" where he reiterates that "every vocation is an immeasurable gift for the Church and for those who receive it with joy." Along with the whole Church, let us pray for vocations today. Let us take time to stir the hearts and minds of the people around us to think about the topic of Vocation. **There will be a second collection at all Masses for the Carmelite Priests Training Fund.**

RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Philomena Ahearne** who died recently. May she rest in peace. Her funeral will take place on **Tuesday 28 April at 11am in St Joseph's Church**. We extend our sympathy to all her family and friends.

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Michael Murphy** who died recently. May he rest in peace. His funeral will take place on **Thursday 30 April at 11am in St Joseph's Church**. We extend our sympathy to all his family and friends.

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Anne Murphy-O'Connor** who died recently. May she rest in peace. **Funeral details to be confirmed**. We extend our sympathy to all her family and friends.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION: Next **Saturday 2 May** there will be **NO 10am Parish Mass or Confessions** as it is First Holy Communion Day for our parish. There will be two special First Holy Communion Masses, one at 11am and one at 2pm, during which **46 children** will receive Jesus for the very first time. We expect the church will be full with their families and guests and the car park will be busy (overflow car parking will be available at the school). *Please pray for these children who come together at God's table for the very first time to share in the Eucharist.*

ROSARY CIRCLE APRIL INTENTION: We pray especially this month for **the children who are making their First Holy Communion** in early May. May this time of preparation be fruitful and joyful and may they experience the love of Jesus as they receive Him in this sacrament for the first time.

EMMAUS – OPENING THE SCRIPTURES: Our next talk takes place on **Wednesday 6 May at 7:30pm** in St Aidan's Church in Little Chalfont (HP7 9NE). The topic is **Gratitude and Contentment - The Secret of a Thankful Heart** (1 Thessalonians 5:12-22) and the speaker is **Mgr Seán Healy**.

How do we maintain and attitude of thanksgiving in our spiritual lives, drawing on the inspiration of the saints and spiritual writers.

Monsignor Seán has been a priest of the Diocese of Northampton for almost 46 years. He is Provost of the Cathedral Chapter, parish priest of St Teresa's in Beaconsfield and St Dunstan's in Bourne End.

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.

CALLED & EQUIPPED is our diocesan year-long discipleship programme, offering a foundation in Catholic teaching and the opportunity to journey in faith with a like-minded community. This programme is suitable for anyone active in parish life, coming into ministry or seeking to deepen their faith. Could this be for you, or do you know someone who would benefit from it? [Watch our promotion video](#) to give you a taste of what our Called & Equipped discipleship course is all about. You can [find out more here](#) or [sign-up to our introductory webinar](#) on **Thursday 7 May**.

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

MARCH OF LIFE: This annual **Holocaust Memorial Walk** is taking place in High Wycombe town centre from 3pm on **Sunday 26 April**. This year it is followed, by kind permission of All Saints, by an indoor talk by a Holocaust survivor's relative from the **Generation2Generation** organisation, all the more important in the current climate of anti-semitism. We expect this will start about 3:30pm and you do not have to do the Walk to attend! All are welcome, especially younger people.

D-SUMMER is a **weekend residential for young people in school years 7–13**, taking place **17 to 19 July** at Buckden Towers (St Neots). This year's theme is **Courage**, an opportunity for young people to explore what it means to live boldly in their faith and grow as disciples of Jesus. It promises to be an unforgettable weekend filled with inspiring talks, worship, fun activities, and time to build strong friendships, all in a supportive and faith-filled environment. The cost of the weekend is **£96**. Spaces are limited, so we encourage you to book as soon as possible to avoid disappointment. The **deadline for registration is 22 June**. For more information [click here](#) or speak to Fr Jerome.

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 monthly pack is delivered to those who do not get out regularly to Mass or are homebound. The May Pack will be printed and delivered this week. If you know someone who would benefit from this please let Joan at the Parish Office know.

CAFOD – STAND WITH SUDAN: On the third anniversary of the war in Sudan, Kayode Akintola, CAFOD's Head of Region for Africa, asks for your help: "So many of our sisters and brothers in Sudan are facing increasing violence, hunger, and disease. That is why today, I'm asking you to consider setting up a monthly gift to support families who are fleeing the violence – with food, safe water and other vital support. Monthly gifts are an act of steady love for our neighbours, a way of saying: we will not abandon you, we will stand with you until peace is restored." You can make a one-off or monthly donation at cafod.org.uk/StandWithSudan.

"How much the Sudanese people are suffering, innocent victims of this inhuman tragedy! I renew my fervent appeal to the warring parties to silence their weapons."
Pope Leo XIV, 12 April 2026

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

THE LONDON & SLOUGH RUN continues on Mondays throughout April. Please bring your contributions to the First Committee Room by 12 noon. We are in urgent need of **BOILED EGGS** and **TOILET ROLLS** and welcome any of the following – sandwiches (tuna, plain cheese, marmite), individual juice cartons, small chocolate biscuit bars, individually wrapped cakes, satsumas, bananas, crisps, green/UHT milk, coffee, sugar, peanut butter, jam, and tinned fish.

NB: We cannot take anything else other than food donations at present due to limited space.

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

ST JOSEPH'S 200 CLUB 2025/2026

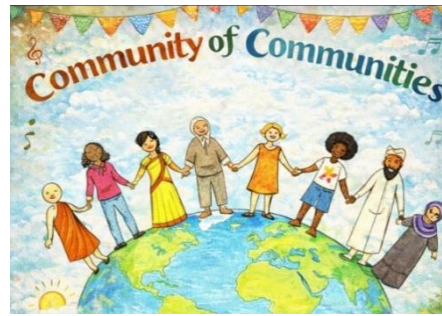
The **March draw** was held at the end of the month. The lucky winners of the prize-fund are:

- 1st Elizabeth Howe (£290)
- 2nd Anne Flanagan (£145)
- 3rd Hilary Perry (£87)
- 4th Greg Branagan (£58)

The club continues to grow and memberships are still available for the rest of the year. Please contact Alastair at 200club@stjosephs.org.uk to join, or pick up a form from the church porch. Proceeds from the Club are urgently needed to continue to support the administrative costs of the new Parish Community Hall project.



AFTERNOON TEA will be served from **1pm to 4pm** in the First Committee Room on **Wednesday 29 April**, with the proceeds going towards the New Hall. The cost is **£10**, payable on the door. Please invite some friends along for a lovely afternoon. There will also be a raffle.



South Bucks Pastoral Area is organising a **Community of Communities Day**, which will be a celebration of culture and diversity amongst

our ten neighbouring parishes. It will take place **next Saturday 2 May** at St Teresa's in Beaconsfield. It starts at **9:30am** with coffee, music and sharing of testimonials, poems and stories. There will be a **Service of Celebration at 12:30pm**, followed by sharing of food from across the world until **3:30pm**. All are welcome.

ST JOSEPH'S FURNITURE MARKET distributed **£3,500** in April as follows:

- £1,750 Parish
- £500 Chalfont Dementia Support
- £500 Chilterns Neuro Centre
- £250 Chiltern Open Air Museum
- £250 CAB Amersham
- £250 Friends of the Epilepsy Centre

The Parish is deeply grateful for the regular donations it receives; they are a vital source of income that ensures our essential day-to-day running costs are covered. We also wish to extend our sincere thanks to the dedicated volunteers whose hard work makes the Furniture Market such a wonderful success.

You can contact us at this **email address**:

stjosephsfurnituremarket@gmail.com

You can also Follow us on Facebook at:

www.facebook.com/groups/150493297972



DEMENTIA AWARENESS TALK

Do you want to know more about memory loss and dementia?

Are you caring for someone living with dementia?

Venue: Garden Room at the Memorial Centre in East Common, Gerrards Cross (SL9 7AD)

Date and Time: **Friday 15 May** from 7pm to 8pm
Come along for the talk by Sally Blackden who is a specialist in supporting those living with dementia. There will be a Q&A session. No charge for attending.

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