



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

12 July 2026

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sundays Year A – Weekdays Year 2 – Psalter Week 3

Fr Ejike Emmanuel Omaba OCD is originally from Nigeria, Vicariate of Our Lady of Mount Carmel, which forms part of the Anglo-Irish Province. He is the newest member of our Community here at St Joseph's, having moved in this week. Fr Emmanuel received his theological education at Blackfriars Hall, part of Oxford University. He arrived in the UK in 2021 and was a member of the Carmelite Community at Boars Hill in Oxford, from where he joins us. He was just newly ordained on 11 April 2026. Fr Emmanuel is the youngest priest in our Community and is willing to share his fresh theological and priestly gift with the parish.

OUR PARISH VISION

Fr Bob and the [Pastoral Leadership Team](#) thank all parishioners who have completed the Parish Vision Engagement Survey. **We received 150 responses.**

Parishioners are now invited to one of two sessions for deeper prayerful reflection as we continue our conversation on the Parish Vision. These sessions will take place on **Tuesday 14 July at 10am and 7:30pm** in the First Committee Room. Refreshments will be available from 9:30am and 7pm respectively.

Everyone is welcome.

CONGRATULATIONS to Fr Bob Davies and Fr James Evans from our Pastoral Area who celebrate their Silver Jubilees this week. We give thanks to God for the gift of their priesthood and their 25 years of faithful service to the Lord's vineyard. May He continue to bless, guide and strengthen them in their ministry. Ad multos annos.



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.

13 July	St Teresa of Jesus Fernandez Solar (The Andes), Virgin of Our Order – Memorial
15 July	St Bonaventure, Bishop, Doctor of the Church – Memorial
16 July	Our Lady of Mount Carmel, Patron and Titular of the Whole Carmelite Order – Solemnity

Today is **SEA SUNDAY**, when we are asked to pray for all those who live and work at sea. Seafarers play a vital role in all our lives, but they often work in difficult and dangerous conditions. Conflicts around the world are increasing risks to their safety, especially for crews travelling through regions such as the Strait of Hormuz. Many also face abandonment by employers, long separations from family, stress, and poor mental health. The **second collection** is for **Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea)**, the Catholic Church's official maritime welfare agency. Its chaplains and ship visitors provide practical help and pastoral care to seafarers in the UK and around the world. In today's Gospel the seed must die before it comes to life, and it is helped with the rain and the sun. Those at sea must leave family and home in order for their loved ones to remain. We too can play our part as the sowers of the seed by putting our faith into action and supporting seafarers.



This Sunday 12 July, 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.

RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Anne (Nancy) Roberts** who died recently. May she rest in peace. Her funeral will take place on **Friday 17 July 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 **James McNamee** who died recently. May he rest in peace. His funeral will take place on **Tuesday 21 July 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 **John Mills** who died recently. May he rest in peace. His funeral will take place on **Wednesday 22 July at 11:30am in St Joseph's Church**. We extend our sympathy to all his family and friends.

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

CHANGE TO MASS TIMES: On **WEDNESDAY 15 July** Mass will be at 7am and **9:30am (NOT 9am as usual)**. All the children from St Joseph's School will be attending the morning Mass in the church as they mark the end of the summer term.



The **FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MOUNT CARMEL** is a very important day for the Discalced Carmelite Order. On **Thursday 16 July** we will observe this Solemnity with **Mass at 7am** in the Oratory and **Mass at 9am** in St Joseph's Church. The 9am Mass will be offered for Fr Bob as this date marks 25 years since his ordination.

EXPLORING MAGNIFICA HUMANITAS: An opportunity to explore and discuss Pope Leo's encyclical, "**The Greatness of Humanity**", continues on **Thursdays 16, 23 and 30 July** at 7:30pm in the First Committee Room. Fr John leads and facilitates these sessions, helping us to unpack the content and gain a deeper understanding of this significant document, as well as reflecting on the human impact of new technologies in our daily lives.

A branch of the **LONDON REGION OF SECULAR CARMELITES** meets at St Joseph's each month. If you are interested in growing in your commitment as a Catholic and in learning more about Carmelite spirituality you would be welcome to meet with us and find out more. Our next meeting is **Saturday 18 July** from 10:45am until 2:30pm at the Priory when we will spend time together in prayer and discussion.



YOUTH MASS (age 11 upwards) **Sunday 19 July at 11am**
Teenagers will be actively involved in many aspects of the Mass, including music. After Mass there will be activities in the Library, followed by food. Our Youth Leaders invite every young person in the parish to join them.

MASS WITH THE SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING: On **Saturday 25 July**, there will be a special additional Sunday Vigil Mass with the Sacrament of Anointing at **3pm** in **St Joseph's Church**. All of us could do with a little healing at this special service, which fulfils the Sunday obligation. Refreshments will be served afterwards in the First Committee Room.



As in previous years, Masses and activities will be reduced during the holiday season.

MASS TIMES

As from the weekend of **Saturday 25/Sunday 26 July**:

Mass times in **St Joseph's, Chalfont St Peter**
Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:30pm
Sunday Masses at 7:45am and 11am only

Mass times in **Holy Name, Denham**
Sunday Mass at 9:30am.

Mass times in the **Bridgettine Convent, Iver Heath**
Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:30pm
Sunday Mass at 9am

Normal Mass times resume as from the weekend of **Saturday 5/Sunday 6 September**.

Weekday Masses stay the same as usual except Bank Holiday Monday 31 August; one Mass at 10am only.

ROSARY CIRCLE

The last Rosary before the summer break will take place on **Thursday 30 July**. Rosary Circle will resume again on **Tuesday 8 September**.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

This will continue every Monday evening from 6:30pm to 7pm and Thursday morning after 9am Mass until 10am throughout the summer.

NEWSLETTER

Once we move to the Summer Mass Schedule, we will not be publishing weekly newsletters as it is a quiet time in the parish. Any important news will be included in the Announcements at Sunday Mass, put on church notice boards and posted on the parish website. The next one thereafter will be **Sunday 6 September**. Any items to be included in our weekly email during the summer should be sent to the Parish Office by lunchtime on Thursdays.

PARISH OFFICE

During the summer schedule, the Parish Office will be manned on **Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings** as far as possible, subject to staff/volunteer holidays.

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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All are warmly invited to the **DIOCESAN MASS FOR MARRIAGE AND FAMILIES** at Northampton Cathedral on **Saturday 5 September at 12 noon**. The Mass will be a special celebration of the gift of marriage and family life, with **couples marking milestone anniversaries especially welcome**. [Please register online](#) to let us know about your anniversary and to book refreshments.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION continues **throughout July** on **Monday evenings from 6:30pm to 7pm** in St Joseph's Church and on **Thursday mornings after the 9am Mass until 10am**.

The **POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION for JULY** is **FOR RESPECT FOR HUMAN LIFE** – Let us pray for the respect and protection of human life in all its stages, recognising it as a gift from God.

The **ROSARY CIRCLE PRAYER INTENTION FOR JULY** is for those who have drifted from their Faith. We pray that our Blessed Mother, Mary Queen of Carmel will reignite their passion for Jesus.

CAFOD-DEC VENEZUELA EARTHQUAKE APPEAL: You can help our neighbours affected by the earthquakes in Venezuela with emergency shelter, water and food. [CAFOD](#) is already working with local Church partners to support people who have lost their homes, but we need your support to help more survivors. Your donation will provide essential supplies and help families rebuild their lives. Visit us at cafod.org.uk/Venezuela to donate online or call us on 0300 999 0030 to donate over the phone. Please keep our neighbours in Venezuela in your prayers.

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.



CHALFONT DEMENTIA SUPPORT will host its **Wednesday Café** on **15 July in Chalfont St Peter Church Hall (Church Lane)**. Both sessions are 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. Contact Sally Blackden on 07932 643949.

THE LONDON & SLOUGH RUN continues on **Mondays throughout July**. Please bring your contributions to the **First Committee Room by 12 noon**.

We are in urgent need of BOILED EGGS, INDIVIDUAL JUICE CARTONS and SMALL CHOCOLATE BISCUIT BARS (such as penguin, rocky, club, two finger kit-kat) and welcome any of the following – sandwiches (tuna, plain cheese, marmite), individually wrapped cakes, satsumas, bananas, crisps, green/UHT milk, coffee, sugar, peanut butter, jam, tinned fish and toilet roll.

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.



Thank you to everyone who supported the Dawn 5K last Sunday. Nearly 100 people took a trip around Harmondsworth Moor, following the beautiful

woodland paths, while helping The London & Slough Charitable Trust raise funds so we can continue to help and support the homeless, people and families in need. **It's not too late to donate** – [click here to contribute](#).

ST JOSEPH'S 200 CLUB – RENEWAL TIME

THANK YOU to all those who have participated in St Joseph's 200 Club throughout the past year. It is **NOW TIME TO RENEW OR JOIN FOR 2026/27**. New members are very welcome and existing members are encouraged to renew.

Membership remains at **£120 a year** for entry to twelve monthly draws for cash prizes. Funds are split 50:50 between parish funds and the lucky winners each month.

We are also **seeking an additional volunteer to assist with administration of the 200 Club** in the coming year. Full details are [available on the parish website](#) or by contacting Alastair at 200club@stjosephs.org.uk.

ST JOSEPH'S FURNITURE MARKET will be open as usual from 9am to 12:30pm on Saturday mornings throughout the summer. We would welcome some more volunteers for Saturday mornings and to help us with collections/deliveries. We **really need more van drivers** to work on a rota basis. To find out more please [contact us via email](#) or drop in at the Hut behind the church on any Saturday morning. You can also follow us on Facebook at "[St Josephs Furniture Market](#)".

Sunday Mass Times

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Tickets Still Available – [click here to book your place.](#)

LUMINISCENCE: An immersive audio-visual experience in **Westminster Cathedral**. This ground-breaking take on the concept of son et lumière is a 360° video projection concert that narrates the story of London and the iconic Neo-Byzantine mother church of the Diocese of Westminster. Voiced by **Hugh Bonneville**, this 50-minute performance brings the Cathedral to life in breath-taking ways with colour and imagery, culminating in a vision of what the Cathedral may one day look like fully covered in mosaics. The stunning visuals blend with live performances of the great composers brought to life by the **Lux Aeterna choir**. Performances are Wednesday to Saturday, from now until mid-September. [Click here for more details and to book tickets.](#)

The **NEW HALL COMMITTEE** would welcome help from parishioners, especially those with any experience of construction work, project management or finance. Also, one source of funds not fully explored as yet is local business. Do you work for or know of a local business that might sponsor this community project? [Email us.](#)

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Browse around our stalls and tombolas where you'll find cakes, books, plants, bottles, bric-a-brac, lucky dip, name the bear, etc. Refreshments and snacks will be available throughout, including cream tea with homemade scones. Why not take advantage of the takeaway curry and noodles and save yourself having to cook on Saturday evening. Don't forget your tickets for the Raffle which has some fabulous prizes.

The Sisters welcome donations of bottles, books, games/toys, plants, religious items, bric-a-brac or raffle prizes to the Convent by Wednesday 22 July.

The fête will also include a **book event** to celebrate a recently published novel, **The Nun of Ravensbrück** by **Cathi Fleming**. The book is based on the incredible life of a parishioner's aunt, **Sister Kate McCarthy**, an Irish nun and French Resistance leader.

VACANCY: Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) is seeking a fulltime **Policy and Public Affairs Officer** to provide fixed term maternity cover. Based in London with hybrid, predominantly home-based working, the role offers a salary of £30,000. [Click here for full job description and application form.](#) Applications close at 12 noon on Monday 13 July, with interviews taking place in London on Thursday 16 July.

THOUGHT FOR THE DAY

There are always seeds that bear fruit in good soil. God has not finished with us yet; he is still sowing the seeds. He is still continually moving in his own space through his story. He is still continually veiling his power in the garb of powerlessness. And he is still continually present in the heart of those who hang on to the true values and the divine values, such as truth, love, faith and justice. Despite all the disappointment and condemnation of the word of God in our society, yet this parable reminds us – Be comforted.

Fr Tien Cao