



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 Anthony (Tony) Parsons OCD, Fr Maurice Flynn OCD (Retired),  
Fr Martin McDonald OCD, Fr Theophilus (Theo) Nyamali OCD, Fr Deepu Daniel OCD and Fr Emmanuel Omaba OCD

13 September 2026

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Sundays Year A – Weekdays Year 2 – Psalter Week 4

**Fr Emmanuel Omaba** will replace Fr John McGowan as the **Carmelite representative on the Pastoral Leadership Team**. He will serve alongside Fr Bob as part of our Carmelite Community's contribution to the team. The lay members of the team work with the parish priest and Carmelite Community to support St Joseph's pastoral care and missionary outreach.

The Pastoral Leadership Team would again like to thank all parishioners who completed the Parish Engagement Survey and attended our prayerful reflection sessions.

We have begun reviewing your responses and we look forward to sharing some initial feedback and emerging themes during the coming few weeks.



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).

|              |                                                                          |
|--------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 14 September | The Exaltation of the Holy Cross – Feast                                 |
| 15 September | Our Lady of Sorrows – Memorial                                           |
| 16 September | Ss Cornelius, Pope and Cyprian, Bishop, Martyrs– Memorial                |
| 17 September | St Albert, Patriarch of Jerusalem, Legislator of Carmelite Order – Feast |

Today is **EDUCATION SUNDAY**. Established by the Bishops in 1848, it is one of the oldest Days of Special Prayer in the liturgical calendar of England and Wales. Catholic education in schools and universities endeavours to acknowledge Jesus' loving presence in the lives of children and young people as they work, learn, pray and grow in character and virtue. This year's theme is drawn from the Gospel reading of Matthew 18:21-35 'I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven'. This Sunday we give thanks for the dedication, example and inspiration of school leaders, teachers, staff and all who contribute to nurturing and supporting children and young people in our local area. We pray that our school communities be filled with Jesus' compassion, love and joy.

*"The Catholic school is an environment in which faith, culture and life intertwine. It is not simply an institution, but rather a living environment in which the Christian vision permeates every discipline and every interaction."*

**Pope Leo XIV**



**CONFIRMATION: Monsignor Seán Healy**, Dean of our Pastoral Area, will visit us on **Thursday 17 September** to confirm **23 teenagers** from our parish. He will celebrate a special Confirmation Mass at 7pm in St Joseph's Church. *Please pray for these young people, that they may be strengthened and nourished by the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit as they continue their journey of faith.*

#### RECENTLY DECEASED

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Alexander (Alex) Lindsay** who died recently. May he rest in peace. His funeral will take place on **Wednesday 16 September 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 **Doreen Sampson** who died recently. May she rest in peace. Her funeral will take place on **Thursday 24 September at 11:30am 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 **John Bates** who died recently. May he rest in peace. His funeral will take place on **Monday 28 September at 12 noon in St Joseph's Church**. We extend our sympathy to all his family and friends. *The family has asked that if you plan to attend the reception following the funeral to please let Peter Freeman [[pofreeman@googlemail.com](mailto:pofreeman@googlemail.com)] know by Monday 21 September. Thank you.*

Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of **Paul Gosling** who died recently. May he rest in peace. **Funeral details to be confirmed**. We extend our sympathy to all his family and friends.

#### 11AM MASS CHOIR – NEW MEMBERS WELCOME!

New members are welcome to join the 11am Mass Choir. We usually sing on the second and fourth Sundays of each month at the 11am Mass, with a choir practice in the church on the Thursday evening before (7:30pm to 9:00pm). We aim to sing in harmony, but you don't need to read music as you can learn your part alongside other singers in the rehearsals. If you are interested, please come and speak to Patrick Martin (organist) after the 11am Mass.

**BAPTISM COURSE:** Our next course in September is now FULLY BOOKED. The next one thereafter will be **Sundays 15, 22 and 29 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. Please go to [www.stjosephs.org.uk/sacraments](http://www.stjosephs.org.uk/sacraments) if you would like your child baptised and complete the online baptism registration form.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2027:** There will be an Open Meeting for Holy Communion on **Monday 14 September at 7:30pm in the First Committee Room**. This will be led by our Communion Team who will outline the plans and expectations for our 2027 programme. Sessions will begin mid-November and run fortnightly on Saturday afternoons during term time until mid-May. [Click here for information about COMMUNION 2027](#).

**CONFIRMATION 2027:** There will be an Open Meeting for Confirmation on **Tuesday 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 2027 programme. Sessions will begin mid-October and run fortnightly on Saturday afternoons during term time until mid-July. [Click here for information about CONFIRMATION 2027](#).

**ONLINE REGISTRATION FOR BOTH SACRAMENTS** will open on **Wednesday 16 September and close on Monday 5 October** for those who wish to enrol their child(ren) in either of these programmes. A copy of the child's Baptism Certificate (or Baptism details if baptised in St Joseph's Parish) will be requested at Registration and must be provided by the time the sessions start early November, along with the fee for programme resources.

**RCIA PROGRAMME FOR 2026/2027:** 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 (during term time) on **Monday 12 October** at 7pm in the Priory. Speak with Fr Tony or Roseleen in the Parish Office to find out more.

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 19 September** 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 20 September at 11am**  
Our newly confirmed young people will be attending this Mass, during which they will be presented with their Confirmation Certificates. 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.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** continues throughout **September 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 **SEPTEMBER** is **FOR THE CARE OF WATER** – Let us pray for a just and sustainable management of water, a vital resource, so that everyone may have equal access to it.

*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.*

**TEA IN THE POT**, our 'pop-up' café for parents, carers and little ones, has resumed after the summer break. Join us every **Friday morning during term time** from 8:30am in the First Committee Room.

**CHALFONT DEMENTIA SUPPORT** will host its **Wednesday Café on 16 September in Chalfont St Peter Church Hall (Church Lane) 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. For more information, please contact Sally Blackden on 07932 643949.

---

### 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)

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

We are **in urgent need of CRISPS** and welcome any of the following donations – boiled eggs, sandwiches (tuna, plain cheese, marmite), individual juice cartons, small chocolate biscuit bars (such as penguin, rocky, club, two finger kit-kat), individually wrapped cakes, satsumas, bananas, green/UHT milk, coffee, sugar, peanut butter, jam, tinned fish and toilet roll.

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

#### **DRIVER(S) NEEDED FOR LONDON & SLOUGH**

**CHARITABLE TRUST:** If you could spare some time during the day (Monday to Friday) and would like to be involved with a good cause then please get in touch. We need drivers who have a B1 Licence with practical van driving experience to drive our long wheelbase van. This would be on a rota basis for collections and deliveries in the local area. If you, or someone you know, can offer their time please call Malcolm on 07508 733503.

#### **VACANCY – Exciting New Catholic Youth Ministry Job**

**Opportunity:** The British Province of Carmelites is seeking to employ a **Programme & Community Lead** to help establish an exciting new project at The Friars, Aylesford, Kent. This is a unique opportunity to live in community, accompany young adults and develop retreats, programmes and outreach initiatives. The role combines community leadership, youth and young adult ministry, and programme development and delivery. The deadline for applications is Friday 9 October. [Click here for the Recruitment Pack and Application Form.](#)

**SECONDARY SCHOOL FORMS:** If you need your child's secondary school application form signed, Fr Bob will be available on **Wednesday 21 October at 6:30pm** and **Thursday 22 October at 9:30am**. Please come to the front door of the Priory (entrance via Bull Lane). **NB: Fr Bob will not be available outside of these dates to do this as he is away and won't return until end of October.**

**COPIES OF BAPTISM CERTIFICATES:** Requests should be made by contacting the Parish Office. Parents should include details of the child for whom the certificate is required, their date of birth, date of baptism and names of their parents and godparents when asking for a Baptism Certificate. Please allow a minimum of five working days to turn around requests.

#### **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)



**Saturday 12 September after 5:30pm Mass and Sunday 13 September after all Masses at St Joseph's**  
Parishioner **Richard Walmsley**, author of mystery, suspense and crime detection novels all set in Southern Italy, will be selling his books and is kindly donating the **proceeds the new Parish Community Hall.**

*Payment by cash or card on the day.*

#### **About the Author**

I lived, loved and taught English in Puglia (Italy) for ten life-changing years. My soul-mate, Rosaria (not her real name) got me started as an author. She raised her hands in horror at an autobiography I had scribbled down between lessons.

Why don't you write thrillers? she suggested. I did just that and 'Rosaria' became the heroine of the first series of three novels. We have become life-long friends.

I came back to England and became a Catholic in this church. I had fallen in love with – and been convinced by – Pope Francis. Pope Leo is a God-given gift the planet in equal measure...*secondo me!*

All my books are set in Puglia or Abruzzo. I have now written eleven novels. I do not wish to assign a genre to them. A touch of Mafia, of course. But the plots revolve round the characters. Children play an important role throughout. Dancing to the Pizzica and The Demise of Judge Grassi are also available in Italian – translated over a two-year period by a lady called Ornella Pomino. She simply loved the stories so much.

I cannot predict whether you will like the stories – that is always a matter of personal taste. I am constantly grateful when people tell me that they couldn't put the book down. A far better reward than money! But I do have two great and valued 'fans' in St Jo's. Guess who? Malcolm, who does the Slough Run and Nan who everybody knows! I rest my case.

*Glance at the sun. See the moon and stars.  
Gaze at the beauty of Earth's greenings.  
Now think what delight God gives to humankind.  
But we are to work with it.  
For without it we cannot survive.  
Meditation from Hildegard of Bingen*

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 25 September**. Come along to Tea in the Pot in the First Committee Room from **8:30am to 10am** 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, buns, biscuits, bread, etc – no cream) can be left in the First Committee Room on Friday morning. If you can't make it, you can still [donate via our fundraising page](#).

**CURRY NIGHT:** The Bridgettine Sisters are hosting a Curry Night **next Saturday 26 September at 6pm**. The price is £25 per person for two courses and there will also be a raffle with lots of prizes at £5 for a strip of tickets. All the **proceeds will go towards a new car for the sisters**. Contact Ann Saunders on 07554 400028 to book. Payment by cash on the night OR [click here to reserve and pay for meal and raffle tickets online](#).

**FULLY BOOKED:** St Joseph's Golf Society Day will take place on **Sunday 27 September** at Oakland Park Golf Club in Chalfont St Giles. This year's proceeds will go towards the New Community Hall. Donations of raffle prizes or auction lots will be greatly appreciated, please drop them off at the Priory.



**AFTERNOON TEA** will be served from **2pm to 4pm** in the First Committee Room on **Friday 2 October**, 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 two raffles!



You are invited to join us for a **QUIZ NIGHT** in aid of the New Hall on **Saturday 10 October** in Chalfont St Peter Community Centre. Get your thinking caps on and a table of

8 and join us! Please [see the website](#) or poster for further information.

If you don't particularly enjoy quizzes and are able to help us out on the bar for the Quiz Night, please leave a message with the Parish Office get in touch with Mary at [newhall.stjosephgerrardscross@northamptondiocese.org](mailto:newhall.stjosephgerrardscross@northamptondiocese.org).

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](#).

A small number of **SEPTEMBER DAY BY DAY** booklets which feature daily readings and inspirational quotes are now available from the bookshop priced at just £2 each.

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

**TAP/CARD PAYMENTS:** The Parish Office can now take payments by **Google/Apple Pay or Debit/Credit Card** at the reception desk for a variety of items, including Mass Cards, Mass Offerings and Repository/Bookshop items.

**GIFT AID** enables the parish to increase your donations under the government's Gift Aid scheme. The government tops up your offering by 25p for every £1 at no extra cost to you, the giver. Parishioners who wish to join the scheme may do so by completing a Gift Aid Declaration form which is [available from the website](#), Parish Office or in the porch at the back of the church.

There will be **NO REFRESHMENTS after 11am Mass on Sunday 20 September**. A post-Confirmation celebration for young people and their families will be taking place in the First Committee Room straight after Mass.

***Next Sunday is Home Mission Sunday (also known as Evangelii Gaudium Sunday) and there will be a second collection at all Masses to support the work of the Bishops' Conference Mission Directorate.***

### 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)