

SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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Sixth Sunday of Easter Year B

5th May 2024

Readings on Page 266 of the Parish Mass Book

Bearing Fruits

After telling the parable of the vine and branches last week, Jesus, in today's Gospel, teaches his disciples that they should love one another as he had loved them. One may naturally ask the important question here, how did Jesus show his love to his disciples?

This commandment of love first emerged at the washing of the feet. Washing of the feet signified service. He put on the clothing of a servant and washed the feet of his disciples. The sense of equality is expressed by the term friendship. Jesus after washing the feet of the disciples reflected for them on the significance of this gesture. In the case of Jesus it indicated the ultimate service he would offer his disciples by laying down his life for them.

Following the command of Jesus, 'to love one another', we as a parish community are called to follow the model of Jesus in serving one another. Our service should evolve from your relationship with Jesus Christ.

Today's gospel challenges us to rethink our relationship with Christ because Christ himself preferred to relate to his disciples in the manner of friend to friend, when he said, 'I call you friends'. The Scripture readings for this weekend thus remind us that following the model of Jesus, our service/ministry should evolve from our friendship with Jesus.

It is a great privilege for me to be with you in ministering our Parish. I am happy to be back in the Parish, and let us, based on collaborative ministry, enhance our spiritual journey upon the foundations well established in the Parish. Each one of us is called to be a missionary disciple, and along with the great vision of Pope Francis, let us minister to one another with that love evolving from our encounter with Jesus.

I look forward to accompanying you on this journey as your parish priest, to hear your story and share my ministry and life in our Parish.

Fr Saju

Mass Intentions

Saturday 4th May The English Martyrs

10.00am Int. A Lohan
11.00am First Holy Communion
6.00pm Int. Ryan & Amanda Gramaglia (Leary)

Sunday 5th May 6th Sunday of Easter

8.00am People of the Parish
9.15am David Thorogood RIP (Jones)
11.00am Maximino Hidalgo Bárcena & Ascensión Arribas Gonzalez RIP
12.30pm **Baptism: Fiorella Federico**
5.00pm Anne Elizabeth Lister RIP

Monday 6th May Bank Holiday

10.00am Souls in Purgatory

Tuesday 7th May

10.00am Int. Nicholas Bennett

Wednesday 8th May

10.00am Katherine Linnett RIP (Warren)

Thursday 9th May

The Ascension of The Lord

7.30am Michael Glynn RIP (Sayer)
10.00am Maureen & Padraic McDonagh RIP (Lohan)
2.00pm School Mass
7.30pm Holy Souls

Friday 10th May

10.00am Emmanuel Anthony Pillai RIP

Saturday 11th May

10.00am James & Pearl Coles RIP
11.00am First Holy Communion
12.30pm **Baptism: Jack O'Loughlin**
6.00pm Thanksgiving Stephen (Basil & Kathy)

Sunday 12th May

8.00am Anthony & Michael McGee RIP (Lowery)
9.15am People of the Parish
Baptism Rite of Welcome
11.00am First Holy Communion
5.00pm Peter Heathwick RIP

An Act of Spiritual Communion

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul. Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart. I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly to You. Never permit me to be separated from You. Amen.

A Big Thank you. Fr Peter would like to thank everyone for attending his Farewell Party last Sunday and for all the donations, cards and good wishes he received. He is truly grateful to you all and will remember you in his prayers.

Thank you to all the volunteers who worked very hard to ensure Fr Peter's Farewell Party was such a huge success.

We warmly welcome Fr Saju Pinakkattu back to our parish as our new Parish Priest. May his ministry among us be blessed with an abundance of graces, and may we grow together as a Christian family under his guidance. Fr Saju will look forward to meeting all our parishioners and renewing old friendships.

The Ascension of the Lord will be celebrated on Thursday 9th May. This is a Holy Day of Obligation and Masses will be celebrated at:

St. Joseph's: 7.30am, 10.00am, 2.00pm (School Mass) and 7.30pm

St. Swithun's: 10.00am

The Novena to the Holy Spirit for the reunion of Christendom begins on Friday 10th May. Prayer leaflets are available in the foyer of the church.

Daily Mass which can be viewed by visiting the Parish Website:

<https://www.stjosephsbromley.org/>

Please click on the link for the daily Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation. Available on request.

The Rosary is prayed at 10.30am Monday-Saturday during Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament until 11.30am.

St. Swithun's Mass Intentions

Saturday 4th May

6.00pm Deceased members of Philips Family

Sunday 5th May

10.00am Wellbeing of Ginella Menezes

Monday 6th May Bank Holiday

9.00am Jack Doherty RIP

Thursday 9th May The Ascension of the Lord

10.00am Holy Souls

Our Parish Faith Formation

The Journey in Faith Group will meet on Monday 13th May at 8.00pm in Holy Trinity House. New Enquirers only. For further information please contact Matt Gibbs on 07955 084287 or mattgibbsjif@gmail.com

Baptism Preparation. Please see reverse of Newsletter on how to register for our next Baptism Preparation Course.

Our First Holy Communion Masses will be celebrated at 11.00am on the following dates:

Saturday 4th, Sunday 5th, Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th May. Please remember in your prayers all the FHC children and their families and also Fr Peter, Deacon Garry and all the Catechists who have helped to prepare the children for their First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion.

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Preparation for 2024-2025. If your child will be in Year 3 or above in September and would like to prepare for First Holy Communion please complete our **Online Registration Form:**

<https://stjosephsbromley.org/fr-fhc/>

Confirmation Preparation Session 6 will be held on Saturday 18th May at 3.45pm to start at 4.00pm in Holy Trinity House. The Confirmation Group will be attending the 6.00pm Mass. We look forward to Canon Victor Darlington celebrating our Confirmation Mass on Saturday 15th June at 12 noon.

The Mum's Group meet on Friday mornings during term time at 8.30am in Holy Trinity House. Tea, Coffee and biscuits are provided.

Funerals:

Fr Barry Hughes RIP. Bishop Pat will preside over the funeral of Fr Barry Hughes on Monday 13th May at 12 noon at St. Michael & All Angels Church, Farnborough BR6 8NN.

The funeral of Michael Foley RIP will be held on Friday 17th May at 11.30am in St. Joseph's Church.

The funeral of Rebecca Mohan RIP will be held on Thursday 23rd May at 11.30am in St. Joseph's Church.

The funeral of Rhonda Kiely RIP will be held in St. Joseph's Church. Date to be confirmed.

As a parish community we offer our prayers with deepest sympathy to the family and friends of all the deceased.

The Annual Mass for London Migrant Workers in honour of St Joseph the Worker is on **Monday 6th May 2024 at St George's Cathedral, London SE1 6HR at 12.30pm.** All are invited. Please come early. You are welcome to come in national dress if you would like to take part in the banner procession at 12.15pm. See poster in foyer.

Seniors' Lunch. The next **Seniors' Lunch** will be held on **Wednesday 22nd May from 12 noon to 1.30pm** in Holy Trinity House. Please let the parish office know if you would like to attend.

Summer Coach Outings. If you would like a day at St Leonard's on Sea on Wednesday 29th May, please put £30 in an envelope with your name and the outing on the outside. It can be handed into Susan in the parish office or put in the collection basket from where it will be passed on. If we fill the coach you will receive £5 back on the day. We have 6 bookings so far. If you have nobody to go with then Gina will look after you for the day. For further information please ring Gina Clark on 07780 468767.

Please join us for an evening Mini Retreat for women on Tuesday 7th May from 7.30-9.00pm in St Joseph's Church. During the evening a priest from the Prelature of Opus Dei leads two periods of guided prayer. If you would like to know more about the evening, please call Antonia on 07926 007 175.

Dates for your Diary:

Saturday 18th May. Walking Pilgrimage to St. Mary's Parish in Chislehurst. Please meet in St. Joseph's car park at 11.45am to leave at 12 noon. Aiming to arrive at St. Mary's at 1.00pm. Rosary and picnic lunch (please bring your own lunch). Leaving at 2.00pm to walk back to St. Joseph's.

Saturday 29th June. Parish outing to Aylesford Priory. Mass will be celebrated in the Relic Chapel at 12.30pm followed by a picnic lunch. A coach will be available for those who do not wish to drive. Please let the parish office know if you would like to attend and if you would like a seat on the coach. £20 return.

RCAOS Internal Vacancies. There are two vacancies in the Diocese:

Episcopal Vicar & Bishop Group Secretary
Priests' Welfare & Wellbeing Officer

For further information please see:

<https://www.rcsouthwark.co.uk/get-involved/vacancies/vacancies-in-southwark/>

Gift Aid Envelopes for 2024-2025 are now ready to collect from the foyer of the church.

Next weekend is World Communications Day. There will be a second collection for the Catholic Communion Network, the media office of the Bishop's Conference of England and Wales.

Supporting the Parish Parish Finances for last week

Average weekly standing order contributions: £1400.

Mass Offertory last weekend:

St Joseph's: £1098.03 St. Swithun's: £120.90

Maintenance of St. George's Cathedral

St. Joseph's: £477.28 St. Swithun's: £39.75

Weekly Offertory. Thank you to all those who have set up standing orders for their weekly offering. If other parishioners would like the parish bank details to set up a standing order please email either the parish office or: bromleygac@rcaos.org.uk

If you would like one of our Pastoral Team to visit a sick or housebound relative please contact the parish office.

Please pray for all those who are sick in our Parish, in nursing homes, in hospitals and the housebound, remembering, Gerry Leonard, Tim McCarthy, Trish Howard, Tom McCarthy, Utz & Yoko Reiff, Imelda Burns, Ava Pedder, Patricia Supple, Luke Kelly, Simon Franks, Bindu Cyriac, Tony O'Reilly, Paul Emans, Agnes Achampong, Rupi McConnell, Brian Daley, Veronica Alanemo, Bernadette Murray, Maria Lopes, Billie McPartlan, Geraldine Colleary, Fr Bob Mercer, Ann Hoolihan, Patricai Lefkaridi, Fr. David Peck, Gail Mortimer and June Wilson.

Please pray for our deceased relatives and friends, remembering, Rhonda Kiely, Michael Foley, Mary MacNamara, Rebecca Mohan, Maximino Hidalgo Bárcena, Ascensión Arribas Gonzalez, Fr Barry Hughes, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, David Thorogood, John Pritchard, Anne Lister, Katherine Linnett, Maureen & Padraic McDonagh, Emmanuel Anthony Pillai, James & Pearl Coles, Anthony & Michael McGee and Peter Heathwick. **May they rest in peace.**

Sacrament of Reconciliation. Fr Saju will be available to hear confession on request.

Rosary: The Rosary is prayed at 10.30am Monday-Saturday in St. Joseph's Church during **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** until 11.30am. All welcome.

Baptism: Parents & Expectant Parents—You are invited to register for your child's baptism on line: www.stjosephsbromley.org/baptism-registration. A separate form needs to be completed for each child. Please register, and we will contact you to arrange your required Baptism Preparation. If you have completed one of our Preparation Courses please email the parish office to book a date and time for your child's baptism.

Marriage: Please contact a priest or deacon. **Six Months notice is required.**

Presbytery & Parish Office

Presbytery: 15 Marian Gardens, Bromley BR1 3FH Tel: 020 8402 0459

Parish Office is open from 8.30am to 12.30pm Monday to Friday

Parish Pastoral Team

Fr. Saju Pinakkattu	Tel: 020 8402 0459	e: sajuthomas@rcaos.org.uk
Deacon Barry	Tel: 07445 417335	e: barrymellish@rcaos.org.uk
Deacon Aidan	Tel: 07747 036253	e: aidanmcpartlan@rcaos.org.uk
Deacon Garry	Tel: 07766 557213	e: garrycullen@rcaos.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Susan Allatt Email: bromley@rcaos.org.uk

Follow us on **Facebook:** www.facebook.com/ssjosephandswithun/ and **Twitter:** [@SSJosephSwithun](https://twitter.com/SSJosephSwithun)

Surgery Times: Please contact the Parish Office if you would like a meeting with a member of the Pastoral Team

St. Joseph's School: Tel: 020 8460 1976 | Website: www.st-josephs.bromley.sch.uk

St. Joseph's Playgroup Ltd: Monday-Friday. Term time only. For enquiries please ring: Caroline O'Brien on 07961 413694.