



SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

Telephone No. 020 8402 0459 | bromley@rcaos.org.uk | www.stjosephsbromley.org

Fifth Sunday of Easter Year C

18th May 2025

Readings on Page 265 of the Parish Mass Book

Pope Leo XIV

"Peace be with all of you!" these were the first words of Pope Leo XIV (*Cardinal Robert Francis Prevost*) who is the first Augustinian Pope in the history of the Church. The words of hope and mission were amplified in his speech from the balcony of St Peter's Basilica. The Pope said, "God loves us, all of us, evil will not prevail. We are all in the hands of God. Without fear, united, hand in hand with God and among ourselves, we will go forward." The new Bishop of Rome was born on 14 September 1955, in Chicago, Illinois, to Louis Marius Prevost, of French and Italian descent, and Mildred Martínez, of Spanish descent. He has two brothers, Louis Martín and John Joseph. At the age of 27, Leo was sent by his Augustinian Order to study Canon Law at the Pontifical University of Saint Thomas Aquinas in Rome (*Angelicum*). He was ordained a priest on 19th June 1982, at the Augustinian College of Saint Monica, Rome.

In 1988 he was sent to Peru on mission and got involved in the formation of seminarians, lecturer at the Major Seminary "San Carlos y San Marcelo" and pastor. In 1999, he was elected Provincial Prior of the Augustinian Province of "Mother of Good Counsel" in Chicago, and 2½ years later, the ordinary General Chapter of the Order of Saint Augustine, elected him as Prior General, confirming him in 2007 for a second term. Pope Francis appointed him on 3 November 2014 as Apostolic Administrator of the Peruvian Diocese of Chiclayo and on 26 September, 2015 he was appointed Bishop of Chiclayo and then created Cardinal on 30 September 2023. Pope Leo XIV in his first homily as the Pope during the Mass with the Cardinals in the Sistine Chapel recalled the mission of the faithful to witness the joyful faith in the risen Lord. He said, "Even today, there are many settings in which the Christian faith is considered absurd, meant for the weak and unintelligent. Settings where other securities are preferred, like technology, money, success, power, or pleasure... A lack of faith is often tragically accompanied by the loss of meaning in life, the neglect of mercy, appalling violations of human dignity, the crisis of the family and so many other wounds that afflict our society." Let us nourish our personal relationship with Jesus to go forward as pilgrims of hope.

Fr Saju



Mass Intentions

Saturday 17th May

11.00am First Holy Communion Mass
6.00pm Frank Hurren RIP
(Sherman)

Sunday 18th May 5th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Anthony & Mike McGee RIP
(Lowery)
9.15am First Holy Communion Mass
11.00am Int. Bindu Benny
12.30pm **Baptism:**
Chibueze Okechukwu
5.00pm Int Mary Edwards (Leary)

Monday 19th May

10.00am Protection of Mary &
Aliane Kakousse

Tuesday 20th May

10.00am Bernie Sheahan RIP (Adams)

Wednesday 21st May

10.00am Protection of Kouassi
Berenger

Thursday 22nd May

10.00am Int. Tony & Connie Gaughan
(Leary)

Friday 23rd May

10.00am Andrew & Gladis Schembri
RIP (Bonnici)

Saturday 24th May

10.00am Theresa Paulouse, George
Melitta & Fr Matthew Pullolli RIP
12 Noon **Baptism:** Anna Bella Zapala
1.30pm **Baptism:** Phoebe Yacoub
6.00pm Bernie Sheahan RIP
(Leary)

Sunday 25th May 6th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Deceased members of
O'Sullivan Family
9.15am Holy Souls (Allen)
11.00am Int. Carolyn Harrington
(Parnell)
1.15pm **Wedding:** Andrew Barnard
& Ireti George
5.00pm Agnes Achampong RIP
(Leary)

St Swithun's Church
9 Fashoda Road, BR2 9RE

Mass Intentions

Saturday 17th May

6.00pm People of the Parish

Sunday 18th May

10.00am Wellbeing of Lucy & Nelson Lopes

Monday 19th May

10.00am Tereza Leahy RIP

Saturday 24th May

1.00pm **Wedding:**

Marie Southall & Barney Harper

6.00pm Margaret Brewer RIP

Sunday 25th May

10.00am Kevin Brenson RIP

Monday 26th May

10.00am Int. Sandra Clapson

For Mass Intentions please see Nelson

St Swithun's Hall Bookings: 020 8402-0459

Confession will be available in St. Swithun's Church on Saturdays between 5.20-5.45pm.

Congratulations to all the children who will be receiving their First Holy Communion this weekend. Please remember to keep all the First Holy Communion families in your prayers. A Mass will be celebrated on **Sunday 8th June at 9.15am** for all the First Holy Communion children. A parish gift will be given to all the FHC children.

A First Holy Communion Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 17th May at 11.00am. Our Confirmation Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 21st June at 12 noon. Please note there will be no Adoration and Confession after the 10.00am Mass on these dates.

All Readers and Special Ministers are invited to an information session led by Fr Saju on Saturday 14th June from 10.30am-12 noon in Holy Trinity House. To include updated guidelines and a practical session.

Thank you for Parish Volunteers. A Cheese and Wine evening will be held on Saturday 12th July after the 6.00pm Mass in the Church Hall. Fr Saju would like to request all volunteers to attend it.

Our Parish Faith Formation

All those registering to attend one of our Sacramental Preparation Courses are requested to meet with one of our priests during surgery hours.

Surgeries will be held from 4.30-6.30pm in Holy Trinity House:

Monday: Fr Saju & Deacon Barry/Deacon Aidan

Wednesday by Appointment only:

Fr Patrick & Deacon Garry

There will be no Surgery on Bank Holidays.

Baptism Preparation. Please see reverse of Newsletter to enrol on our next Baptism Preparation Course.

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Preparation for 2025-2026. If your child will be in Year 3 or above in September and would like to prepare for First Holy Communion please download our **FHC Registration Form:**

<https://stjosephsbromley.org/fr-fhc/>. Please come and meet with one of our priests/deacons during surgery hours to complete your child's registration.

Confirmation Session 6 will be held in Holy Trinity House on Saturday 17th May at 3.45pm for 4.00pm start.

Journey in Faith Group will meet again on Wednesday 21st May at 8.00pm in Holy Trinity House. Please contact Matt Gibbs on 07955 084287 or email: bromleyrcia@rcoas.org.uk

Family Mass on Sundays at 9.15 am

25th May Children's Liturgy

18th May Uniform Groups

1st & 29th June Children's Liturgy

15th June Uniform Groups

Tea and Coffee will be served in the Church Hall after the 9.15am Mass. All welcome.

Congratulations to Year 3. Deacon Barry recently attended the VE Day Party at Clairleigh Nursing Home. Year 3 pupils from St. Joseph's Primary School also attended. The children were a credit to the school, to the parish, to their parents and to themselves. Congratulations to all the staff, helpers and parents.

The funeral of Patricia Gibbs RIP will be held on Tuesday 10th June at 1.00pm.

Missionary Society of St. Paul: Fr Livinus and Fr Anthony will be visiting our parish next weekend to give their Mission Appeal. There will be a second collection.

Jubilee Year 2025

Jubilee Year: Parish Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi in the Jubilee Year: Dates: 7th – 11th October 2025. For further information please email Susan Lowery at: slowery@hotmail.co.uk

Festival of Hope and Flame on Sunday 22nd June 2025. St. Joseph's Parish and Primary School are joining together to celebrate Jubilee 2025 in St. Joseph's Church. **Please Note: Mass will be celebrated at 10.00am. The 9.15am and 11.00am Mass will be combined on this date.** The children of the Primary School will present a drama of Pentecost in the Church Hall followed by a bring and share picnic and fun and games in the parish garden. All are welcome to attend this great community event. Please feel free to dress in your cultural dress.

Night Vigils will be held in St Joseph's Church on Fridays 27th June and 21st November from 6.00pm to 6.00am the following morning.

The next Seniors' Lunch will be held on Tuesday 10th June from 12 noon to 1.30pm in Holy Trinity House. Please let the parish office know if you would like to attend.

The Dad's Group will meet again on Wednesday 4th June from 7.30-9.00pm in the Upper Room. This is open to all dads who still have a child at school. Contact: Richard Barrett on 07729 392936.

Cancer Café. From Tuesday 20th May the Upper Room will be available on Tuesdays from 1.30-3.00pm for cancer and post cancer patients to meet and share their experiences, fears and challenges. Refreshments will be provided. For further information please ring Gina on 07780 46876.

Congratulations to the 17 Altar Servers for being enrolled into the Guild of St. Stephen at the 47th Annual Altar Server's Rally Mass held at Aylesford Priory on 5th May 2025. Our St. Joseph's Parish and Community are very proud of this milestone of an achievement of our young parishioners. Thank you Altar Servers for your dedication, enthusiasm and love for this Sacred Ministry. We also thank the parents for their continuous commitment in supporting the children on their Faith Journey.

Supporting the Parish

Parish Finances for last week

Average weekly standing order contributions: £1400.

Mass Offerings last week:

St. Joseph's: £926.96 St. Swithun's: £137.12

Priest Training Fund (Ecclesiastical Education)

St Joseph: £530.88 St Swithun's: £73.03

Weekly Offertory. Thank you for your continued generosity to your Parish. We are grateful 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.

From our Diocese:

Safeguarding Sunday 2025. Sunday 18th May is Safeguarding Sunday and Archbishop John has issued a pastoral letter. In his letter, Archbishop John said "Safeguarding is not the work of a few; it is a shared responsibility. Each of us — clergy, volunteers, parents, parishioners — is called to remain vigilant, informed, and committed to the well-being of every member of our community". You can find out more about Safeguarding Sunday, at rcaos.org.uk/safeguardingsunday25 or via the QR code on the posters in the foyer.

Archdiocesan Jubilee Celebration Day at The Friars, Aylesford 7th June 2025. A day of prayer, reflection, celebration, and fun. Mass will be celebrated at 3.00pm by Archbishop John Wilson.

Coach outing to Folkestone on Thursday 22nd May. Meet in church car park at 9.30am. Please call Gina to book a seat on 07780 468767.

Rosary in the Park. Peter Bull will be completing a recital of the Rosary whilst walking round Norman Park, Hayes Lane on **Saturday 24th May at 11.30am.** The distanced walked will be 3 circuits totally 3.3 miles. Followed by coffee in the Trackside Café. For further information please ring Peter on 07596 684926 (Hayes Lane entrance).

London Marathon. Tommy Lane would like to thank everyone for their support, prayers and donations. He raised £4083 for Cafod. Well done Tommy!

The Plant Sale last weekend raised over £400 for CAFOD. Thank you to Gina and Laura for providing all the plants.

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, Betty Byrne, Mary Edwards, Cathy Mair, Carol Cambridge, Faith Millar, Stella Ludlam, Robert Straker, Bennett Marcellus, Paul Gibbs, Utz & Yoko Reiff, Simon Franks, Paul Emans, Brian Daley, Veronica Alanemo, Bernadette Murray, Maria Lopes, Billie McPartlan, Fr Bob Mercer, Ann Hoolihan, Patricai Lefkaridi, Fr. David Peck and Gail Mortimer.

Please pray for our deceased relatives and friends, remembering, Patrick O'Grady, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Frank Hurren, Anthony & Mike McGee, Bernie Sheahan, Andrew & Gladis Schembri, Theresa Paulouse, George Melitta, Fr Matthew Pullolli and Agnes Achampong.

May they rest in peace.

Sacrament of Reconciliation. Saturdays from 10.30-11.30am and 5.00-5.45pm and on request.

Rosary: The Rosary and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will be prayed in Holy Trinity Chapel between 10.30-11.30am from Monday to Friday. On Saturday it will be in the Church and Confession will be available.

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 then come to one of the surgeries on Monday evening in the Parish to meet a deacon/priest in the Holy Trinity House for the completion of the application. The next Baptism Preparation Course will begin on Saturday 21st June 2025.

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 Thomas (Parish Priest)	Tel: 020 8402 0459	e: sajuthomas@rcaos.org.uk
Fr Patrick Essien (Asst. Priest)	Tel: 020 8402 0459	e: patrickessien@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: 4.30-6.30pm in Holy Trinity House

Monday: Fr Saju & Deacon Barry/Deacon Aidan

Wednesday: Fr Patrick & Deacon Garry by appointment only

St Joseph's and St. Swithun's Hall Bookings: 020 8402 0459

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

Head Teacher: Mrs Cribben

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