

SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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Third Sunday Year A

25th January 2026

Readings on Page 127 of the Parish Mass Book

Franciscan Jubilee Year

Pope Leo has proclaimed a Franciscan Jubilee Year for the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi. In the opening lines of the Decree of the Apostolic Penitentiary the Holy Father writes, "While the fruits of grace of the Ordinary Jubilee of the Year 2025, which has just ended, in which we have all been urged to become pilgrims of that hope that does not disappoint (cf. Rm 5:5), are still present and effective, a new occasion for jubilation and sanctification is added to it as an ideal continuation: the eighth centenary of the happy passing of Saint Francis of Assisi from earthly life to his heavenly homeland (3 October 1226)." The Pope has arranged that, from the 10th January, 2026 to the 10th January, 2027, the Year of St Francis will be celebrated, during which all the Christian faithful are invited to follow the example of the Saint of Assisi, becoming models of holiness of life and constant witnesses of peace. The Apostolic Penitentiary grants the plenary indulgence under the usual conditions to those who participate devoutly in this extraordinary jubilee, which represents an ideal continuation of the Ordinary Jubilee of 2025. The Franciscan Jubilee Year focuses on mercy, prayer and faith in action.

The life of St Francis of Assisi shows that God's mercy also works in history through people who have opened their hearts to His action. His life informs us that God's grace can transform even the greatest weaknesses. God's mercy bestows grace to free the heart from the burden of sins in the sacrament of penance and reconciliation, therefore the Jubilee is an opportunity for the faithful to rekindle their faith, strengthen their relationship with God and with the community of the Church. Similarly this Jubilee year can be an invitation to simplify prayer by deepening it, rather than multiplying it; to live the Gospel concretely rather than merely talking about it. However, the Year of Saint Francis must not become another chapter full of special spiritual effects, but to gather inspiration from him to imitate Christ.

Pope Leo reminds us that the Year of Francis urges us all, each according to our own possibilities, to imitate the Poverello of Assisi, to mould ourselves as much as possible on the model of Christ, to not let the intentions of the Holy Year just passed be in vain; may the hope that saw us as pilgrims in the Jubilee year of hope now be transformed into zeal and fervour of active charity. **Fr Saju**

Mass Intentions

Saturday 24th January

St Francis de Sales

10.00am Int. Dorcus & Peter
Fernandez & Family
6.00pm Mark Donlan RIP (O'Brien)

Sunday 25th January Third Sunday

8.00am Frances Hegarty RIP
(O'Donovan)
9.15am Jose Kurion RIP
FHC Families & Y4 Class Mass
11.00am Annama RIP (Santhy)
5.00pm People of the Parish

Monday 26th January

Saints Timothy & Titus

10.00am Mark Donlan RIP
(Erskine)

Tuesday 27th January

10.00am Holy Souls (Seidel)

Wednesday 28th January

St Thomas Aquinas

10.00am Tomas Conroy RIP (Foley)

Thursday 29th January

10.00am Enzo Di Martino RIP
(Valentina)

Friday 30th January

10.00am Wellbeing of Vishal &
Ashka Chauhan & Family

Saturday 31st January

St John Bosco

10.00am Alice Shaw RIP (Cooper)
6.00pm James & Mary McNamara RIP
*Confirmation Rite of
Enrolment*

Sunday 1st February Fourth Sunday

8.00am Van Chan RIP
9.15am People of the Parish
Baptism Rite of Welcome
11.00am Cecilia RIP (Santhy)
5.00pm Thanksgiving (Lohan)
JIF Rite of Welcome

Our Parish Faith Formation

All those registering to attend one of our Sacramental Preparation Courses are requested to meet with Fr. Saju/ a member of the clergy team during surgery hours. You will not be able to submit your Registration Form online.

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

Baptism Preparation. Please see below how to enrol on our next Baptism Preparation Course starting on Saturday 7th March 2026.

First Holy Communion Preparation:

9.15am Mass on Sunday 25th January 2026 will be celebrated for the intention of the First Holy Communion Families.

FHC Session 2 will be held on Monday 26th January, Friday 30th January and Saturday 31st January 2026.

Confirmation Session 2 will be held on Saturday 31st January at 3.45pm in Holy Trinity House. Following the session the Confirmation Candidates will attend the 6.00pm Mass for the **Rite of Enrolment**.

RCIA: Our Journey in Faith Group meet on Mondays at 8.00pm in Holy Trinity House. Please email Matt Gibbs at mattgibbsjif@gmail.com.

Post RCIA Session led by Fr Saju will be held on Monday 2nd February 2026 at 8.00pm in Holy Trinity House. All those who have journeyed through RCIA are invited to attend.

Fr James (Jim) Hay RIP, priest of the Archdiocese of Southwark who died on 30th December 2025 aged 75 years and in the 49th year of his priesthood. Fr James was the Assistant Priest in our parish from 1980-1984. May he Rest in Peace and Rise in Glory.

Christian Meditation will be held on Thursdays at 7.00pm in the Upper Room. For further information please contact the parish office.

Tea and Coffee will be served in the Club Room after the 9.15am Mass. The Scouts cake sale last Sunday raised £13.20 for Doctors without Borders.

9.15am Sunday Mass:

25th January	Y4 Class Mass, First Holy Communion Families and Children's Liturgy.
1st February	Children's Liturgy
15th February	Uniform Groups
1st March	Children's Liturgy
8th March	Children's Liturgy
15th March	Uniform Groups

Valentine's Retreat: Generally couples seek quality time and meaningful connection. This is for couples of any age, on Sat 14 Feb from 11.30 am to 4.30 pm, the session is led by Annette and Paul O'Beirne, who have 40 years experience in marriage preparation and marriage enrichment to grow in happiness in couple's life. For queries or to book your place contact / email the parish office or see poster in foyer of the church.

Churches Together in Central Bromley: Week of Prayer for Christian Unity. A service will be held at 6.00pm on Sunday 25th January at Bromley United Reformed Church, 20 Widmore Road, Bromley. All are warmly invited to attend to make this a wonderful celebration of unity between Christians in Bromley.

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, Paul Lowing, Maureen Webster, Alan O'Donnell, Teresa Cadogan, Joseph Dyson, John Dias, Gina Clark, John Ammundsen, Stella Ludlum, Catherine Rideout, Betty Byrne, Mary Edwards, Faith Millar, Utz & Yoko Reiff, Veronica Alaneme, 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, Noreen Farrell, Mark Donlan, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Frances Hegarty, Bobby & Anastasia Doyle, Mr KM Augustine, Marjan Wosiek, Jose Kurion, Annama, Tomas Conroy, Enzo Di Martino, Alice Shaw, James & Mary McNamara, Van Chan and Cecilia. **May they rest in peace.**

Churches Together in Central Bromley Lent Course will be held on Tuesday at 8.00pm from 24th February to 31st March at St Peter & St Paul's Church. More information to follow.

Racial Justice Sunday 1st February 2026.
Archbishop John Wilson will celebrate Mass at 10.00am in St. George's Cathedral, Southwark.

Racial Justice Sunday is a time for the Church to pray, reflect and take action against racism, while celebrating the diversity of our Archdiocese. Everyone is invited to take part, and those who wish may wear national or cultural dress as a sign of unity and pride. If you would like, please gather outside the cathedral at 9.45am to join the procession of national flags. Refreshments will be served in Amigo Hall after the Mass. All welcome.

Bromley Homeless need additional volunteers for their winter shelter for the homeless in Bromley. If you can help, please contact John Warren on 020 8467 7926 urgently. Thank you.

Cafod Big Lent Walk. Are you ready for a challenge this Lent? Walk 200km in 40 days to raise funds for live-saving water. Step up this Lent to help our neighbours. For further information search for "The Big Lent Walk". See poster in foyer.

The Pope's Worldwide Prayer Network presents the twelve prayer intentions that the Holy Father entrusts to the Church for the year 2026. These monthly intentions serve as a compass to guide a mission of compassion in the world. For further information see: <https://www.popesprayer.va/the-popes-prayer-intentions-for-2026/>
Pray together, change the World.

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: You are invited to register for your child's baptism on line: https://www.stjosephsbromley.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Baptism-Registration-Form_July-2025.pdf Please complete and print the form and bring 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 start on 7th March 2026.

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

Supporting the Parish Parish Finances for last week

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

Standing Orders:

Average weekly contributions: £1400.00.

Cashless contributions last week:

Mass offerings: £371.00 Building Fund: £3.00

Offertory Collection last week:

St. Joseph's: £1096.51 St. Swithun's: £143.78

White Flower Appeal (SPUC):

St Joseph's: £604.41 St Swithun's: £101.77

Gift Aid and Standing Order Enquiries:

Please email the Gift Aid Co-Ordinator at: bromleygac@rcaos.org.uk or call the Parish Office on 020 8402 0459.

Please see below the **Cashless Giving QR code**. Please scan the code with your smart phones to make cashless contributions.



Bank transfers for Offertory contributions can be made to the account below:

Short bank account name: **St Josephs Parish**

Bank sort code: **60-04-02**

Account number: **84093595**

Reference: **Please show your surname and initials (eg. Bond J)**

This weekend there will be a second collection for St. George's Cathedral.

Next weekend there will be a second collection for Racial Justice Sunday.

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday 24th January

6.00pm Amelia & Jeremy Rodrigues
Birthday Thanksgiving

Sunday 25th January

10.00am Antonia Miranda RIP

Monday 26th January

10.00am Mark Donlan RIP (Grace Harriott)

Saturday 31st January

6.00pm Lucia Menezes
Birthday Thanksgiving

Sunday 1st February

10.00am Mary Hopkins RIP

Monday 2nd February

10.00am Mathew Doherty RIP

For Mass Intentions please see Nelson

Tea & Coffee will be served in the church hall on Sundays after the 10.00am Mass.

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

St Swithun's Hall Bookings: 020 8402-0459

Parish Social

Cancer Café Group will meet again on Tuesday 3rd February from 1.30pm in the Upper Room next door to the church. Please feel free to join us.

The Dad's Group will meet on Wednesday 28th January at 19.30 in The Crown for a board game evening. Please contact: Richard Barrett on 07729 392936 or email: rgtbarrett@gmail.com.

Seniors Lunch. The next Seniors Lunch will be held on **Tuesday 17th February** from 12 noon to 1.30pm in Holy Trinity House. Please let the parish know if you would like to attend.

Bromley Borough Foodbank. Donations are still urgently required. Please leave long-life fruit juice, milk, desserts, shaving foam, ladies deodorant, nappies size 6 in the box in the foyer of the church. The items will be delivered to the Foodbank. Bromley Foodbank have written to thank all our parishioners for their kind donations and their continued support. .

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)

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e: sajuthomas@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Patrick Essien (Asst. Priest)

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Deacon Barry

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Deacon Aidan

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Deacon Garry

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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.