

SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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

3rd Sunday of Easter Year A 19th April 2026

Readings on Page 258 of the Parish Mass Book

The road to Emmaus (Luke 24:13-25) is, above all, a sacred journey of companionship with the risen Lord. In today's Gospel, we meet Cleopas and his companion walking away from Jerusalem with heavy hearts. They are burdened by grief, confusion, and disappointment. The violent death of Jesus, whom they loved and trusted, had crushed their hopes. Though they are physically leaving the place of suffering, their hearts are still deeply marked by what they have witnessed. As they walk, they talk over the events again and again, trying to make sense of pain that still feels raw and unresolved. It is on this road of sorrow and uncertainty that Jesus draws near. He approaches quietly, without revealing himself, and asks a simple yet deeply pastoral question: "What is the conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?" He does not interrupt their grief or correct them. Instead, he listens. They speak honestly about their disappointment, their broken hopes, and their confusion about Jesus of Nazareth. In their openness, healing begins. Jesus then responds, not with reproach, but with patience and understanding. He explains the Scriptures, helping them to see how suffering and glory belong together in God's loving plan. As they listen, something stirs within them. Their hearts begin to burn, not with anxiety, but with a renewed sense of meaning and hope. Though they do not yet recognise him, they feel their lives being touched and transformed. Recognition comes in the most ordinary and sacred of moments, at the table, in the breaking of the bread. Their eyes are opened, and they realise that the stranger who walked with them is the risen Christ himself. In that moment, despair gives way to joy, fear to courage, and darkness to light, the disciples returned to Jerusalem to join the disciples to testify the resurrection of Jesus.

The road to Emmaus assures us that Jesus still walks with us today. He meets us in our doubts, questions, and unspoken grief. He speaks to us through Scripture, prayer, and conversation. This encounter reaches its fullness in the Eucharist, where the Word is proclaimed and the Bread is broken. Strengthened by this encounter, like the disciples, we are sent back into the world to share the joy of the Resurrection. An authentic encounter with Christ always leads us outward, into mission and loving witness within the life of the Church.

Fr Saju

Mass Intentions

Saturday 18th April

10.00am Maria Fernandes & Family
6.00pm George Silcock RIP

Sunday 19th April 3rd Sunday of Easter

8.00am Thanksgiving for
Godchildren (Kathy & Basil)
9.15am People of the Parish
11.00am Int. Joan McConnell (Low)
5.00pm Bridie (Coleman) &
McDonagh Family (Lohan)

Monday 20th April

10.00am Cecilia, Patrick & Padraic
Dolan RIP (Cunniffe)

Tuesday 21st April St Anselm

10.00am Holy Souls (Seidel)

Wednesday 22nd April

10.00am Michéle David RIP
(Wosiek)

Thursday 23rd April St George

10.00am Carlo Dovico RIP
(Valentina)

Friday 24th April

10.00am Peter Aquilera RIP
(Bonnici)

Saturday 25th April St Mark

10.00am Protection of life from
conception to natural birth
(Lohan)
6.00pm Christopher Niibarnor
Nathan RIP (Rogers)

Sunday 26th April 4th Sunday of Easter

8.00am People of the Parish
9.15am Int. First Holy Communion
Families
11.00am Giuseppa Caltagirone RIP
(Grillo Family)
5.00pm Helen Evans RIP

Our Parish Faith Formation

All those registering to attend one of our Sacramental Preparation Courses are requested to meet with Fr. Saju or a member of the clergy team during surgery hours with the form duly filled.

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

Monday: Fr Saju & Deacon Barry/Aidan

Wednesday by Appointment only:

Fr Patrick & Deacon Garry

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Preparation for 2026-2027. If your child will be in Year 3 or above in September and would like to prepare for First Holy Communion please download and complete our Reconciliation & First Holy Communion Registration Form **which can be accessed here:**

https://www.stjosephsbromley.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/First-Holy-Communion-Registration-Form_July-2025.pdf

Once completed, you will need to attend a surgery session with Fr Saju, which takes place on Mondays between 4.30-6.30pm in Holy Trinity House.

Baptism Preparation. Please see below how to enrol on our next Baptism Preparation Course starting on Saturday 6th June 2026.

Confirmation Session 5 will be held in the **Church Hall** on Saturday 25th April at 3.45pm followed by attendance at the 6.00pm Mass.

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

Archbishop John Wilson will be visiting our parish on Sunday 18th October 2026. Archbishop John will celebrate the 11.00am Mass followed by refreshments in the church hall where you will have an opportunity to meet and chat with the Archbishop informally. All parishioners are invited to attend.

The Parish Assembly/AGM will be held on Saturday 6th June at 7.00pm in St. Joseph's Church Hall. Members of our Finance Committee will present the parish finances at this meeting. All parishioners are invited to attend where you can share your thoughts on the future of the parish.

Funeral: Mary Edwards RIP died on Wednesday 15th April 2026. Details of her funeral will be announced in due course. May she rest in peace.

9.15am Sunday Mass:

19th April	Uniform Groups
26th April	Children's Liturgy
17th May	Uniform Groups
24th May	Children's Liturgy

Tea and Coffee will be served in the Club Room after the 9.15am Mass.

St Joseph's Youth Group for ages 11-18 years of age to be held monthly in the church hall starting on Saturday 25th April from 7.00-9.00pm. Volunteers required to help out with this group. See posters in the foyer. For further information and to register your child please contact the parish office.

St Joseph's Primary School Circus to be held on Saturday 25th April at 1.00pm & 3.00pm on the school fields. Food & drink will be available as well as a circus shop. Tickets available from the PTFA website. See posters in the foyer of the church.

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 Gibbs, Mike Heneghan, Maria Dillane, Paul Lowing, Maureen Webster, Alan O'Donnell, Teresa Cadogan, Gina Clark, Catherine Rideout, Betty Byrne, Stella Ludlam, , 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, Mary Edwards, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Geroge Silcock, Cecilia, Patrick & Padraic Dolan, Michéle David, Carlo Dovico, Peter Aquilera, Christopher Niibarnor Nathan, Giuseppa Caltagirone, Helen Evans, Aluiza Menezes, Lai Kuen Wong, Eileen Warren, Lactancio Menezes and John Dias.

May they rest in peace.

Jubilee Year of St. Francis.

As part of celebrating the Jubilee Year of St. Francis a Night Vigil will be held on 16th/17th October commencing with Mass at 7.00pm and concluding with Mass at 6.30am.

St Francis of Assisi is the patron saint of the animals and ecology. In the Jubilee Year, Blessing of Pets will be held on Sunday 4th October 2026 after 11.00am Mass in the Holy Trinity garden. Further details to follow.

Cafod Group. The next meeting will take place on Sunday 26th April in the Club Room at 9.45am. We will also be serving coffee after the 9.15am Mass - please come and join us.

Parish Meditation Group. You are warmly invited to "A Journey of Remembrance" **Spiritual Retreat** led by Mariana Mazzaferri (07428212864) from the Parish Christian Meditation group. A day of guided meditation, stillness and prayer through the **ancient Aramaic teachings of Jesus**, will be held in the quiet beauty of The Friars, Aylesford on Saturday 20th June, from 10am to 4pm (lunch and drinks included). The Holy Mass will be celebrated by Fr Saju at 12 noon. If you wish to attend, inform the Parish office as spaces are limited. For further info www.breathofspirit.co.uk

Coach Outings this summer. Gina has booked the following coach outings this summer. Please contacted Gina on 07780 468767 to book your place:
Wed 27 May - Whitstable,
Fri 12 June - Broadstairs
Wed 15 July - Rye,
Fri 14 Aug - Eastbourne
Fri 11 Sep - Brighton

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 Saturday 6th June 2026.

Marriage: Please contact a priest. **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: £338.00 Building Fund: £10.00

Offertory Collection last week:

St. Joseph's: £1024.43 St. Swithun's: £182.25

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:**



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)**

Next weekend there will be a second collection for the Priests Training Fund.

11th Bromley Beavers have spaces. Thursdays 5.15-6.15pm in St Josephs Church Hall. Please Text Cerys for more information on 07939 516612.

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday 18th April

6.00pm Ada Boniface—Thanksgiving

Sunday 19th April

10.00am Aluiza Menezes RIP

Monday 20th April

10.00am Lai Kuen Wong RIP

Saturday 25th April

6.00pm Eileen Warren RIP (O'Brien)

Sunday 26th April

10.00am Lactancio Menezes RIP

Monday 27th April

10.00am John Dias RIP (Grace)

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

Car Park: Champion Timbers will be carrying out maintenance work and will need to erect some scaffolding in our car park from end April to end May. Parking spaces may be reduced.

Parish Social

Cancer Café Group will meet again on Tuesday 21st April from 1.30pm in the Upper Room.

The Dad's Group will meet for a board game night on Wednesday 29th April at 7.30pm in the Upper Room. Please contact: Richard Barrett on 07729 392936

The next Seniors Lunch will be held on **Tuesday 12th May** from 12 noon to 1.30pm in Holy Trinity House.

Rosary at Trafalgar Square, Saturday 18th April at 11.30am. In this Easter season we would like to Pray the Rosary in Trafalgar Square. We will meet at the entrance to Platform 1, Charing Cross Station at 11.30am on Saturday 18th April. Please contact Peter Bull on 07596 684926 or Jaydev Chauhan on 079 6767 5509.

Parish Volunteers Cheese and Wine Evening on Saturday 20th June from 7.00-8.30pm in St. Joseph's Church Hall. All parish volunteers are invited to attend.

Parish/Primary School Summer Event to be held on Sunday 28th June 2026. Morning Mass will be followed by a picnic in the grounds of Holy Trinity House.

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

Mondays: Fr Saju and 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. For enquiries ring: Caroline O'Brien on 07961 413694.