

SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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Twenty-Fourth Sunday

Year A

17th September 2023

Readings on Page 128 of the Parish Mass Book

Our readings this week reflect on the importance of forgiveness over judgement, especially as we can often make critical judgements about people in anger. This is something that Paul, in our short second reading to the Romans is emphasizing today, when he says, "The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life: it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living".

Today we often hear the common mantra of so many people who talk about this being 'My life, My death, My choice'. Paul is reminding us how false this premise is. We do not own ourselves and we are not our own masters, because Jesus redeemed us through His death and resurrection. As such, He became our Lord, and we became His servants.

In losing sight of this reality, our lives can become very self-centred, a characteristic pointed out so powerfully in our gospel today. Here a servant owes his master 10,000 talents (millions and millions of pounds in today's money), is forgiven the debt by his master. However, on leaving he meets a fellow servant who owes him 100 denarii – a pittance compared to his debt, and yet he has him thrown into prison etc. The moral of the story is that the wicked servant gets his comeuppance!

This parable brings home the point that Paul is making – that the choices we make in our lives should be as servants of the Lord. Of course, this is not always easy. We will make bad choices, sometimes knowingly, sometimes selfishly. However, our readings today are a clarion call for us to reflect upon whether Jesus really is our Lord and Master, or whether we have other worldly desires that trump Him.

Deacon Garry

Mass Intentions

Psalter Week 4

Saturday 16th September St Cornelius

10.00am Brendan French RIP
(Childs)

6.00pm Martin Carroll RIP (Mackay)

Sunday 17th September 24th Sunday

8.00am Showene Chong RIP

9.15am People of the Parish

11.00am Eammon Dillane RIP

12.30pm

Baptism:

Lucian Lawrance

5.00pm Int. Gill & Charlie Gulliford
(Chauhan)

Monday 18th September

10.00am Private Int. (Lohan)

Tuesday 19th September

10.00am Int. Bromley UCM (Piper)

Wednesday 20th September

St Andrew Kim Tae-gŏn

10.00am Patrick & Kate Quin RIP

Thursday 21st September St Matthew

10.00am Pauline Parker RIP (Lohan)

Friday 22nd September

10.00am Harriet Le Compte RIP

Saturday 23rd September St Pius

10.00am Jack Egan RIP

12 Noon Int. UCM & CWL

6.00pm Int. Max Thompson (Bull)

Sunday 24th September 25th Sunday

8.00am Gerald & Margaret Cronin
RIP

9.15am People of the Parish

FHC Rite of Enrolment

11.00am Maria Yacoub RIP

12.30pm

Baptism: Jimmy Taylor

5.00pm Anita Bowden RIP

(Aitkinson)

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.

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

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

Please click on the link for the daily Mass.

Fr Peter would like to thank everyone for their prayers and good wishes. He is getting better and is looking forward to returning to the parish as soon as possible.

New Assistant Priest. We look forward to welcoming Fr Damian Ilogigwe from Nigeria who will be joining our parish as the new Assistant Priest. Fr Damian is due to arrive on Wednesday 27th September.

St. Swithun's Mass Intentions

Saturday 16th September

6.00pm Rodrigues Family Thanksgiving

Sunday 17th September

10.00am Wellbeing of Marcia Lopes

Monday 18th September

9.00am Wellbeing of Fr Peter

Tea and coffee will be served in the Church Hall after the 10.00am Mass on Sunday 17th September. Going forward, tea and coffee will be served after the 10.00am Mass on the second Sunday of each month.

THE SACRAMENTS: A series of short films by Bishop Robert Barron. The films last approx. 30 minutes. Discussion time with refreshments, 30 minutes. **Third Session: Sunday, 17th September, 12.30pm to 1.30pm in the Skip Appleton Room.** All welcome.

Parish News & Events

Our Parish Faith Formation

The Journey in Faith Group will meet on Monday 18th September at 8.00pm in Holy Trinity House and will discuss 'Creation and Fall'. New Enquirers only. If you, or someone you know, is interested in becoming a Catholic or finding out more about what we believe and why, or if you are a baptised Catholic but have not received all the Sacraments and would like to do so, please contact Matt Gibbs for more details on 07955 084287 or mattgibbsjif@gmail.com

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

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Preparation (FHC) for 2023-2024. 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 for 2023-2024. If your child will be in Year 8 or above in September you are welcome to apply. Please click on the following link: <https://www.stjosephsbromley.org/confirmation-registration/> **The Confirmation Diary for 2023-2024** is available to view on the parish website. This contains the dates and times of all the sessions. For further information please email the parish office.

Catholic Women's League are celebrating 95 years in Southwark Diocese on 23rd September in St Joseph Hall. Bishop Philip Moger will celebrate Mass at 12 noon. The day starts at 11.00am. **Bring own packed lunch - tea, coffee & cake provided.** This is a joint event with Union of Catholic Mothers who were part of us 95 years ago. We would like to get either or both organisations restarted in the Parish so any ladies who wish to know more about the love and friendship experienced through the excellent work of these organisations to promote Christian family life are welcome to attend. Contact Diocesan President Marie Potter 07506216427 for more details

Signing of School Supplementary Forms. Please contact the parish office to book an appointment with Fr Peter.

Diocesan Day for Catechists to be held on 30th September 2023 led by members of the Agency for Evangelisation and Catechesis

The Diocesan Day for Catechists will take place at the Amigo Hall and St George's Cathedral on 30th September 2023. **Places must be booked online.** Please see:

<https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/latest/cat23>

UPDATE: The Re-Development work is continuing in the new kitchen and Club Room.

The roof over the Club Room has been replaced and includes a roof-light which dramatically improves the natural light. The steps have been replaced with a new concrete ramp to allow wheelchair access from the hall into the Club Room. New pipework has been installed for the radiators and a new gas pipe loop has been installed feeding both the new kitchen and the upstairs kitchen. New electrical wiring has been run in the ceilings and walls for new lights and sockets. The ceiling in the Club Room has been boarded over. **Please see photos of work on display in the foyer of the church.** We hope to have the new kitchen and Club Room open as soon as possible but will confirm the date nearer the time.

Southwark Justice and Peace Commission Autumn Assembly on 23rd September at St. Edmund Catholic Church Beckenham. Entitled 'The Right to Stay: Free to Choose'. Mass at 10.00am continuing afterwards in the Church Hall. Entrance free. Lunch provided. Everyone welcome. To reserve a place please email: justiceandpeace@rcaos.org.uk.

Children's Liturgy of the Word will be held during the 9.15am Mass on Sunday 24th September.

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

The Minutes of the Pastoral Parish Council (PPC) Meeting held on Sunday 10th September are on display in the foyer.

Tea & Coffee will be served in Holy Trinity House on Tuesday mornings after the 10.00am Mass. All welcome.

Seniors' Lunch. Thank you to all those who attended the Seniors' Lunch last week. Thank you also to all the volunteers who provided the lovely sandwiches and cake. **£205 was raised for the Macmillan Cancer Charity.**

Missio Red Boxes. All Missio Red Box holders are invited to bring their box to either church or the parish office for emptying. The parish total will be submitted at the end of October. Your emptied box will be left in the foyer of either church for you to collect. Thanking each of our red box holders for your continued generosity in supporting Missio's worldwide work.

Representatives from Bromley Homeless will give a short appeal at the end of the 8.00am Mass and the 10.00am Mass at St. Swithun's on Sunday 24th September.

This Sunday is *Evangelii Gaudium* Sunday' and there will be second collection for the Catholic Agency for the Support of Evangelisation.

Supporting the Parish. Parish Finances for last week.

Average weekly standing order contributions: £1400.

Mass Offertory last weekend:

St Joseph's: £984.19 St. Swithun's: £171.23

Catholic Education Services:

St. Joseph's: £378.81 St. Swithun's: £75.76

Text Receipts: TBC **Dona** (Cashless): TBC

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 Priests 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, Fr Peter Murphy, Elisabeth Gimblett, Mary Wakenshaw, Simon Franks, Sister Veronica, Paul Wyatt, Tony O'Reilly, Jane & Paul Emans, Agnes Achampong, Rupi McConnell, Martin Garrity, Brian Daley, Veronica Alanemo, Bernadette Murray, Maria Lopes, David Silk, Billie McPartlan, Geraldine Colleary, Fr Bob Mercer, Ann Hoolihan, Patricai Lefkaridi, Fr. David Peck, Gail Mortimer, Mary McLean and June Wilson.

Please pray for our deceased relatives and friends, remembering, Patrick & Kate Quin, Harriet Le Compte, Jack Egan, Gerald & Margaret Cronin, Maria Yacoub, Anita Bowden, Pauline Parker, Graham Morton, Lucia Holder, Brendan French, Martin Carroll, Showene Chong, and Eammon Dillane.

May they rest in peace.

Sacrament of Reconciliation. Confession is available after the 10.00am Mass Monday to Saturday and on request.

Rosary: The Rosary is prayed at 10.30am Monday-Saturday in St. Joseph's Church followed by **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.

Presbytery & Parish Office

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

Emergency Telephone Number only: 07884 204103

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

Parish Pastoral Team

Fr. Peter Murphy	Tel: 020 8402 0459	e: petermurphy@rcaos.org.uk
Deacon Barry	Tel: 07445 417335	e: barymellish@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 Monday-Friday

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

Fr Peter will be holding his surgery by appointment only.

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.