

SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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Twenty-Sixth Sunday

Year A

1st October 2023

Readings on Page 134 of the Parish Mass Book

Today Jesus presents a parable to the chief priests and elders. A father asked his sons to work in the vineyard. The first son initially refused but later obeyed, while the second son agreed but didn't do as he had said. When asked which son did his father's will, they acknowledged the first. This story prompts us to reflect on the power of actions versus words. True transformation lies in our deeds, not just appearances. We might profess goodness but act differently. The sincerity of our hearts matters more than our knowledge. Our lives should reflect caring actions, for what we do matters more than what we know.

This reading reminds us that change is possible. Despite initial refusals, we can still choose to embrace what is right and answer God's call to serve. Our actions can reshape our paths, illustrating our commitment to God's will. In the first reading the Lord addresses those who deem His ways unjust, reminding them that it is their own paths that are askew. The virtuous who turn to wrongdoing face consequences, but the wicked who reform will find life. This speaks of the opportunity for change and redemption.

Both the First Reading and the Gospel parable underscore the significance of turning away from wrongdoing and embracing righteousness. God's mercy extends to those who change their hearts, demonstrating that true repentance leads to life. Like the first son, tax collectors and prostitutes, often deemed unworthy, can find the kingdom through sincere transformation. This challenges us to assess our own hearts and actions, recognising the power of change and the boundless reach of God's grace.

In our second reading from Philipians, we're urged to share in the spirit of Christ, embracing encouragement, love, and unity. By humbling ourselves and considering others more significant, we reflect the essence of Jesus' nature. He, though divine, humbled himself, becoming human and obedient even to death on a cross. In response, God exalted him, and all creation will acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord.

These readings underscore humility and transformation. Like Christ's example, we are called to humbly serve and prioritise others. Authentic change holds immense value in God's eyes. These readings invite us to adopt Christ's humble mindset and recognize that genuine transformation bears lasting fruit.

Deacon Barry

Mass Intentions

Psalter Week 2

Saturday 30th September St Jerome

10.00am Saraswathy Stanislaus RIP
6.00pm Albert Norman &
Emily Ida May Spink RIP

Sunday 1st October 26th Sunday

8.00am Thanksgiving for Matthew
Odiase—GCSE Results
9.15am Anthony Giroux RIP
(Armstrong-Denby)
Baptism Rite of Welcome
11.00am Int. Robert & Jodie Adams
1.00pm Baptism: Nancy Soper
5.00pm People of the Parish

Monday 2nd October

The Holy Guardian Angels

10.00am Wellbeing of Fr Peter

Tuesday 3rd October

10.00am Pauline Parker RIP
(Crosby)

Wednesday 4th October

St Francis of Assisi

10.00am Brian Lynch RIP (Foley)

Thursday 5th October

10.00am Joan Bolt RIP (Chandler)

Friday 6th October Harvest Fast Day

10.00am Celia Conway RIP

Saturday 7th October

Our Lady of the Rosary

10.00am Anna Mynarska-Krezel RIP
(Witts)
6.00 pm Thanksgiving to Our Lady
(Lohan)

Sunday 8th October 27th Sunday

8.00am Mary Daly RIP (O'Sullivan)
9.15am People of the Parish
11.00am Richard Samuel RIP
5.00pm Thanksgiving for First
Wedding Anniversary

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.

Sacrament of Reconciliation. Fr Peter is available to hear confessions after the 10.00am Mass Monday-Saturday.

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

Fr Peter would like to thank everyone for their continued prayers and good wishes. He will resume his duties as soon as he feels better.

We welcome Fr Damian Ilodigwe who has arrived in our parish as the new Assistant Priest. Fr Damian will be celebrating Masses in both St. Joseph's and St. Swithun's Churches this weekend. Please give him a warm welcome. He is looking forward to meeting you all.

St. Swithun's Mass Intentions

Saturday 30th September

6.00pm Maizey O'Hara & Michael Jansz
RIP

Sunday 1st October

10.00am Wellbeing on Rincy Lopes

Monday 2nd October

9.00am Boniface Family Thanksgiving

Tea and coffee will be served after the 10.00am Mass on the second Sunday of each month in the church hall.

The second National Mass Count will be taken at all Masses this weekend.

Parish News & Events

Our Parish Faith Formation

The Journey in Faith Group will meet on Monday 2nd October at 8.00pm in Holy Trinity House and will discuss 'The Life of Prayer'. 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 Session 2 will be held on Monday 2nd, Friday 6th and Saturday 7th October. For any queries, please contact Deacon Garry.

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. **There will be a Parents Information Session on Thursday 9th November at 7.30pm in the Upper Room.**

St Joseph's Primary School Open Days.

Tuesday 3rd October at 9.30am

Wednesday 11th October at 9.30am

Wednesday 8th November at 2.00pm

For further information please see:

www.st-josephs.bromley.sch.uk

Children's Liturgy of the Word will take place during the 9.15am Mass on Sundays 1st and 29th October.

Seniors' Lunch. The next Senior's Lunch will be held on **Wednesday 25th October from 12 noon to 1.30pm in Holy Trinity House.** Please let the parish office know if you would like to attend.

Signing of School Supplementary Forms.
Please contact the parish office.

UPDATE: The Re-Development work is continuing in the new kitchen and Club Room. The new doors have been fitted from the hall to the Club Room. The walls have been plastered and painted white. The new kitchen is due to be delivered on Friday 29th September. We are in the process of selecting the new furniture for the Club Room.

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.

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

THE SACRAMENTS: A series of short films by Bishop Robert Barron. The films last approx. 30 minutes. Discussion time with refreshments, 30 minutes. **Fourth Session: Sunday 15th October from 12.30pm to 1.30pm in the Skip Appleton Room.** All welcome.

Mass for All Souls on Thursday 2nd November at 7.00pm in St. Joseph's Church. If you have lost a loved one over the last few years you are warmly invited to attend this Mass to remember all our faithful departed relatives and friends. You are welcome to bring a small bunch of flowers to lay in front of the altar in memory of your loved one. Tea and coffee will be served after Mass.

Called to Pray. South-East Formation Day for Ministers of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. To be held on Saturday 14th October in St. Stephen's Church, Welling DA17 3QL and on Saturday 21st October in Bishop Thomas Grant School, Streatham SW16 2HY. The day commences at 9.30am and concludes with Mass at 3.00pm celebrated by Canon Victor Darlington. You may attend either session and parking will be available.

The Dad' Group will meet on Monday 30th October in the Upper Room from 7.30-9.00pm. This is open to all dads who still have a child at school and is an opportunity for dads in the parish to get to know one another. Please inform the parish office if you would like to attend. Refreshments will be provided.

CAFOD Harvest Fast Day. Members of our CAFOD Group will give a short Appeal after all Masses this weekend. The Harvest Fast Day is on Friday 6th October. They Harvest Fast Day collection will be taken on 7th/8th October.

Missio Red Boxes. Thank you to all those who have returned their Missio Red Box or donation to Missio. The parish total will be announced in due course. 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.

Prisoners' Sunday 9th October. National Day of Prayer and Action for prisoners and their families. This is an opportunity for us to direct our thoughts and prayers to the needs of prisoners, their families and all who work in and are affected by the criminal justice system. For further information and to donate to PACT please see: www.prisonadvice.org.uk/

Supporting the Parish.

Parish Finances for last week.

Average weekly standing order contributions: £1400.

Mass Offertory last weekend:

St Joseph's: £1035.45 St. Swithun's: £183.70

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, Graham Morton, Lucia Holder, Tony Mascarenhas, Saraswathy Stanislaus, Albert Norman & Emily Ida May Spink, Anthony Giroux, Pauline Parker, Brian Lynch, Joan Bolt, Celia Conway, Anna Mynarska-Krezel, Mary Daly and Richard Samuel.

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
Fr Damian Ildigwe		
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.