

SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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Third Sunday of Easter Year B 14th April 2024

Readings on Page 258 of the Parish Mass Book

In today's gospel, we read Luke's account of the appearance of the risen Christ to his disciples. It is easy to see that the disciples had great difficulty believing that this was the same Jesus. The Jesus they had come to know and love over the past three years. The Jesus that had been crucified and was now standing before them. The gospel reading says that 'in a state of alarm and fright, they thought they were seeing a ghost' and that 'their joy was so great that they still could not believe it, and they stood there dumbfounded'. Is it any surprise that it took the disciples a while to take it all in and believe the good news of Easter?

They had been so traumatized by what had happened, a couple of days earlier, that they struggled to believe that Jesus was alive with a powerful new life. There is something extraordinary about the good news of Easter. Even today we struggle to take it in, to really believe it.

We will often find it easier to identify with the death of Jesus than with his resurrection. In our religious tradition images of the Crucifixion are more common than images of the resurrection. It is much easier to connect with the suffering Jesus because of the suffering in our own lives and what we see going on around us and in the news. Like the disciples in the gospel reading, we stand before the good news of Easter dumbfounded and struggling to believe. Perhaps that is why the church gives us the seven weeks of the Easter season to take it all in. To allow it to permeate.

We need time to recognise that the risen Christ is indeed standing among us. Saying to us what he said to his disciples in the gospel reading, 'Peace be with you'. He offers us that peace of mind and heart which is the fruit of his love poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. We must allow ourselves to receive this gift of his reconciling love, before he sends us out as his agents of reconciliation, as his peacemakers, just as he sent out the disciples in the gospel reading.

Deacon Aidan

Mass Intentions

Saturday 13th April

- 10.00am Camilla Pettit RIP
1.00pm **Wedding:** Festus Seiwoh & Adele Roberts-Narain
6.00pm Tony & Freda Schembri RIP (Bonicci)

Sunday 14th April 3rd Sunday of Easter

- 8.00am Anne Mullen RIP (Sayer)
9.15am People of the Parish
11.00am Norma Meaden RIP (McConnell)
12.30pm **Baptism: Jaylen Onu**
5.00pm Paddy Randles RIP (O'Sullivan)

Monday 15th April

- 10.00am Princess Esther
Edohen RIP

Tuesday 16th April

- 10.00am John McHugh RIP (Gutherie)

Wednesday 17th April

- 10.00am Int. of Panayiotou Family

Thursday 18th April

- 10.00am Prayers for All Saints & All Souls (Mendoca)

Friday 19th April

- 10.00am Mary Joyce RIP & Family

Saturday 20th April

- 10.00am Deceased members of Mendoca Family

12 Noon Baptism: Cian Hand

- 6.00pm Tessa Branch RIP (Holloway)

Sunday 21st April 4th Sunday of Easter

- 8.00am Peter Thurbin RIP (Browning)
9.15am People of the Parish
11.00am Michelle Caley RIP (Bonnicci)
5.00pm Kevin O'Dea RIP

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.

Fr Peter moving to another Parish

Fr Peter will be moving to Rainham Parkwood Parish at the end of April to replace a priest who is retiring. Fr Saju Pinakkattu will be starting in Bromley on Wednesday 1st May.

Fr Peter will celebrate the 10.00am Mass at St. Swithun's on Sunday 21st April followed by a 'Farewell Party' in the hall afterwards.

Fr Peter will celebrate the 11.00am Mass at St. Joseph's on Sunday 28th April followed by a 'Farewell Party' in the hall afterwards. All parishioners are invited to attend.

Fr Peter has served us as our parish priest for the past 4½ years. To show our appreciation to him we will be having a Leaving Collection. Donation envelopes are available in the foyer. We wish Fr Peter every blessing for his future Ministry.

Please sign Fr Peter's Leaving Card which is available in the foyer of both churches.

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 will be available to hear Confessions after the 10.00am Mass Monday to Saturday and on request.

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

Funeral:

Fr Barry Hughes RIP. Bishop Pat will preside over the funeral of Fr Barry Hughes on Monday 13th May at 12 noon at St. Michael & All Angels Church, Farnborough BR6 8NN.

St. Swithun's Mass Intentions

Saturday 13th April

6.00pm People of the Parish

Sunday 14th April

10.00am Wellbeing of Oswaldo Miranda & Family

Monday 15th April

9.00am Holy Souls

There will be no tea & coffee after the 10.00am Mass on Sunday 14th April.

Our Parish Faith Formation

The Journey in Faith Group will meet on Monday 15th April at 8.00pm in Holy Trinity House. New Enquirers only. For further information please contact Matt Gibbs on 07955 084287 or mattgibbsjif@gmail.com

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

Confirmation Preparation Session 5 will be held on Saturday 20th April at 3.45pm to start at 4.00pm in Holy Trinity House. The Confirmation Group will be attending the 6.00pm Mass.

Walk with Me. An Eastertide Journey of Prayer for 2024. Copies of this booklet are available in the foyer. £1 donation to be put in the Newspaper Box on the wall in the foyer.

Evangelisation Expo on Saturday 20th April from 10.30am in Amigo Hall, St. George's Cathedral. This Expo event is open to anyone interested in evangelisation initiatives, resources and methods. For more information please see: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/>

A Day with Mary to be held in St. Joseph's Church on Saturday 27th April. The day will commence with an Entry Procession of Our Lady at 9.30am. During the day there will be Confession and Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. The day will conclude at 5.00pm. Please bring a packed lunch to eat in the hall. All welcome. See poster in foyer.

Gift Aid Envelopes for 2024-2025. These envelopes have been delivered. As soon as they are sorted they will be available for collection from the foyer.

Children's Liturgy will be held during the 9.15am Mass on Sunday 21st April. All children up to and including Year 2 are welcome to attend.

The Dad's Group will meet again on Monday 29th April, 19.30-21.00 in The Crown Pub on Plaistow Lane, next to Sundridge Park station. 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.

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

Seniors' Lunch. The next **Seniors' Lunch** will be held on **Wednesday 24th April from 12 noon to 1.30pm** in Holy Trinity House. Please let the parish office know if you would like to attend.

Life in the Spirit Seminars. Through the Seminars many have found their faith refreshed and renewed through talks, discussion and reflection on topic such as God's love and Salvation and what living the new life in the Holy Spirit is all about as we approach the feast of Pentecost.

Pope Frances has called for **Life in the Spirit Seminars** in all parishes and the Seminars are being run throughout the Archdiocese with the support and encouragement of Archbishop John Wilson.

The Life in the Spirit Seminars will be held at St Edmunds Parish in Beckenham and begin on Wednesday 24th April at 8.00pm in the parish hall. There will be Mass beforehand at 7.30pm in the church. All welcome to attend.

For more information including speakers or to register go to bit.ly/LISS2024 or email norwoodsouthple@rcaos.org.uk. Or register in person on the night.

Summer coach outings will begin on Wednesday 29th May to St Leonard's on Sea. For further information please ring Gina Clark on 07780 468767.

Dates for your Diary:

Saturday 18th May. Walking Pilgrimage to St. Mary's Parish in Chislehurst. Please meet in St. Joseph's car park at 11.45am to leave at 12 noon. Aiming to arrive at St. Mary's at 1.00pm. Rosary and picnic lunch (please bring your own lunch). Leaving at 2.00pm to walk back to St. Joseph's.

Saturday 29th June. Parish outing to Aylesford Priory. Mass will be celebrated in the Relic Chapel at 12.30pm followed by a picnic lunch. A coach will be available for those who do not wish to drive. Please let the parish office know if you would like to attend and if you would like a seat on the coach. £20 return.

Bromley Adult Choir with Orchestra & Soloists: Best of Choral Bach Magnificat BWV 243 Choruses from Cantatas. To be held on Sunday 28th April at 6.00pm at All Saints Church, 44 Bark Hart Road BR6 0QD. See: www.bymt.co.uk/events & poster in foyer.

Next weekend there will be a second collection for the Priest Training Fund (Ecclesiastical Education). This collection helps to meet the cost of training students for the priesthood and the permanent diaconate. It also supports certain forms of ongoing formation of the clergy.

Supporting the Parish Parish Finances for last week

Average weekly standing order contributions: £1400.

Mass Offertory last weekend:

St Joseph's: £927.18 St. Swithun's: £124.37

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 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, Tom McCarthy, Mary MacNamara, Utz & Yoko Reiff, Mary Scanlon, King Charles, Catherine, Princess of Wales, Imelda Burns, Ava Pedder, Patricia Supple, Luke Kelly, Simon Franks, Bindu Cyriac, Paul Wyatt, Tony O'Reilly, Paul Emans, Agnes Achampong, Rupi McConnell, 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 and June Wilson.

Please pray for our deceased relatives and friends, remembering, Princess Esther Edohen, Jane Emans, Maura Volpi, Fr Barry Hughes, Sister Veronica, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Camilla Pettit, Tony & Freda Schembri, Anne Mullen, Norma Meaden, Paddy Randles, Mary Ann Waller, John McHugh, Mary Joyce, Tessa Branch, Peter Thurbin, Michelle Caley and Kevin O'Dea.

May they rest in peace.

Sacrament of Reconciliation. Fr Peter will be available to hear confession after the 10.00am Mass from Monday to Saturday or on request.

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

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. 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

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

Surgery Times: Please contact the Parish Office if you would like a meeting with a member of the Pastoral Team

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.