

# SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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1st Sunday of Advent Year C 1st December 2024

Readings on Page 82 of the Parish Mass Book

## Advent Journey with Our parish

This weekend we enter into the season of Advent. This season consists of a four-week preparation period with a spirit of expectation, of preparation and of longing to see the solemnities of Christmas. Advent therefore is an opportunity to prepare us to experience Christ, born in the manger, through a personal preparation accompanied by the Parish family.

This Advent, I would like to invite you all to journey together reflecting on our active participation at Holy Mass. The homilies preached on Advent Sundays will focus on revisiting what we normally engage with at Mass, likewise recollecting the significances of what we say and do in the liturgy; thereby the period of Advent becomes a time of preparation to enhance our engagement with the Eucharist and Holy Mass.

While we revisit our knowledge and understanding of Holy Mass, the homily preached on the first Sunday will focus on the beauty of gathering together around the Altar with the help of the Introductory Rite within the Mass. In the Second Sunday of Advent we ponder on the Liturgy of the Word encouraging us with an open heart to hear the God experience of people who journeyed before us and in particular the early Christian community. The exploration on the Liturgy of the Eucharist on the third Sunday of Advent will remind us that we are a believing community and one parish gathered around the Altar and nourished with the Eucharist. Further, this reflection will help us to know that we are a Eucharistic centred community, and our regular participation at Holy Mass is of paramount importance to belong to the Parish family and to nourish our spiritual and community life to face the challenges of our daily life. We are reminded of our call to Mission at the Communion Rite and dismissal on the fourth Sunday of Advent as we are asked to continue in our everyday life what we celebrate in the Holy Mass. The Parish Advent reconciliation during Advent is the recharging point where we enter into a renewed relationship with Christ, the Church, others and ourselves to celebrate the peace and joy of Christ. I humbly request you to use all the available resources to prepare our hearts and minds as a manger for the Advent of the Lord.

**Fr Saju**

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday 30th November St Andrew

10.00am Int. Margaret Jose  
6.00pm Olive & Joseph Walsh RIP  
(Aubin-Laing)

### Sunday 1st December

#### 1st Sunday of Advent

8.00am Molly Lau RIP  
9.15am People of the Parish  
*Y6 Class Mass*  
*Baptism Rite of Welcome*  
11.00am Tim Lello RIP  
5.00pm Margaret D'Souza RIP

### Monday 2nd December

10.00am Olive Walsh RIP  
(Aubin-Parvu)

### Tuesday 3rd December St Francis Xavier

10.00am Holy Souls (Seidel)

### Wednesday 4th December

10.00am Mr N P Devassy RIP

### Thursday 5th December

10.00am Mary & Mortimer Leahy RIP

### Friday 6th December

10.00am Pat Morgan RIP

### Saturday 7th December St Ambrose

10.00am Norman William &  
Kathleen Spink RIP  
2.00pm **Nuptial Mass:** Dinuka  
Silvaneswaran and  
Stefan Rajakariar  
6.00pm Thomas Flaherty RIP  
(Margiotta)

### Sunday 8th December

#### 2nd Sunday of Advent

8.00am People of the Parish  
9.15am Jack & Joyce Peat RIP  
(Spink)  
11.00am Michael & Mary Grady RIP  
5.00pm Lucia Holder RIP

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

**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday 30th November**

6.00pm Thanksgiving Nelson Lopes

**Sunday 1st December 1st Sunday of Advent**

10.00am Thanksgiving to St. Anthony  
(Jenny Noruega)

**Monday 2nd December**

10.00am Richard Sudsbury RIP (Ada)

**Saturday 7th December**

6.00pm Thomas Lott RIP

**Sunday 8th December 2nd Sunday of Advent**

10.00am Wellbeing of Ionela Noruega

**Monday 9th December**

10.00am Thanksgiving Rita Rodrigues

**For Mass intentions please see Nelson.**

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

**Sunday Tea & Coffee** will be served in the church hall after the 10.00am Mass.

**St. Swithun Parish Hall bookings:** 020 8402 0459

**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.

**Christmas Masses**

**Christmas Eve – Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

**St. Joseph's Church** (a Carol Service from 11.30pm)

Holy Mass -5.00pm

Holy Mass 7.00pm

Midnight Mass

**St. Swithun's Church:** Holy Mass -6.00pm

**Christmas Day – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

**St. Joseph's Church**

Holy Mass - 8.00am, 9.15am and 11.00am

**St. Swithun's Church** 10.00am

**St Stephen's Day (Boxing Day) –**

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> December 2024**

**St. Joseph's Church** 10.00am

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament during Advent.**

In addition to Adoration from 10.30-11.30am Monday to Saturdays we will also be holding Adoration on Fridays 6<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> December between 3.15-4.15pm in St. Joseph's Church. The parents and children from St. Joseph's Primary School are invited to attend.

**Our SVP Group will be hosting a Christmas Celebration for the Sick and Housebound.**

A Service with Anointing of the Sick will take place on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December at 2.00pm in St. Joseph's Church. Our SVP Group will serve tea and coffee in the church hall after the service. All our sick and housebound parishioners and those in Nursing Homes are invited to attend.

**Visits to the Housebound during Advent.** If you are housebound and unable to attend Mass please inform the parish office. One of our Priests will be happy to visit you to hear Confession and bring Holy Communion during Advent.

**Canon Brian Coyle, a former Assistant Priest: 40<sup>th</sup> Ordination Anniversary.** Fr Bryan will be visiting our parish on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December to celebrate the 10.00am Mass in St. Joseph's Church. Refreshments will be served after the Mass in Holy Trinity House. All welcome to join Fr Bryan on his special anniversary.

**Parish Advent Reconciliation** Service will be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in St. Joseph's Church. Four priests will be available to hear confession. All parishioners are invited to attend.

**Children's Liturgy** will be held during the 9.15am Mass on Sundays 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> December. Children's Liturgy will start directly in the hall and children up to Year 3 can attend. We can welcome families into the hall from 9.10am.

**Tea and coffee** will be served in the Club Room after the 9.15am Mass on Sundays. All welcome.

**Baptism Family Gathering and Thanksgiving Service to be held on Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 11.30am in Holy Trinity House.** All families in the parish who have celebrated their child's baptism in the last two years are invited to attend.

### **Funeral:**

**The funeral of Agnes Achampong RIP** will be held on Wednesday 18th December at 11.00am. A Memorial Mass will be celebrated for Agnes on Saturday 21st December at 10.00am.

As a parish community we offer our prayers with deepest sympathy to Agnes' family and friends.

### **Our Parish Faith Formation**

**All those registering to attend one of our Sacramental Preparation Courses are invited to meet with one of our priests during surgery hours.**

**Baptism Preparation.** Please see reverse of Newsletter to enrol on our next Baptism Preparation Course. The **Baptism Rite of Welcome** will be celebrated during the 9.15am Mass on Sunday 1st December.

**Confirmation Preparation for 2024-2025** 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/>

**The Journey in Faith Group will meet next Wednesday 27th November at 8.00pm in the Upper Room.** New enquirers only. For further information please contact Matt Gibbs on 07955 084287 or email: [bromleyrcia@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:bromleyrcia@rcaos.org.uk)

**Altar Servers.** All Altar servers who have been trained and Inducted in our parish may kindly serve at our Masses as per given rota.

**The Dad's Group will meet again** for Christmas drinks at The Crown Pub, Plaistow Lane, at 19.30pm on Monday 2nd December. 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 next Seniors' Lunch** will be held on **Tuesday 10th December** from 12 noon to 1.30pm in Holy Trinity House. Please let the parish office know if you would like to attend.

**Ss Joseph & Swithun Christmas Day Lunch in St. Joseph's Church Hall.** The lunch will be held after the 11.00am Mass. For more information and to register your attendance, please ring 07932 674557 or 020 8402 0459.

### **Supporting the Parish Parish Finances for last week**

Average weekly standing order contributions: £1400.

#### **Mass Offertory last weekend:**

St Joseph's: £879.93 St. Swithun's: £156.20

#### **Catholic Youth Services:**

St. Joseph's: £419.34 St. Swithun's: £79.64

**Weekly Offertory.** Thank you for your continued generosity to your Parish. We are grateful 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](mailto:bromleygac@rcaos.org.uk).

**Car Park Management.** Due to excessive congestion in St. Joseph's Car Park at school drop-off and pick-up times it has been unanimously agreed with the PPC, the Pastoral Team and the Premises Committee to work with Creative Car Park to introduce a Vehicle Registration System. We propose this system for our parish will can be introduced in the New Year. Further details to follow.

**11th Bromley Scout Group Race Night to be held on Friday 6th December from 7.00pm in the church hall.** Adults £6, Children £3 or Family Ticket £15. Includes entry and food. Bring your own drinks. Tickets available from Section Leaders. See poster in foyer for more information.

**Bromley Borough Foodbank Christmas Appeal. Help support your Foodbank this Christmas.** Please place your donations in the Donation Box in the foyer of St. Joseph's Church. Thank you to all those who have donated to this worthy cause.

**Missio Red Box Total.** Many thanks to all the Red Box holders who kindly brought their boxes to be emptied during October. The total of £1082.59 was forwarded to Missio. Thank you also to those who choose to send their contributions directly to Missio.

**Cafod Advent Carol Service** to be held on Wednesday 11th December at 7.00pm in the Immaculate Conception Church, Farm Street, London W1J 5RL. Please see poster in foyer. All welcome to attend.

***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,*** Bernie Sheanan, Quin Francis, Nichola Ibe-Spence, Vanessa Leary, James Brown, Cathy Mair, Sue Fraser, Roger Wintle, Stella Ludham, Utz & Yoko Reiff, Ava Pedder, Patricia Supple, Luke Kelly, Simon Franks, Paul Emans, Brian Daley, Veronica Alanemo, Bernadette Murray, Maria Lopes, Billie McPartlan, Fr Bob Mercer, Ann Hoolihan, Patricia Lefkaridi, Fr. David Peck and Gail Mortimer.

***Please pray for our deceased relatives and friends, remembering,*** Baby Ava, Agnes Achampong, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Olive & Joseph Walsh, Molly Lau, Tim Lello, Margaret D'Souza, Olive Walsh, Mr N P Devassy, Mary & Mortimer Leahy, Pat Morgan, Norman & Kathleen Spink, Thomas Flaherty, Jack & Joyce Peat and Michael & Mary Grady.

**May they rest in peace.**

**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: Parents & Expectant Parents—You are invited to register for your child's baptism on line: [www.stjosephsbromley.org/baptism-registration](http://www.stjosephsbromley.org/baptism-registration). A separate form needs to be completed for each child.** Please register, and then come to one of the surgeries (Monday or Wednesday) in the Parish to meet a deacon/priest in the Holy Trinity House for the completion of the application.

**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. Saju Thomas	Tel: 020 8402 0459	e: <a href="mailto:sajuthomas@rcaos.org.uk">sajuthomas@rcaos.org.uk</a>
Fr Patrick Essien	Tel: 020 8402 0459	e: <a href="mailto:patrickessien@rcaos.org.uk">patrickessien@rcaos.org.uk</a>
Deacon Barry	Tel: 07445 417335	e: <a href="mailto:barrymellish@rcaos.org.uk">barrymellish@rcaos.org.uk</a>
Deacon Aidan	Tel: 07747 036253	e: <a href="mailto:aidanmcpartlan@rcaos.org.uk">aidanmcpartlan@rcaos.org.uk</a>
Deacon Garry	Tel: 07766 557213	e: <a href="mailto:garrycullen@rcaos.org.uk">garrycullen@rcaos.org.uk</a>

**Parish Secretary: Susan Allatt Email: [bromley@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:bromley@rcaos.org.uk)**

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**Surgery Times: 4.30-6.30pm in Holy Trinity House**

**Monday: Fr Saju & Deacon Barry Wednesday: No Surgery on 27th November 2024**

**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](http://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.