



SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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

Second Sunday of Easter Year C

27th April 2025

Readings on Page 256 of the Parish Mass Book.



Apostle of Mercy

With great sadness on Monday 21 April 2025 we received the news that His Holiness Pope Francis, an apostle of mercy of our time

departed us for his eternal reward. May His Holiness rest in peace. The Pontificate of Pope Francis has reminded us precisely of the closeness and tenderness of God toward us. Mercy, he said, is "the air we breathe," meaning that it is what we need most, without which it would be impossible to live. While we hold the late Pope in our thoughts and prayers, he continues to stay as a beacon of mercy.

The Second Sunday of Easter is Divine Mercy Sunday when Church reflects on God's infinite Love and Mercy for His people. Divine Mercy Sunday was officially instituted by Pope John Paul II at the canonization of St. Maria Faustina on 30 April 2000. During her short life, the Lord Jesus assigned to St. Faustina three basic tasks, firstly to pray for souls entrusting them to God's incomprehensible Mercy; secondly to tell the world about God's generous Mercy; and finally to start a new movement in the Church focusing on God's Mercy. Saint John Paul II said, "Believing in the love of God means believing in His mercy." Pope Francis believed in the love of God which made him to inspire many to embrace God's mercy and to share God's compassion which was visible during his Pontificate.

The Gospel for this Sunday (Jn 20:19-31) presents the fearless Apostle Thomas, in his uncompromising honesty, demanding a personal vision of, and physical touch of the risen Jesus to experience the joy of resurrection of the Lord. Thomas had not been with the disciples when Jesus first appeared to them. As a result, he could not understand and accept that his Lord appeared to others without him. Thomas, who even dared to go with Jesus and die, never imagined that Jesus could appear to others without him. Subsequently, Thomas who had a profound faith and deep understanding in Jesus' love and mercy, demanded to have a personal encounter with him which was made available to others. Thomas was privileged to have the risen Lord appeared to him and then he made his profession of faith in the Lord. Today St. Thomas and Pope Francis inspire us to experience God's love in life and to share God's compassion and mercy with people around us. **Fr Saju**

Mass Intentions

Saturday 26th April

6.00pm Thanksgiving for
Godchildren
(Basil & Kathy)

Sunday 27th April 2nd Sunday of Easter

8.00am Bernie Sheahan RIP (Heys)
9.15am Francesco Marchi RIP
Y5 Class Mass
11.00am Jonathan Brooks RIP
(Vlahakis)
5.00pm Michael K Essilfie RIP
(Lopes)

Monday 28th April St George

10.00am Brid Coffey RIP (McCarthy)

Tuesday 29th April

St Catherine of Sienna

10.00am Bernie Sheahan RIP
(Harrington)

Wednesday 30th April

10.00am Bernie Sheahan & Monica RIP
(Basil & Kathy)

Thursday 1st May

10.00am Brid Coffey RIP (McCarthy)

Friday 2nd May St Athanasius

10.00am Eric & Ellen Grace RIP
(Spink)

12 Noon **Wedding:** Maura Duffy &
Joshua Jenkinson

Saturday 3rd May Ss Philip & James

10.00am Paul Flynn RIP (Cunniffe)
2.00pm **Wedding:** Debbie Cole &
David Burford
6.00pm Brid Coffey RIP (McCarthy)

Sunday 4th May 3rd Sunday of Easter

8.00am Bernie Sheahan RIP
(Monica)
9.15am David Thorogood RIP (Jones)
11.00am Thanksgiving Ryan Allen
5.00pm Rebecca Mohan RIP
(Gibbs)

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday 26th April

6.00pm Dunne & De'Kort Family and
Friends RIP

Sunday 27th April

10.00am People of the Parish

Monday 28th April

10.00am Wellbeing of Rachel & Daughters

Saturday 3rd May

6.00pm People of the Parish

Sunday 4th May

10.00am Ginella Menezes—Thanksgiving
21st Birthday

Monday 5th May

10.00am Jack Doherty RIP

For Mass Intentions please see Nelson

St Swithun's Hall Bookings: 020 8402-0459

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

Safety Notice: Please can parents prevent their children from climbing the stairs to the organ loft. Thank you.

Thank you: I would like to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation to all who attended our Parish to celebrate Holy Week liturgies. Likewise, I am indebted to all volunteers who helped to plan and prepare Holy Week with its spiritual richness. Above all, Fr Patrick and I THANK YOU for your generous Easter offerings which demonstrate your support and care for your priests in the Parish. Thank you so much and God bless you all. Fr. Saju

Pope Francis RIP. A Mass will be celebrated at 9.15am on Sunday 11th May for the repose of the soul of Pope Francis. Eternal rest, grant unto him O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace.

Jubilee Year: Parish Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi in the Jubilee Year: Dates: 7th – 11th October 2025. For further information please email Susan Lowery at: sclowery@hotmail.co.uk or contact the parish office.

Our Parish Faith Formation

All those registering to attend one of our **Sacramental Preparation Courses** are requested to meet with one of our priests during surgery hours. Surgeries will be held 4.30-6.30pm in Holy Trinity House:

Monday: Fr Saju & Deacon Barry/Deacon Aidan

Wednesday by Appointment only:

Fr Patrick & Deacon Garry

Please note: Surgery will resume on Monday 12th May.

Baptism Preparation. Please see reverse of Newsletter to enrol on our next Baptism Preparation Course.

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Preparation for 2025-2026. 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 Session 6 will be held in Holy Trinity House on Saturday 17th May at 3.45pm for 4.00pm start.

Journey in Faith Group will meet again on Monday 28th April at 8.00pm in Holy Trinity House. Please contact Matt Gibbs on 07955 084287 or email: bromleyrcia@rcoas.org.uk

Family Mass on Sundays at 9.15 am

4th, 11th & 25th May Children's Liturgy

18th May Uniform Groups

1st & 29th June Children's Liturgy

15th June Uniform Groups

For Children's Liturgy parents are welcome to meet in the hall at 9.10am. Children attending Children's Liturgy must be accompanied by an adult at all times.

Tea and Coffee will be served in the Church Hall after the 9.15am Mass. All welcome.

Funerals:

The funeral of Mary Murphy RIP (Fr Peter's mother) will be held on Friday 9th May at 11.00am at Our Lady of the Angels Catholic Church, Bexley Road, Erith DA8 1DN. May she Rest in Peace.

The funeral of Mary Scanlon RIP will be held on Friday 16th May at 10.00am in St. Swithun's Church. May she Rest in Peace.

Dates for your Diary:

All Readers and Special Ministers are invited to an information session led by Fr Saju on Saturday 14th June from 10.30am-12 noon in Holy Trinity House. To include updated guidelines and a practical session.

Festival of Hope and Flame on Sunday 22nd June 2025. St. Joseph's Parish and Primary School are joining together to celebrate Jubilee 2025 in St. Joseph's Church. The children of the Primary School will present a drama of Pentecost in the Church Hall followed by a bring and share picnic and fun and games in the parish garden. All are welcome to attend this great community event. Please feel free to dress in your cultural dress. **More details to follow.**

Thank you Day for Parish Volunteers. A Cheese and Wine evening will be held on Saturday 12th July after the 6.00pm Mass in the Church Hall. Fr Saju would like to request all volunteers to attend it.

Night Vigils will be held in St Joseph's Church on Fridays 27th June and 21st November from 6.00pm to 6.00am the following morning.

The next Seniors' Lunch will be held on Tuesday 13th May from 12 noon to 1.30pm in Holy Trinity House. Please let the parish office know if you would like to attend.

The Dad's Group will meet again on Wednesday 30th April, 19.30-21.00, at The Crown, Plaistow Lane. We will have another board game evening. This is open to all dads who still have a child at school. Contact: Richard Barrett on 07729 392936.

Thank you from Missio: The parish total for 2024 is £3,002.59. A huge thank you to all parishioners who continue to support Missio's worldwide work via their Red Boxes, direct debit or online donations.

Bromley Foodbank. Thank you for your continued support to the Bromley Foodbank. Donations are still required. Please leave your donations in the box in the foyer of the church. The current requirements are for tinned tomatoes, tinned cold meat, shaving gel, shaving foam and carrier bags. Thank you very much.

Supporting the Parish
Parish Finances for last week
Average weekly standing order contributions: £1400.

Easter Offerings:
Thank you for your generous donations to Fr Saju & Fr Patrick.

SVP: St. Joseph's: £353.30 St. Swithun: £152.79

Holy Places:
St. Joseph's £849.97 St. Swithun's: £257.11

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.

This Sunday there will be a second collection of the maintenance of St. George's Cathedral.

From our Diocese:

Archdiocesan Jubilee Celebration Day at The Friars, Aylesford 7th June 2025. A day of prayer, reflection, celebration, and fun. Mass will be celebrated at 3.00pm by Archbishop John Wilson.

Diocesan Walking Pilgrimage from St George's Cathedral in Southwark to The Friars from 2nd-6th June 2025. Deacon Barry will be taking part in this Walking Pilgrimage. Please contact Barry if you would like to join up for all or part of the journey.

A Day with Mary to be held in St. George's Cathedral, London SE1 6HR on Saturday 3rd May. The day commences with the Procession of Our Lady at 10.15am. See poster in foyer with further details.

Summer Days Out. Gina is organising the following coach outings this summer:
Thursday 22 May to Folkestone
Wednesday 18 June to Broadstairs
Wednesday 16 July to Hastings
Thursday 14 August to Eastbourne
Wednesday 3 September to Brighton

Please call Gina to book a seat on 07780 468767.

Tomato Plant Sale in aid of CAFOD will take place outside St. Joseph's Church after all Masses on the weekend of 10th/11th May. Please ring Gina for further information on 07780 468767.

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, Betty Byrne, Mary Edwards, Cathy Mair, Carol Cambridge, Faith Millar, Stella Ludlam, Robert Straker, Bennett Marcellus, Paul Gibbs, Utz & Yoko Reiff, Simon Franks, Paul Emans, Brian Daley, Veronica Alanemo, 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, Pope Francis, Patrick O'Grady, Mary Scanlon, Mary Murphy, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Bernie Sheahan, Francesco Marchi, Jonathan Brooks, Michael K Essilfie, Brid Coffey, Eric & Ellen Grace, Paul Flynn, David Thorogood and Rebecca Mohan. **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. A separate form needs to be completed for each child. Please register, and then come 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.

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 (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

Surgery will resume on Monday 12th May 2025.

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. Term time only. For enquiries please ring: Caroline O'Brien on 07961 413694.