



SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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

Seventh Sunday of Easter Year C

1st June 2025

Readings on Page 275 of the Parish Mass Book

The death of a member of his family or of a loved friend, must be the saddest event imaginable in the life of an atheist. They are really convinced that there is no God, no future life and therefore the relative or friend is to turn into dust in the grave, never to be met with again. The thought that every day that passes is bringing them too nearer to that same sad fate, death, which will be the end of all their ambitions, all their enjoyments, the end of everything they thought they were or had, must be something hard to live with.

Thank God, we have the good fortune to know, and reason and faith convince us of this truth, that death is not the end of us. It is rather the real beginning. Thursday's feast—the Ascension of our Lord in his human nature—to his Father's and our Father's home, is the confirmation and the guarantee of this doctrine of our faith. We shall all rise from the grave with new, glorified bodies and ascend to heaven as Christ did. There we'll begin our true life of eternal happiness.

At the end of His earthly life Jesus ascended triumphantly into heaven. The Church acclaims Him in His holy humanity, invited to sit on the Father's right hand and to share His glory. But Christ's Ascension is the pledge of our own. Filled with an immense hope, the Church looks up towards her leader, who precedes her into the heavenly home and takes her with Him in His own person: "for the Son of God, after incorporating in Himself those whom the devil's jealousy had banished from the earthly paradise, ascends again to His Father and takes them with Him" (St. Leo).

While it is true that for us the death of a beloved one is a cause of sorrow and tears, this is natural as we still are of the earth rooted in earthly things. Yet the sure and certain hope that our loved one has gone to their true life and will be there to meet us when our turn comes, is always at the back of our minds to console and comfort us. What we all want is to live forever with our dear ones. Death breaks that continuity but only for a little while. That break is necessary for our new life to begin in our eternal home in heaven.

Deacon Barry

Mass Intentions

Saturday 31st May

10.00am Lucia Holder RIP
6.00pm Anthony Sutton RIP (Adams)

Sunday 1st June 7th Sunday of Easter

8.00am People of the Parish
9.15am John Dunning RIP (Spink)
11.00am Lucia Holder RIP
5.00pm Lily Carvalho RIP (Leary)

Monday 2nd June

10.00am Sr Veronica RIP (McCrae)

Tuesday 3rd June St Charles Lwanga

10.00am In Thanksgiving (Howell)

Wednesday 4th June

10.00am Ranjana Chauhan RIP

Thursday 5th June St Boniface

10.00am Eamonn & baby Molly
Boyle RIP (Cunniffe)

Friday 6th June

10.00am Carlo Dovico RIP

Saturday 7th June

10.00am Margaret Martina Dhanami
RIP (Sheila)
6.00pm Frank Peterson RIP
(Francis)
Confirmation Rite of Choice

Sunday 8th June Pentecost Sunday

8.00am Colin Hammill RIP
(Lowery)
9.15am Int. First Holy Communion
Children
11.00am Kathy Wages & Jimmy
Ellison RIP (Spink)
12.30pm **Baptism:**
Okechukwu Ejiebu
5.00pm Int Rayan Abu Watfa

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday 31st May

6.00pm Carol Doyle

Sunday 1st June

10.00am Wellbeing of Liz Bates

Monday 2nd June

10.00am Mary Moriarty RIP

Saturday 7th June

6.00pm Philomena Harrington Thanksgiving

Sunday 8th June

10.00am All First Holy Communion Families
(Ada)

Monday 9th June

10.00am Navis Dilfi Franco

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.

The Novena to the Holy Spirit begins on Friday 30th May. The Prayer to the Holy Spirit will be prayed after the Final Blessing at Masses until Saturday 7th June. Prayer leaflets are available.

A Mass will be celebrated on Sunday 8th June at 9.15am for all the First Holy Communion children. A parish gift will be given to all the FHC children.

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.

Our Confirmation Mass will be celebrated on Saturday 21st June at 12 noon. Please note there will be no Adoration and Confession after the 10.00am Mass on this date.

Thank you 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.

The funeral of Patricia Gibbs RIP will be held on Tuesday 10th June at 1.00pm.

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 from 4.30-6.30pm in Holy Trinity House:

Monday: Fr Saju & Deacon Barry/Deacon Aidan

Wednesday by Appointment only:

Fr Patrick & Deacon Garry

There will be no Surgery on Bank Holidays.

Baptism Preparation. Please see reverse of Newsletter to enrol on our next Baptism Preparation Course starting on Saturday 21st June 2025.

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 download our **FHC Registration Form:**

<https://stjosephsbromley.org/fr-fhc/>. Please come and meet with one of our priests/deacons during surgery hours to complete your child's registration.

Confirmation Rehearsal will be held in St Joseph's Church on Saturday 7th June at 3.45pm for 4.00pm start. The Rite of Choice will take place at the 6.00pm Mass.

Journey in Faith Group will meet again on Wednesday 4th June 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

1st & 29th June Children's Liturgy

15th June Uniform Groups

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

Summertime 2025 Altar Servers Summer Break from 6th-9th August at Westminster Youth Ministry Retreat Centre, Pinner. Suitable for altar servers aged 11-15 in the Southwark Diocese. Activities include talks, prayer, daily Mass, sport, swimming and a visit to Thorpe Park. Cost £189. A coach will travel from Dartford, £20 return. For further information please contact Stephen Boyle at: dartford:rcaos.org.uk or the parish office.

Jubilee Year 2025

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: slowery@hotmail.co.uk

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. **Please Note: Mass will be celebrated at 10.00am. The 9.15am and 11.00am Mass will be combined on this date.** 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.

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 10th June 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 4th June from 7.30-9.00pm in the Upper Room. This is open to all dads who still have a child at school. Contact: Richard Barrett on 07729 392936.

Cancer Café will be held in the Upper Room on Tuesdays from 1.30-3.00pm for cancer and post cancer patients to meet and share their experiences, fears and challenges. Those attending are welcome to bring a friend. Refreshments will be provided. For further information please contact the parish office.

Sea Sunday 12th & 13th July. All parishioners are warmly invited to an online webinar being run by Stella Maris on Thursday 19th June from 7:30pm to 9pm. You will hear about the work that Stella Maris has been doing with seafarers and fishers over the past year, including the use of the funds kindly donated on Sea Sunday last year. To attend this webinar, please sign up at: www.stellamaris.org.uk/thankyouwebinar

Summer Days Out. Gina is organising a coach outings to Broadstairs on Friday 20 June. **Please call Gina to book a seat on 07780 468767**

Supporting the Parish

Parish Finances for last week

Average weekly standing order contributions: £1400.

Mass Offerings last week:

St. Joseph's: £858.55 St. Swithun's: £168.97

Mission Appeal:

St. Joseph's: £1221.54 St. Swithun's: £290.94

The Missionary Society of St. Paul have written to thank our parishioners for their generous donations.

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 weekend there will be a second collection for **World Communications Sunday.**

From our Diocese: Relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis visiting St George's Cathedral - 26-29 June:

St George's Cathedral will be visited by a relic of Blessed Carlo Acutis. On Thursday 26 June, an evening of adoration and veneration of the relic for young adults is taking place. On Friday 27 June, Archbishop John will preside at the 6pm Solemn Mass of the Sacred Heart, which will include the veneration of the relic. On Saturday 28 June, there will be a "morning with Carlo Acutis", which will include Mass, adoration, rosary and a talk on the relic. An exhibition will also be on display at the Cathedral from 19 June to 7 July. Visit: stgeorgescathedral.org.uk for more information.

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.

Churches Together in Central Bromley: Sunday 8th June is Pentecost Sunday and the Churches in Central Bromley are holding a united service at 6:30pm – 7:15pm, hosted at Bromley Town Church, 2 Ethelbert Road BR1 1JA (located just behind Metro Bank in the High Street). We will unite together to celebrate the birthday of the Church and encourage each other as we worship together, you are most welcome to join with us.

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, 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, Enrica Fitzpatrick, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Anthony Sutton, John Dunning, Lily Carvalho, Sr Veronica, Ranjana Chauhan, Eamonn & baby Molly Boyle, Carlo Dovico, Margaret Martina Dhanami, Frank Peterson, Collin Hammill, Kathy Wages and Jimmy Ellison.

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. The next Baptism Preparation Course will begin on Saturday 21st June 2025.

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

Monday: Fr Saju & Deacon Barry/Deacon Aidan - **Not Bank Holidays**

Wednesday: Fr Patrick & Deacon Garry by appointment only

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.