



SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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

Third Sunday of Easter Year C

4th May 2025

Readings on Page 259 of the Parish Mass Book

We all know what happened at the Last Supper and how Peter was told that he would deny Jesus three times. This he did to three different people. He was afraid and yet as soon as he realised what he had just done Peter cried. We cry for many reasons. Peter cried because he had just betrayed his friend.

All of the disciples were overwhelmed. They saw their friend, their Lord, arrested and then crucified at the hands of the Roman authorities egged on by the crowds. They were scared and confused. It is no wonder that they were overwhelmed. We might have expected Jesus to write Peter off as being weak and cowardly and unreliable. As the team leader Peter had set a terrible example to the others.

When they meet again, on the beach, there are no recriminations or blame. Jesus made them breakfast. Jesus did not write Peter off because, unlike Judas, Peter's denial was not a planned thing it was a result of weakness and not malice. Jesus, who knows us all so well, knew this.

After breakfast Jesus ask Peter, "Do you love me more than others love me?" Jesus already knew the answer and he also knew that there was another side to Peter a side that had strength. Peter had learned from his denial that he was not as brave as he thought he was, and I am sure he would always remember his denial. For the simple question from Jesus, we can all learn the simple truth that Jesus always loves us just as he always loves and trusts Peter with his work. Jesus' love brought Peter back to life because he knew he was loved in his weakness and sinfulness.

Peter had the courage to get up after his fall. He was a leader who was aware of his own weaknesses and those of others. We, like Peter, have to learn to forgive ourselves our momentary weaknesses and failures. Not to judge ourselves, or others, by momentary lapses but by our commitment over a long time to our beliefs.

Deacon Aidan

Mass Intentions

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)

Monday 5th May Bank Holiday

10.00am Gerard McDonnell RIP (Gorey)

Tuesday 6th May

10.00am Holy Souls (Seidel)

Wednesday 7th May

10.00am Int. Nicholas Bennett

Thursday 8th May

10.00am Diana Shaw RIP (Cooper)

Friday 9th May

10.00am Bernie Sheahan RIP (Celine)

Saturday 10th May

10.00am Emmanuel Anthony Pillai RIP
11.00am First Holy Communion Mass
1.00pm **Baptism:** Córa Eason
6.00pm Noah Mark Rothon RIP

Sunday 11th May 4th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Bernie Sheahan RIP (Sayer)
9.15am Pope Francis RIP
People of the Parish
11.00am William Cullen RIP
First Holy Communion Mass
5.00pm James O'Connell RIP (Bristow)

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

Mass Intentions

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

Saturday 10th May

6.00pm Mary Murphy RIP

Sunday 11th May

10.00am Rio Menezes - Thanksgiving
Birthday

Monday 12th May

10.00am Wellbeing of Boniface Akalugwu

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.

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.

Prayer for the Successor of Pope Francis. A Prayer Card is available in the foyer in the church. Between 3rd and 11th May we will pray together the prayer for the Successor of Pope Francis.

Altar Servers Rally on Monday 5th May at The Friars, Aylesford. Sung Mass will be celebrated at 11.30am by Fr Michael Cox. Please see posters in the church for the full programme of events. All welcome to attend.

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 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 12th May 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.

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.

A new Playgroup has opened in St. Swithun's Church Hall. For further information please contact Caroline O'Brien on 07525 651031.

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: sclowery@hotmail.co.uk or contact the parish office.

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.**

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.

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.

The funeral of Patrick O'Grady RIP will be held on Thursday 22nd May at 1.00pm in St. Patrick's RC Church, Chislehurst.

Elizabeth (Betty) Cook RIP, a former parishioner and teacher at St. Joseph's Primary School, died on 9th April 2025. Her funeral will take place in Buxton.

As a parish community we offer our prayers with deepest sympathy to the family and friends of all the deceased.

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 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.

Supporting the Parish

Parish Finances for last week

Average weekly standing order contributions: £1400.

Mass Offerings last week:

St. Joseph's: £1137.67 St. Swithun's: £217.42

Maintenance of St. George's Cathedral:

St Joseph's: £468.97 St. Swithun's: £83.09

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.

Next Sunday there will be a second collection for the Priest Training Fund (Ecclesiastical Education).

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.

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.

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.

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, Paul Flynn, David Thorogood, Rebecca Mohan, Gerard McDonnell, Diana Shaw, Bernie Sheahan, Emmanuel Anthony Pillai, Noah Mark Rothern, William Cullen and James O'Connell. **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.