



## SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

Telephone No. 020 8402 0459 | [bromley@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:bromley@rcaos.org.uk) | [www.stjosephsbromley.org](http://www.stjosephsbromley.org)

Fourteenth Sunday Year C

6th July 2025

Readings on Page: 105 of the Parish Mass Book

### Reflections on the Pilgrimage Walk To Aylesford Priory 2<sup>nd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> June

As many of you know I recently took part in the Diocesan Pilgrimage Walk from St Georges Cathedral to Aylesford Priory, a distance of 50+ miles. Some 85 people took part in all or part of the walk, time constraints preventing some pilgrims walking every day. We were divided into five groups, I was in St George's Group, we started off with thirteen and finished with "The Magnificent 7".

I am writing this a few weeks after the walk, and have had time to digest and reflect on the experience. My first thoughts are that we were blessed with the weather. We have just had a heatwave and to be walking in 30-degree plus temperatures would not have been fun. We never had really heavy rain and when it did really pour, we were either in church or the final outdoor Mass was over - thank you God.

As we neared the end of the pilgrimage, walking in the Kent countryside, it seemed hard to believe that a few days earlier we had been dodging traffic in London as we walked from St Georges Cathedral to the Anglican Southwark Cathedral and then walking along the Thames Path. A big lesson for me at least was it is not the "I" but being tolerant of each other's foibles each of us working for and supporting each other.

My lasting feeling is one of great gratitude; gratitude to those who organised the walk, gratitude to those who offered hospitality along the way, gratitude to the strangers that we met along the way and shared stories with us and most of all gratitude to my six companions who, with me, made up "The Magnificent Seven". The pilgrimage reaffirmed that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. We all brought something different to the walk, we shared our stories and we shared our faith and helped each other along the way. Most of all it is a feeling of gratitude to our Lord who was there with us every step of the way. No matter how heavy my burden was, and sometimes my daysack seemed to weigh a ton, it was nothing compared to the weight of the Cross that he carried for me. He gave his life for me, the least I can do is try to help others carry their cross.

Deacon Barry

### Mass Intentions

#### Saturday 5th July

10.00am Special Intention (Lohan)  
6.00pm Edouard & Josephine Briffa  
RIP (Bonnici)

#### Sunday 6th July Fourteenth Sunday

8.00am People of Parish  
9.15am Int. Louise Stewart  
11.00am Meril- Special Intention  
12.30pm **Baptism: Asta Newnham**  
5.00pm Special Intention (Lohan)

#### Monday 7th July

10.00am Kouassi Kouakou & Ania  
Somala Odette RIP

#### Tuesday 8th July

10.00am Holy Souls (Seidel)

#### Wednesday 9th July

10.00am Frank Lohan RIP  
(with Primary School)

#### Thursday 10th July

10.00am Special Int. (Lohan)

#### Friday 11th July St Benedict

10.00am Pat McDonagh RIP (Lohan)

#### Saturday 12th July

10.00am Special Int. (Lohan)  
6.00pm T A Mariyathanas RIP

#### Sunday 13th July Fifteenth Sunday

8.00am T J Kelly RIP (O'Sullivan)  
9.15am John & Lily Robertson RIP  
*Baptism Rite of Welcome*  
11.00am Int. Flordeliza Guzzan  
Birthday  
12.30pm **Baptism: Charlotte Griffiths**  
1.30pm **Baptism: Alexander Spice**  
5.00pm Special Int. (Lohan)

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

**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday 5th July**

6.00pm Ann-Marie Marcellus Thanksgiving

**Sunday 6th July**

10.00am Wellbeing of Nelson Miranda and Family

**Monday 7th July**

10.00am Lady Amelia Grindle RIP

**Saturday 12th July**

6.00pm Mike Mills RIP

**Sunday 13th July**

10.00am People of the Parish

**Monday 14th July**

10.00am Francis Okiwelu 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.

**Funeral:** The funeral of Peter Gudge RIP will be held on Tuesday 15th July at 11.30am in St. Joseph's Church. Peter's coffin will be received into the church at 6.00pm on Monday 14th July. Please pray for the repose of his soul.

**St Joseph's Catholic Primary School – Spaces Available!** St Joseph's Catholic Primary School currently has spaces available. We offer a warm, welcoming community where every child is encouraged to grow academically, spiritually, and socially. For more information or to arrange a visit, please contact: [admin@st-josephs.bromley.sch.uk](mailto:admin@st-josephs.bromley.sch.uk) Join the St Joseph's family – where every child is known and loved.

**Christian Meditation** This is an opportunity in the parish for all those who wish to spend time in silence and prayer with the help of Christian Meditation. Open to everyone, no experience needed. To experience peace within with guided meditation. Starting on Thursday 4th September, Meditation will be guided by a skilled and experienced person and the duration is half an hour in the Upper Room from 7.00pm. Refreshments available.

**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

**During August** Surgery will be held by appointment only.

**Baptism Preparation.** Please see reverse of Newsletter to enrol on our next Baptism Preparation Course starting on Saturday 6th September 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.

**Journey in Faith Group** will take a break for the summer and meet again in September. Please contact Matt Gibbs on 07955 084287 or email: [bromleyrcia@rcoas.org.uk](mailto:bromleyrcia@rcoas.org.uk)

**Family Mass on Sundays at 9.15 am**

6th July Children's Liturgy

13th July Year 1 Mass—No Children's Liturgy

20th July Uniform Groups

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

**Thank you for All 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 invite all volunteers to attend.

**Summer Holidays: Readers and Eucharistic Ministers.** As we are entering the main holiday period, if you are unable to cover one of your scheduled slots on the rota, please swap with someone else on the rota. If there is no one available, please inform a priest, deacon or sacristan.

**Minutes of Parish Pastoral Council Meeting (PPC) held on Sunday 29th June 2025** are on display in the foyer of both churches.

## 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](mailto:slowery@hotmail.co.uk)

**As part of celebrating the Jubilee Year, the third Night Vigil will be held on 21st/22nd November 2025.** The Night Vigil will commence with Mass at 6.00pm and conclude with Mass at 6.00am.

**The Dad's Group** will meet again on Wednesday 16th July from 19.30-21.00 at The Crown, Plaistow Lane. This is open to all dads who still have a child at school. Contact: Richard Barrett on 07729 392936 or email: [rgtbarrett@gmail.com](mailto:rgtbarrett@gmail.com)

### From our Diocese:

**Diocesan Safeguarding Audit. Feedback:** The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency are seeking feedback from anyone who may have information regarding the safeguarding function in Southwark Archdiocese. Please click on the below links if you wish to contribute. Thank you.

[Do you have information to help our safeguarding inspection in Southwark?](#)

[Survivors' Work With Us](#)

**Free Catechetical Institute Resources.** Every parishioner, as well as teachers and parents in our school, has free and unlimited access to the workshops created by the world-renowned Catechetical Institute. From Scripture to parenting workshops, to catechetical training and mentoring, there is something for everyone. For information on how to register your free account visit: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/franciscan>

**Southwark Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes.** There are still a few places available on the pilgrimage, which Southwark makes to Lourdes from 22 to 29 August this year. For information and booking, please see <https://www.tangney-tours.com/diocese-pilgrimages/diocese-ca/>

There are a range of hotels available, though most Southwark pilgrims will be staying at the Hotel Eliseo. Further information is available from Bishop Paul [paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:paulhendricks@rcaos.org.uk) or Canon Perera [edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:edwardperera@rcaos.org.uk)

**Macmillan Cancer Support** have written to thank the Seniors' Lunch Group for their recent donation of £250.00.

## Supporting the Parish

### Parish Finances for last week

Thank you for your continued support and generosity.

#### Standing Orders:

Average weekly contributions: £1400.

#### Cashless contributions last week:

Mass offerings: £615.00

Peter's Pence: £67.00

#### Offertory Collection last week:

St. Joseph's: £1008.89 St. Swithun's: £155.33

#### Second Collection: Peter's Pence:

St. Joseph's: £522.42 St. Swithun's: £73.81

**Second Collection next Sunday:** Next Sunday is **Sea Sunday**. The second collection will be for Stella Maris.

### Parish Accounts for 2024.

The 2024 Parish accounts will be presented on Sunday in the St Swithun's Hall after the 10am Mass and in the St Joseph's Hall after the 5pm Mass. Copies of the accounts are available at the entrance of our Churches.

#### Gift Aid and Standing Order Enquiries:

Please email the Gift Aid Co-Ordinator at: [bromleygac@rcaos.org.uk](mailto:bromleygac@rcaos.org.uk) or call the Parish Office on 020 8402 0459.

**Cafod:** In this Jubilee Year we are inviting parishes to join the churches global call for debt cancellation in those countries hit hardest by poverty and the climate crises. There is a petition that can be signed at the back of the church and leaflets explaining the lobby of Parliament on Wednesday 9th July.

**Summer Days Out.** The following coach outings have been arranged: **Hastings** on 16th July. **Eastbourne** on 14th August and **Brighton** on 3rd September. Book direct with Gina on 07780 468767.

**Cancer Café** will take a break for the summer and will resume again in September. We also plan to hold a Prayer Support Group. For further information please contact the parish office.

**A new Playgroup has opened in St. Swithun's Church Hall.** For further information please contact Caroline O'Brien on 07525 651031 or email: [stjosephsplaygroup1td@gmail.com](mailto:stjosephsplaygroup1td@gmail.com)

***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,*** John Aummundsen, Catherine Rideout, Emma Constantinides, Joan Leonard, 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,*** Peter Gudge, Annette Foley, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Edouard & Josephine Briffa, Kouassi Kouakou & Ania Somala Odette, Frank Lohan, Pat McDonagh, TA Mariyathan, and TJ Kelly.

**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 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 6th September 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: <a href="mailto:sajuthomas@rcaos.org.uk">sajuthomas@rcaos.org.uk</a>
Fr Patrick Essien (Asst. Priest)	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/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](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.