



SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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

Twenty Second Sunday Year C

31st August 2025

Readings on Page 130 of the Parish Mass Book

Growing in prayer – Pilgrimage

Jubilee year in the Church is a special year of grace and forgiveness, offering the faithful an opportunity to obtain a plenary indulgence. The Jubilee year 2025 is centred on the theme "Pilgrims of Hope." Pope Francis said as he opened the jubilee year, "we must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision." In this year let us aim to be part of a pilgrimage, spiritually or journeying to a place of pilgrimage to fill us with God's grace and forgiveness.

The word comes from the Latin "*per ager*," meaning "across the fields," or perhaps from "*per eger*" meaning "border crossing, implies to the distinctive aspect of undertaking a journey. Pilgrim and Pilgrimage can also be traced back to Scripture as an image for God's people, moving together on a journey of faith. Israel's journey in Exodus from slavery to freedom and to restoration provides a model for all those seeking to follow God and move to a place of greater freedom. In the Bible, Abraham is described as a person on a journey. "Go forth from your land, your relatives, and from your father's house" (Genesis 12:1). With these words Abraham begins his adventure, which ends in the Promised Land, where he is remembered as a "wandering Aramean" (Deuteronomy 26:5). Jesus' ministry can also be seen as a journey, from Galilee to the Holy City of Jerusalem. The Church is described throughout the Vatican Council documents as the pilgrim people of God on a journey of faith which culminates in eternal life. The spirituality of pilgrimage can be a helpful image and source of grace to help people on their faith journey. In this sense, pilgrimage is an experience of conversion, of transforming one's very being to conform it to the holiness of God. During the pilgrimage, one also shares in the experience of those who, for various reasons, are forced to leave their homelands to seek a better life for themselves and their family.

We may need to review our efforts to embark upon a pilgrimage as a pilgrim to bring forth the fruits of life as Pope Francis said that "by our actions, our words, the decisions we make each day, our patient efforts to sow seeds of beauty and kindness wherever we find ourselves, we want to be signs of hope... and reawaken in every heart the joy and courage to embrace life to the full." **Fr Saju**

Mass Intentions

Saturday 30th August

10.00am Jane Lewis RIP (Asilamani)
6.00pm Sr Jeanne Madeleine RIP (Craddock)

Sunday 31st August 22nd Sunday

8.00am People of the Parish
9.15am Thanksgiving (Trixie Raju)
11.00am Mike Stead RIP
20th Anniversary
5.00pm Some Definite Service
Volunteers (Ada)

Monday 1st September

10.00am Karen Summers RIP (Callan)

Tuesday 2nd September

10.00am Holy Souls (Sandra)

Wednesday 3rd September St Gregory

10.00am John Tobin RIP (McConnell)
12 Noon **Funeral:** Maria Matthews RIP

Thursday 4th September

10.00am Mary Scanlon RIP (Crosby)

Friday 5th September

10.00am Alfredo Romero RIP (McQuiggan)

Saturday 6th September

10.00am First Holy Communion Families
6.00pm Kitty Conroy RIP (O'Sullivan)

Sunday 7th September 23rd Sunday

8.00am People of the Parish
9.15am Int. Clare Cribben
11.00am William Cullen RIP
5.00pm People of Bromley (Ada)

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

For Baptism, First Holy Communion and Confirmation, please complete and print out one of our online Registration Forms. Please bring the form to meet with one of our priests/deacons during surgery hours to complete your child's registration. **You will not be able to submit your form online.**

Baptism Preparation. Please see below how to enrol on our next Baptism Preparation Course.

First Holy Communion Parents Retreat will be held on Saturday 6th September from 9.30am to 3.30pm in St. Joseph's church hall. For further information please contact Deacon Garry.

Confirmation Preparation 2025-2026. If your child is in Year 8 or above and would like to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in June 2026, please complete and print out our **Confirmation Registration Form:**

https://www.stjosephsbromley.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Confirmation-Registration-Form_July-2025.pdf

Pope Francis: *"The Lord never tires of forgiving. It is we who tire of asking for forgiveness."*

Journey in Faith Open Evenings will be held on Mondays 1st & 8th September at 8.00pm in Holy Trinity House. The Journey in Faith Group welcomes new enquirers to start a period of preparation and discernment. See poster in foyer of church. For further information please contact Matt Gibbs on 07955 084287 or email: bromleyrcia@rcoas.org.uk

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.

Family Mass on Sundays at 9.15am. The Children's Liturgy and Uniform Groups will resume in September. Dates to be announced.

Tea and Coffee on Sunday mornings will resume in September.

Funerals:

The funeral of Maria Matthews RIP will be held on Wednesday 3rd September at 12 noon in St. Joseph's Church. May she rest in peace.

The funeral of Gerry & Joan Leonard RIP will be held on Friday 19th September at 11.30am in St. Joseph's Church. May they rest in peace.

Valerie Zanre RIP died on 23rd August. The date of her funeral will be announced in due course. May she rest in peace.

Pope Leo: *"We are all in the hands of God".*

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, Gina Clark, John Aummundsen, Robert Straker, Stella Ludlum, Catherine Rideout, Emma Constantinides, Betty Byrne, Mary Edwards, Cathy Mair, Faith Millar, Utz & Yoko Reiff, Simon Franks, Paul Emans, 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, Gerry & Joan Leonard, Valerie Zanre, Maria Matthews, Dermot Kenny, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Jane Lewis, Sr Jeanne Madeleine, Mike Stead, John Tobin, Mary Scanlon, Alfredo Romero, Kitty Conroy and William Cullen.

May they rest in peace.

Jubilee Year 2025

Jubilee Year: Parish Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi in the Jubilee Year: Dates: 7th – 11th October 2025.

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje 8-15th September.

For further information on both Pilgrimages please email Susan Lowery at: sclowery@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 7.00pm and conclude with Mass at 6.30am.

Bromley Homeless is an award-winning local charity tackling homelessness in our Borough. On Sunday 14th September at 6 pm, Simon Jeal, the Volunteer Co-ordinator for Bromley Homeless will give a talk in the hall about the work of Bromley Homeless and the opportunities for supporting it. Please do come and find out how you can help those in our locality who lack the advantage of a secure home. **There will be a short Pulpit Talk after all Masses next weekend.** For more information please email either John Warren (jrwarren@gmx.co.uk) or Teresa Adams (tessie.m.adams@gmail.com)

SVP Annual Raffle. Members of our SVP Group will be selling raffle tickets after all Masses **next weekend**. The tickets will cost £5 per book of 5 tickets. The St Vincent de Paul Society is part of an international Christian voluntary network dedicated to tackling poverty in all its forms by providing practical assistance to people in need.

Induction and Training for new Altar Servers will take place in St. Joseph's Church on Saturday 6th September from 3-5pm. This is an annual training and induction session. Refreshments will be provided for the children. Thank you.

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: £548.00

Building Fund: £40.00

Offertory Collection last week:

St. Joseph's: £ 925.13 St. Swithun's: £189.90

Gift Aid and Standing Order Enquiries:

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

Please see below the **Cashless Giving QR code**. Please scan the code with your smart phones to make cashless contributions.



Bank transfers for Offertory contributions can be made to the account below:

Short bank account name: **St Josephs Parish**

Bank sort code: **60-04-02**

Account number: **84093595**

Reference: **Please show your surname and initials (eg. Bond J)**

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: You are invited to register for your child's baptism on line: https://www.stjosephsbromley.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Baptism-Registration-Form_July-2025.pdf Please complete and print the form and bring 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.**

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday 30th August

6.00pm Severiano Lopes RIP

Sunday 31st August

10.00am Wellbeing of Reuben Noruega

Monday 1st September

10.00am Ron & Kate Smith RIP

Saturday 6th September

6.00pm Peter Gudge RIP (Franks)

Sunday 7th September

10.00am Haysie Lopes Thanksgiving

Monday 8th September

10.00am Rohaan Noronha
Thanksgiving

For Mass Intentions please see Nelson

St Swithun's Hall Bookings: 020 8402-0459

Tea & Coffee will be served in the church hall on Sundays after the 10.00am Mass.

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

Parish Social

Cancer Café and Prayer Support Group on Tuesdays at 1.30pm in the Upper Room.

1st Tuesday of month: Prayer Support Group

3rd Tuesday of month: Cancer Café

Refreshments will be served. For further information contact Parish Office.

The Dad's Group will meet again on Wednesday 17th September 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.

Seniors Lunch. The next Seniors Lunch will be held on **Tuesday 2nd September** from 12 noon to 1.30pm in Holy Trinity House. Please let the parish office know if you would like to attend.

Bromley Borough Foodbank Quiz to be held in St. Joseph's Church Hall on Friday 19th September. Doors open at 6.45pm. Quiz starts at 7.15pm. £10 per person. To purchase tickets, please see QR code on posters in foyer of church or email: assemble@bromleyborough.foodbank.org.uk

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

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.