



## SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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The Exaltation of the Holy Cross Year C

14th September 2025

Readings on Page 191 of the Parish Mass Book

### Love explained on the Cross

On the feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross the affirmation from the Gospel passage for this Sunday is that "for God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son that who believes in him should not perish but have eternal life". The context of this affirmation is the accomplishment of the events from the Old Testament in Jesus Christ.

On the final day of Creation, the book of Genesis says that God said, "let us make man in our own image, after our likeness; ... So God created man in his own image, ... male and female He created them (Gen 1:26-27). The purpose of man's creation is to have communion and companionship with God. However man and woman decided to move away from this communion and companionship, to establish a new relationship with evil by listening not to God but to the Serpent (Gen 3:5). The breach of their relationship with God brought Adam and Eve to address two compelling questions, where are you (Gen 3:9) and where is your brother (Gen 4:9). The rest of the Bible is an explanation to these two questions in order to lead all who wish to have communion with God to a renewed relationship or salvation. These two questions we constantly confront in our life; am I in the right disposition with God to walk along with God, or feel ashamed and to hide away from God? Similarly we are responsible for the care of our brothers and sisters around us. The duty of care emerges from the God given role to each one of us to acknowledge that 'I am the keeper of my brother' (Gen 4:9). Time and again many prophets were sent to encourage the people of Israel to repentance, but they failed. The advent of Jesus Christ opens the door to God's love and mercy. The fullest expression of God's love is visible in the Eucharist, in the sacrifice of Jesus which we celebrate regularly with the parish community. We honour the Cross of Jesus and reflect on the love God has for us and the price Jesus paid for our salvation. So on this feast day, the crucifix should remind us that we are forgiven sinners and, we are expected to forgive those who offend us and to ask for forgiveness through confession whenever we offend others or hurt their feelings. Today when we bless ourselves with the sign of the cross, we remind ourselves that we belong to Christ Jesus. You may keep a cross or crucifix in your room to remind you that the **CROSS** is love explained, the sign of our salvation. **Fr Saju**

### Mass Intentions

#### Saturday 13th September

##### St John Chrysostom

- 10.00am Protection of Kouakou  
Yoboua Bertin  
6.00pm Giuseppe Inzalaco RIP

#### Sunday 14th September

##### The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

- 8.00am People of the Parish  
9.15am Annma Anthony Pillai RIP  
11.00am Int. Ethan Huxley (Gina)  
12.30pm **Baptism: Tinaye Chimedza**  
5.00pm Some Definite Service  
Volunteers (Ada)

#### Monday 15th September

##### Our Lady of Sorrows

- 10.00am Lucia Holder RIP

#### Tuesday 16th September

##### St Cornelius & St Cyprian

- 10.00am Brendan French RIP

#### Wednesday 17th September

- 10.00am Int. Mr Kouakou & Ester Yoa

#### Thursday 18th September

- 10.00am Stanislaus RIP (Merlyn)

#### Friday 19th September

- 10.00am Genovieve RIP (Merlyn)  
11.30am **Funeral:**  
Gerry & Joan Leonard RIP

#### Saturday 20th September

##### St Andrew Kim Tae-gön

- 10.00am Jason Paul Hearn RIP (Wilson)  
12 Noon **Baptism: Olivia Gower**  
6.00pm Maizey O'Hara &  
Michael Jansz RIP

#### Sunday 21st September 25th Sunday

- 8.00am People of the Parish  
9.15am Sarah Magee RIP (Jones)  
*FHC Rite of Enrolment*  
11.00am Ben & Jo White RIP  
1.00pm **Baptisms:** Maeve McCarthy  
& Alfie Aylott  
5.00pm George & Bernadette Ross RIP

## 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:** Deacon Barry/Deacon Aidan

**Please note:** Fr Saju will not be available on Monday 15th September as he will be leading the Parish Pilgrimage to Medjugorje.

**Wednesday by Appointment only:**

Fr Patrick & Deacon Garry

**For Baptism 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 Rite of Enrolment will be celebrated during the 9.15am Mass on Sunday 21st September.**

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

**Journey in Faith Group will meet on Monday 15th September at 7.45 for 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](mailto:bromleyrcia@rcoas.org.uk)

**Christian Meditation on Thursdays at 7.00pm in the Upper Room.** This is an opportunity for all those who wish to spend time in silence and prayer with the help of Christian Meditation. Open to everyone, no experience needed. Meditation will be guided by a skilled and experienced person. Refreshments available.

**Family Mass on Sundays at 9.15am.**

21st September	Uniform Groups
28th September	Children's Liturgy
5th October	Children's Liturgy
19th October	Uniform Groups

**Tea and Coffee on Sunday mornings** will be served in the church hall after the 9.15am Mass.

**Mass and Anointing of the Sick will be held on Saturday 18th October at 10.00am.** The SVP Group will serve refreshments in the hall after the Mass.

### Funerals:

**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.

**The funeral of Valerie Zanre RIP** will be held on Monday 29th September at 1.00pm in St. Joseph's Church. May she rest in peace.

**Kuni Forbes RIP died on 3rd September.** The date of her funeral will be announced in due course. May she rest in peace.

**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, 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,** Francesca Santa Maria, Cathy Mair, Kuni Forbes, Gerry & Joan Leonard, Valerie Zanre, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Giuseppe Inzalaco, Annma Anthony Pillai, Brendan French, Stanislaus, Jason Paul Hearn, Maizey O'Hara, Michael Jansz, Sarah Magee, Ben & Jo White, George & Bernadette Ross.

**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.

**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.** Just a reminder that the volunteer co-ordinator of Bromley Homeless will be giving a talk in the hall/club room at 6 pm this Sunday (14<sup>th</sup> September) about this charity and the opportunities for volunteering with it. If you are interested in supporting Bromley Homeless but are not able to attend the talk, please email John Warren ([jrwarren@gmx.co.uk](mailto:jrwarren@gmx.co.uk)) or Teresa Adams ([tessie.m.adams@gmail.com](mailto:tessie.m.adams@gmail.com)).

**St Joseph's Primary School Open Days.** For dates and times, please see posters in foyer

**Annual Diocesan Day for Catechists on Saturday 20th September** at St George's, Southwark from 10.00am. Registration now open! You are invited to join us for a day filled with teachings and prayer and a chance to meet fellow Catechists. Please see: <https://aec.rcaos.org.uk/day-for-catechists-2025>

**Annual Service of Hope and Healing to be held in St. George's Cathedral on Wednesday 24th September at 6.30pm.** This is an opportunity to show solidarity to those who have been harmed by abuse and to pray for them and their families. All welcome.

**Cafod Harvest Fast Day.** Members of our Cafod Group will be making a short appeal at the end of all Masses on 27th & 28th September. The Cafod collection will take place on 4th & 5th October.

## 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: £367.00

Building Fund: £37.00

#### **Offertory Collection last week:**

St. Joseph's: £987.67 St. Swithun's: £131.50

#### **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.

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)**

#### **Second collections:**

**This weekend:** Catholic Education Services

**Next weekend:** Home Mission Sunday

**Thank you to all those who supported the SVP Annual Raffle.** £700 was raised for National SVP.

**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](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 in November.

**Marriage:** Please contact a priest or deacon. **Six Months notice is required.**

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

**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday 13th September**

6.00pm Doriano Soverini RIP (Nora)

**Sunday 14th September**

10.00am Martin Lopes RIP

**Monday 15th September**

10.00am Amelia & Estella Rodrigues  
(Thanksgiving)

**Saturday 20th September**

6.00pm God's Blessing for  
Miriam and George

**Sunday 21st September**

10.00am Mary Scanlon RIP (Childs)

**Monday 22nd September**

10.00am Int. Pushpam Virgin Dailiya

*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 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 14th October** 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**

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**Surgery Times: 4.30-6.30pm in Holy Trinity House**

**Monday:** Deacon Barry/Deacon Aidan. **Fr Saju will not be available on 15th September.**

**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.