



## 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)

Twenty Third Sunday Year C

7th September 2025

Readings on Page 133 of the Parish Mass Book

In today's Gospel Reading, Jesus recommends hatred—of your mother and father, of your wife (or husband), in fact, of your very life.

What's to hate about these people? How can Jesus say that unless you hate them, you can't be his disciple? Didn't Jesus command us to love our neighbours as ourselves? How can you hate your life if you love yourself?

Well, think of St. Thomas More. Henry VIII of England wanted his own marriage to his wife annulled so that he could marry another woman, Anne. (Anglicans and Catholics both have troublesome characters in their history!) When the Pope wouldn't agree to what Henry wanted, Henry declared himself supreme head of the Church in England. Thomas More was Chancellor of England then, and Henry wanted him to support him in all this. Henry wanted More to sign the Oath of Supremacy declaring Henry the Supreme Head of the Church in England.

Thomas More saw that Henry's passion for Anne was moving Henry to betray his wife and bring scandal on the Church. He wouldn't support him; More wouldn't sign the Oath.

So Thomas More resigned his chancellorship and went home. But Henry pursued him. First, he stripped him of his income and property, and then imprisoned him. Thomas's wife was frantic; his children were heart-broken. They thought that More's life hung in the balance, and they were right.

Couldn't he have just signed that Oath? His wife would have had him home. His children would have rejoiced at his return. He would have kept his property. He would have kept his life.

But he would have lost his life in keeping it. He would have betrayed the Lord he loved if he had signed that Oath.

So More lost all his possessions. He left his wife and children behind and went to prison. And finally, he went to his death, for love of the Lord. This is the kind of hatred of life and loved ones that the Lord is talking about. Thomas More loved his family and his life, but he let go of everything for love of Christ.

Because he maintained his integrity and did not let Henry push him into evil, Thomas More was true to the Lord he loved and to himself. He could not have loved himself or his wife or his children or his neighbours better than he did.

**Deacon Barry**

### Mass Intentions

#### 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)

#### Monday 8th September

10.00am Annie, Michael Joe &  
Chrissie Flynn RIP  
(Cunniffe)

#### Tuesday 9th September

10.00am Holy Souls (Seidel)

#### Wednesday 10th September

10.00am Int. Maria Wosiek

#### Thursday 11th September

10.00am Thanksgiving  
Mariyathan Family

#### Friday 12th September

10.00am Deliverance of Family Ties  
of N'Zi Ruht

#### 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)

## 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 Mondays 8th and 15th September as he will be leading the Parish Pilgrimage to Medjugorje.

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

**Journey in Faith Open Evening will be held on Monday 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](mailto: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. 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.**

7th September	Children's Liturgy
21st September	Uniform Groups
28th September	Children's Liturgy
5th October	Children's Liturgy

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

**Valerie Zanre RIP died on 23rd August.** The date of her funeral will be announced in due course. 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, 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,** Kuni Forbes, Gerry & Joan Leonard, Valerie Zanre, Maria Matthews, Dermot Kenny, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Kitty Conroy, William Cullen, Annie, Michael Joe & Chrissie Flynn, Giuseppe Inzalaco and Annma Anthony Pillai.

**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.

For further information please email Susan Lowery at: [sclowery@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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 14<sup>th</sup> 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 this weekend.** For more information please email either 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))

**SVP Annual Raffle.** Members of our SVP Group will be selling raffle tickets after all Masses **this 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.

**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>

**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 on Saturday 6th September 2025.

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

## 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: £512.00

Building Fund: £30.00

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

St. Joseph's: £931.15 St. Swithun's: £184.62

#### **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)**

**Next Weekend there will be a second collection for Catholic Education Services.**

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

**Mass Intentions**

**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

**Saturday 13th September**

6.00pm Dorian Soverini RIP (Nora)

**Sunday 14th September**

10.00am Martin Lopes RIP

**Monday 15th September**

10.00am Amelia & Estella Rodrigues  
(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 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 8th & 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.