



SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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

33rd Sunday

Year C

16th November 2025

Readings on Page 164 of the Parish Mass Book

Dear ALL,

The Catechism of the Catholic Church teaches us that "whole Church is a priestly people. Through Baptism, all the faithful share in the priesthood of Christ." This participation is called the 'common priesthood of the faithful' (CCC 1591). St. Peter in his letter affirms this common dignity that "you also, as living stones, are built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices, acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 2:5). The role of the ministerial priesthood is to build up the common priesthood of the faithful. Pope Leo while presiding over an Ordination Mass in June 2025 reminded us that priests are called to exercise pastoral charity "with a generous love, like that of the Heavenly Father," and to foster in their hearts "the desire that no one be lost," but that everyone, also through their ministry, "may come to know Christ and have eternal life in Him." Through these words, the Pope reminded us that the gift of the priesthood is not a gift to individuals, but to the entire Church.

The Silver Jubilee of my ordination reminds me that my priesthood is a gift from God to be shared in the Church. Jesus says in John's Gospel, "You did not choose me, but I chose you" (John 15:16), which indicates that vocation to the priesthood is part of God's plan for me. At age 16, I began my 13 years of religious formation in the Franciscan Capuchin Order. After successful completion, I was ordained a priest 25 years ago on 22 November. During these 25 years, I was blessed to minister 11 years here in SS Joseph & Swithun Parish. The Thanksgiving Mass next Sunday will celebrate the joy of Christ's priesthood gifted to me and to thank God humbly for the privilege to live in the midst of the people, to teach, sanctify and lead through service in the Church in order to conclude my Jubilee Year of the Ordination. The celebration of the Sacraments, in particular the Eucharist not only nourishes my faith and the faith of those I serve, but reminds me constantly to grow in Christ. I offer thanksgiving to God and remember with gratitude my parents and family, *Pavanatma* Capuchin Province, Kerala; our Archdiocese, and the parishioners in Waddon and Tonbridge Parishes where I have also served. I am indebted to all in our Parish, now my second home, for your support and the love bestowed on me; with much gratitude.

Fr Saju.

Mass Intentions

Saturday 15th November

10.00am Parish Memorial Mass
12.30pm **Baptism: Evie Dyas**
6.00 pm Agnes Achampong RIP

Sunday 16th November 33rd Sunday

8.00am Caroline Spence RIP
(Lowery)
9.15am Thomas Elton & Stephanie
Perera RIP (Priya)
11.00am Gerald & Mary Cullen RIP
5.00pm People of Parish

Monday 17th November

10.00am Thanksgiving
(Dhanya, Jinoy)

Tuesday 18th November

10.00am Holy Souls (Seidel)

Wednesday 19th November

10.00am Margaret Whithers RIP
(Spink)

Thursday 20th November

10.00am Roy Parker RIP (Crosby)

Friday 21st November

Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

10.00am Lucia Holder RIP
7.00pm Holy Souls

Saturday 22nd November St Cecilia

6.30am Holy Souls
Wellbeing of Leema Immanuel
10.00am Sheila Loftus RIP (Sayer)
6.00pm People of the Parish

Sunday 23rd November Christ the King

8.00am Gerry & Joan Leonard RIP
9.15am Alloysius Masilamani RIP
(Thiviya & Mahesh)
11.00am Fr Saju's 25th Ordination
Anniversary: Thanksgiving
5.00pm Deceased members of
Stocking & Leary Families

Our Parish Faith Formation

All those registering to attend one of our Sacramental Preparation Courses are requested to meet with Fr. Saju/ a member of the clergy team during surgery hours. You will not be able to submit your Registration Form online.

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

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

First Holy Communion: Parents Review Session will be held on Thursday 20th November at 7.30pm in Holy Trinity House.

First Reconciliation will be celebrated on Saturday 22nd November from 11.30am-1.30pm in St. Joseph's Church.

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 contact the parish office.

RCIA: Our Journey in Faith Group meet on Mondays at 8.00pm in Holy Trinity House. For further information please email Matt Gibbs at mattgibbsjfr@gmail.com or ring 07955 084287.

Christian Meditation will be held on Thursdays at 7.00pm in the Upper Room. Meditation is guided by a skilled and experienced person. Refreshments available.

November - Month of the Holy Souls. In November we are reminded to offer prayers for the Holy Souls. A Book of the Deceased is available in the Sacred Heart Chapel. Please enter the names of deceased relatives and friends who will be remembered during the month of November.

Parish Books of Remembrance. We often recognise people from our Parish Community, and may even talk to them or sit next to them at Mass, without knowing their name. For this reason, when one of our parishioners dies a copy of the front page of their order of service is put into our Parish Book of Remembrance. The books can be found in the lobby of St Joseph's Church. Please look at these books from time to time and hold our deceased families and friends in your prayers.

Mass for deceased clergy in our Deanery to be offered on Monday 17th November at 11.30am in St. Mark's Parish, West Wickham. All are welcome.

Family Mass on Sundays at 9.15am.

16th November	Uniform Groups
30th November	Children's Liturgy
7th December	Children's Liturgy
21st December	Children's Liturgy

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

Date for your diary: Valentine Retreat for married couples to be held on Saturday 14th February 2026 from 11.30am-4.30 pm. More details to follow.

Christmas Choirs. If you would like to join one of our choirs to sing at our Masses on Christmas Eve and/or Christmas Day please contact Charles Rudge for further information: charlesrudge@aol.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, Joseph Dyson, John Dias, Gina Clark, John Ammundsen, 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, Robert Straker, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Agnes Achampong, Caroline Spence, Thomas Elton Perera, Gerald & Mary Cullen, Margaret Whithers, Roy Parker, Sheila Loftus, Gerry & Joan Leonard and Alloysius Masilamani

May they rest in peace.

Jubilee Year 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. Please use the sign-up sheets to register your attendance.

Fr Saju will celebrate his 25th Ordination Anniversary at the 11.00am Mass on Sunday 23rd November. Light refreshments will be served in the church hall after the Mass. If you would like to bring a donation of cakes or biscuits it would be greatly appreciated. **All invited to attend.**

Parish & Primary School Christmas Celebration will be held on Thursday 4th December. Carol Concert in the church at 6.00pm followed by celebrations in the hall: a raffle, a DJ, and food will be available to purchase. **Volunteers are required to assist with the set up, serving of food and drink and clearing up at the end.** If you are able to help please email Henry Essilife at: htessilife@yahoo.co.uk or contact the parish office. **Thank you** to the children who designed a flyer advertising the Parish/Primary School Christmas Celebration. Please see posters in the foyer with the winning entry.

Christmas Trees. We will be selling Christmas Trees again this year for delivery to your home. Please see order form in the foyer of the church or contact the parish office. **Closing date 28th November 2025.**

Bromley Homeless Charity Sleepout on Saturday 15.11.2025 Teresa Adams and Norah Agiru will be participating to raise money for BH. If you wish to sponsor them please go to (Norah) <https://www.justgiving.com/page/norah-agiru-1?newPage=true> or (Teresa) <https://www.justgiving.com/page/teresa-adams-1759423401633>

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: £484.00 Building Fund: £35.50

Offertory Collection last week:

St. Joseph's: £1053.93 St. Swithun's: £161.50

Archbishop's Appeal:

St. Joseph's: £569.39 St. Swithun's: £66.34

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)**

Next weekend there will be a second collection for the Catholic Youth Ministry.

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 be held in January 2026.

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

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday 15th November

6.00pm Bob White RIP

Sunday 16th November

10.00am For Peace in the World

Monday 17th November

10.00am Wellbeing of Sylvia Preston

Saturday 22nd November

6.00pm Ann & Alfred Grist RIP (Jenny)

Sunday 23rd November

10.00am Int. of Maria Mariathas

Monday 24th November

10.00am Agiru Family Thanksgiving (Norah)

For Mass Intentions please see Nelson

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.

A Fire Drill will take place at St. Swithun's after the 10.00am Mass on Sunday 16th November.

St Swithun's Hall Bookings: 020 8402-0459

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 for Christmas drinks at The Crown on Wednesday 3 December at 19.30. Please contact: Richard Barrett on 07729 392936 or email: rgtbarrett@gmail.com. This is open to all dads who still have a child at school.

Seniors Lunch. The next Seniors Lunch will be held on **Tuesday 9th December** from 12 noon to 1.30pm in Holy Trinity House. Please let the parish office know if you would like to attend.

Ss Joseph & Swithun Christmas Day Lunch in St. Joseph's Church Hall. The lunch will be held after the 11.00am Mass. For more information and to register your attendance, please ring 07932 674557 or 020 8402 0459.

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.