



SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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Christ the King

Year C

23rd November 2025

Readings on Page 167 of the Parish Mass Book

Christ the King as Shepherd and Suffering Servant

In the Liturgical Calendar of the Catholic Church, this Sunday we celebrate the last Sunday of Ordinary Time, dedicated to Christ the King. Next Sunday a new Liturgical Year begins with the First Sunday of Advent, leading up to Christmas. Through the Scripture readings for this weekend, we understand Jesus is the King to shepherd God's people and a Servant King to suffer and die for God's people. The first reading (2 Sam 5:1-3) gives us the context to Luke 1: 32-33, "The Lord God will make him a King, as his ancestor David was, and he will be the King of the descendants of Jacob forever and his Kingdom will never end." David has been anointed King over Judah and now the elders come to him to anoint David as the king over the northern tribes of Israel. The elders recall the promise of the Lord that "David would be shepherd of my people Israel." David moves from his role as a shepherd of his father's sheep to the Shepherd of the Lord's people. Jesus, the Son of David, shares this role of a good Shepherd to shepherd all God's people. The image of the shepherd has been a central expression of the Church's vision of leadership in the service of God's kingdom. Today, we who are in a role of leadership as a parent, leader, religious or priest etc, are reminded of our duty of care to share Christ's shepherding in life.

Today's Gospel passage (Luke 23: 35-43) presents to us the final moments in the earthly life of Jesus. While on the cross suffering with unbearable pain, Jesus is mocked by many bystanders. Ironically their mockery is a testimony of the saving works of Jesus during his ministry and acclaiming him as the King of the Jews, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself." The answer to this question is given by 'the good thief' here. The good thief responded to the blasphemy of the other thief and rebuked him saying, "Have you no fear of God? We received the same judgement, justly in our case since it is the punishment for what we did; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." Jesus affirmed his recognition of his kingship and kingdom saying, "today you will be with me in paradise." Celebrating Christ the King means living under the influence of Christ to shepherd the people around us.

Fr Saju

Mass Intentions

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

Monday 24th November

St Andrew Dŭng-Lac & Companions

- 10.00am John Jarvis RIP
(Cunniffe)

Tuesday 25th November

- 10.00am Wellbeing of Julie Poon

Wednesday 26th November

- 10.00am Franco Casari RIP
(Valentina)

Thursday 27th November

- 10.00am Stella Kelly RIP (Celine)

Friday 28th November

- 10.00am John Power RIP

Saturday 29th November

- 10.00am Eileen Kearns RIP (Gebbie)
6.00pm Anne & James O'Mahony
40th Wedding Anniversary
(Golding)

Sunday 30th November

1st Sunday of Advent

- 8.00am Molly Lau RIP
9.15am People of the Parish
11.00am Robert & Eileen Macey RIP
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 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: Deacon Barry/Deacon Aidan

Fr Saju will not be available this Monday.

Wednesday by Appointment only:

Fr Patrick & Deacon Garry

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

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

Confirmation Preparation 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 mattgibbsjif@gmail.com or ring 07955 084287.

Advent Talks and Reconciliation. The Advent Talks will be given by Bishop Pat Lynch. Theme: Mary as our Model as we prepare for Christmas.

Wednesday 17th December. The talk will follow the 10.00am Mass. Confessions until 11.30am.

Friday 19th December from 7.30-9.00pm.

All welcome.

Advent Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. You are invited to St. Joseph's Church on Friday 5th & 12th December between 3.15-4.15pm to visit the Lord in the Eucharist as part of Advent preparation.

Confession for the Housebound and those in Nursing Homes. If you know of a parishioner, either housebound or in a Nursing Home, who would like a priest to hear their confession during Advent please let the parish office know. A visit will be arranged.

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

Valentine' Retreat: Generally couples seek quality time and meaningful connection. This is for couples of any age, on Sat 14 Feb from 11.30 am to 4.30 pm, the session is led by Annette and Paul O'Beirne, who have 40 years experience in marriage preparation and marriage enrichment to grow in happiness in couple's life. For queries or to book your place contact /email the parish office.

Parish Books of Remembrance 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.

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.

Family Mass on Sundays at 9.15am.

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

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, Maureen Webster, Alan O'Donnell, Teresa Cadogan, Joseph Dyson, John Dias, Gina Clark, John Ammundsen, Stella Ludlum, Catherine Rideout, Emma Constantinides, Betty Byrne, Mary Edwards, Faith Millar, Utz & Yoko Reiff, 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, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Sheila Loftus, Gerry & Joan Leonard, Alloysius Masilamani, John Jarvis, Franco Casari, Stella Kelly, John Power, Eileen Kearns, Molly Lau, Robert & Eileen Macey & Emilo Demetz. **May they rest in peace.**

Jubilee Year 2025

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. *All are invited to wear a Christmas Jumper to these celebrations.* **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.

A Christmas Raffle will take place at the Parish & School Christmas Celebrations (above). Raffle tickets will be available to purchase at the end of the 9.15am and 11.00am Masses this weekend.

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.**

Missio Red Box Total. Many thanks to our Red Box holders for your continuing support. This year's total from your boxes is £1292.23. The contributions from those who donate online will be added and the parish's final total will be available at a later date.

Bromley Homeless 'Sleep out': From Teresa Adams and Norah Agiru: Many thanks to all those who kindly sponsored us for the 'sleep out' on Saturday night to raise funds for this local charity. We raised a total of £1745.41 between us, plus £331.25 in Gift Aid. We are grateful to everyone who supported us in any way.

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: £397.00 Building Fund: £45.00

Offertory Collection last week:

St. Joseph's: £979.91 St. Swithun's: £76.49

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)**

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

There will be no Tea and Coffee this Sunday after the 9.15am Mass due to the set up for Fr Saju's 25th Ordination Celebrations.

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 22nd November

6.00pm Ann & Alfred Grist RIP (Jenny)

Sunday 23rd November Christ the King

10.00am Int. of Maria Mariathas

Monday 24th November

10.00am Agiru Family Thanksgiving (Norah)

Saturday 29th November

6.00pm Nelson Lopes Thanksgiving

Sunday 30th November 1st Sunday of Advent

10.00am Wellbeing of Jenny Noruega

Monday 1st December

10.00am Parish Community (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.

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: 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.