



SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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

The Holy Family Year A

28th December 2025

Readings on Page 106 of the Parish Mass Book



Joy of Christmas

We welcome you all to the Christmas Masses especially all those who are back home from University or their work place to join your family and friends. We wish you all and your loved ones a **joyful Christmas** filled with **hope and peace**.

On Christmas day the Angels bring us the good news of great joy for all the people, "for to us is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord". The birth of a child is, in all cultures and at all times, a source of happiness and hope for those who receive it as a gift of life, even in the midst of disease, natural disasters and war around us. Christmas therefore is an opportunity to celebrate renewal of faith and hope, to build a better future in Jesus to experience peace.

This weekend the Church celebrates the Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph by which we give honour and respect to family, the basic unit of the church and of society. It is in the family that we first learn to communicate, that we learn what is good and bad, that it is in the family that we first receive love. It is in the family that we first learn to forgive and to pray. Our family forms us for many years to come. This weekend we gather at Mass to pray for our family and the Parish family.

Let us continue to ponder Christmas as the love of God to gift us Jesus; and I, as your Parish Priest, thank God and you for all the blessings God continues to bestow upon our parish through your various ministries. The Pastoral Team, Parish secretary, all the Committees and Groups, and other volunteers in the Parish are remembered with gratitude in this season of grace. Likewise I thank you for the cards, generous Christmas offerings and gifts that Fr. Patrick and I have been receiving in this season. **Fr.Saju.**

*Wishing you the peace and joy of Christmas:
Fr. Saju, Fr Patrick & Pastoral Team*

Mass Intentions

Saturday 27th December St John

10.00am Int. Parkinson Family
6.00pm Ivan Kightley RIP (Spink)

Sunday 28th December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph

8.00am People of the Parish
9.15am Agnes Achampong RIP (Childs)
11.00am Lily Carvalho RIP
5.00pm Int. Turner Family (Edwards)

Monday 29th December St Thomas

10.00am Maureen Whittaker RIP
Mary Nash RIP

Tuesday 30th December

10.00am T A Mariyathasan RIP

Wednesday 31st December

New Year's Eve

10.00am Int. McDonagh Family
Midnight: Int. Lohan Family

Thursday 1st January 2026

Mary, the Holy Mother of God

10.00am Protection of Life from Conception to Death (Lohan)

Friday 2nd January

St Basil & St Gregory

10.00am John (Jack) Murphy RIP

Saturday 3rd January

10.00am Mary & Mortimer Leahy RIP
1.00pm **Baptism:** Emma Ferrara
6.00pm John & Mary O'Donnell RIP (Foley)

Sunday 4th January

Second Sunday after the Nativity

8.00am People of the Parish
9.15am Int. Spencer & Ekaterina
11.00am Thanksgiving (Lohan)
12.30pm **Baptisms:**
Logan & Jason Koper
5.00pm John Kelly RIP (Celine)

Closing of Jubilee Year 2025. A Closing Prayer and the Jubilee Prayer will be prayed at the end of all Masses on 27th & 28th December to mark the end of the Jubilee Year. The Jubilee Candle will be blown out.

Crib Offerings. This Christmas please give the gift of hope to children and families in crisis. Every penny donated at the Crib will be given to **The Catholic Children's Society**. For further information please see: www.cathchild.org.uk

In his annual Christmas message, Archbishop John Wilson says: "The beautiful truth of Christmas is that because of God in Christ we are never lost. God chose to be near us, to stay close to us always, to draw us to himself, always. In his endless mercy, the Lord Jesus chose to love us, so we could know and believe that "God is love" (1 John 4:16). In turn, all the Lord Jesus asks of us is to not be afraid and to say yes to him, to draw close to him, to love him". You can watch and read the full message at rcaos.org.uk/christmasmessage2025.

The Epiphany of the Lord is on Tuesday 6th January 2026. Masses will be celebrated at the following times:

St. Joseph's: 7.30am (in Holy Trinity Chapel), 10.00am and 7.30pm.

St. Swithun's: 10.00am

Our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV has appointed Canon Gerard Bradley as an Auxiliary Bishop for our Archdiocese of Southwark. Please remember him in your prayers.

Christmas Offerings. Christmas Offerings are traditionally your personal gift to your priests in the Parish. The collection taken on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, together with anything placed in the Christmas Offering envelopes constitutes your personal gift to Fr Saju & Fr Patrick as they do not receive a salary. These envelopes are now available at the entrance and exit to the church. The envelopes may be handed into the parish office before Christmas or placed in a collection bag at any of our Christmas Masses. If you are a tax payer, please remember to gift aid your donation. If you wish to make a Christmas Offering via bank transfer to the parish bank account, please use the Account Number 42298709 and Sort Code 60-04-02 with the reference 'Christmas', or give by selecting 'Christmas Donation' on the Dona machines at the entrances of St. Joseph's Church. **Thank you.**

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 are held from 4.30-6.30pm in Holy Trinity House. **Please note:** Surgeries will be suspended until 19th January 2026. Please contact the parish office if you require the services of a priest or deacon.

Baptism Preparation. Please see below how to enrol on our next Baptism Preparation Course starting on 10th January 2026.

RCIA: Our Journey in Faith Group meet on Mondays at 8.00pm in Holy Trinity House. Please email Matt Gibbs at mattgibbsjif@gmail.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, Maureen Webster, Alan O'Donnell, Teresa Cadogan, Joseph Dyson, John Dias, Gina Clark, John Ammundsen, Stella Ludlum, Catherine Rideout, 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, Mark Donlan, Helen French, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Ivan Kightley, Lily Carvalho, Maureen Whittaker, Mary Nash, T A Mariyathan, John (Jack) Murphy, Mary & Mortimer Leahy, John & Mary O'Donnell, John Kelly & Mark Clapson.

May they rest in peace.

Funeral:

The funeral of Mark Donlan RIP will be held on Friday 9th January 2026 at 11.30am.

Christian Meditation session will resume on Thursday 8th January 2026 at 7.00pm in the Upper Room.

Baptism Family Gathering and Thanksgiving Service to be held on Saturday 24th January 2026 at 11.30am in St. Joseph's Primary School. All families who have celebrated their child's baptism in the past two years are invited to attend.

St Joseph's Primary School Autumn Newsletter 2025. Please click on the following link to read the Newsletter:

<https://heyzine.com/flip-book/329bdcc9db.html>

White Flower Appeal will be held in our parish on 17th/18th January 2026 for the Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC). There will be a second collection. For further information on the work of SPUC please see: www.spuc.org.uk

Racial Justice Sunday 1st February 2026. Archbishop John Wilson will celebrate Mass at 10.00am in St. George's Cathedral, Southwark. Refreshments will be served in Amigo Hall after the Mass. All welcome.

Valentine's 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 or see poster in foyer of the church.

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: £452.00 Building Fund: £0.00

Offertory Collection last week:

St. Joseph's: £967.61 St. Swithun's: £207.03

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)**

Post RCIA Session led by Fr Saju will be held on Monday 2nd February 2026 at 8.00pm in Holy Trinity House. All those who have journeyed through RCIA are invited to attend.

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 start on 10th 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 27th December

6.00pm For all families in the Bromley
Deanery (Ada)

Sunday 28th December

10.00am Christian RIP

Monday 29th December

10.00am Ann Watts RIP

Saturday 3rd January 2026

6.00pm Wus Family Thanksgiving

Sunday 4th January

10.00am Jorge Noruega
Birthday Thanksgiving

Monday 5th January

10.00am Mark Clapson RIP

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

Please check the Christmas Card box in the
foyer of St. Joseph's Church. There may
be a card for you!

Cancer Support. we have a small group
meeting on 1st and 3rd Tuesdays from 1.30pm
in the Upper Room next door to the church.
Please feel free to join us. Pick up a flyer from
the foyer of the church.

The Dad's Group will meet on Wednesday 28th
January at 19.30 in The Crown for a board
game evening. Please contact: Richard Barrett
on 07729 392936
or email: rgtbarrett@gmail.com.

Seniors Lunch. The next Seniors Lunch will
be held on **Tuesday 20th January** from 12
noon to 1.30pm in Holy Trinity House. Please
let the parish know if you would like to attend.



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)

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e: sajuthomas@rcaos.org.uk

Fr Patrick Essien (Asst. Priest)

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e: patrickessien@rcaos.org.uk

Deacon Barry

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Deacon Aidan

Tel: 07747 036253

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Deacon Garry

Tel: 07766 557213

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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 resumes on Monday 19th January 2026

If you need the services of a priest or deacon please contact the parish office.

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.