

# SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

Telephone No. 020 8402 0459 | bromley@rcaos.org.uk | [www.stjosephsbromley.org](http://www.stjosephsbromley.org)

7th Sunday of Easter Year A 17th May 2026

Readings on Page 275 of the Parish Mass Book

## Preparing for Pentecost

As we continue our journey through Eastertide, the Church now turns our hearts and minds toward the great feast of Pentecost. The risen Lord has not only conquered sin and death; he also invites us into a sacred time of waiting, prayer, trust, and spiritual preparation. Easter joy naturally leads to Pentecost. The Scripture readings of this weekend encourage us to reflect more deeply on the presence, guidance, and transforming power of the Holy Spirit in the life of every Catholic and in the life of the Church.

In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 1:12–14), we encounter a beautiful and faithful image of the early Christian community. After the Ascension, the Apostles return to Jerusalem and devote themselves “with one accord” to prayer, together with Mary, the mother of Jesus. This time of waiting is not filled with anxiety or confusion but marked by unity, perseverance, and trust in God’s promise. They do not attempt to act on their own strength; instead, they wait prayerfully for the coming of the Holy Spirit. It is in this atmosphere of prayer, listening, and unity that the Church is strengthened and renewed. This reminds us that the Holy Spirit is never forced but welcomed through openness and faith. This same spirit of trust is echoed in today’s Gospel (John 17:1–11), where we hear Jesus’ High Priestly Prayer at the Last Supper. Jesus prays to the Father for his disciples and for all who will follow him. He prays especially for unity, protection, and faithfulness. Though he is about to return to the Father, he reassures us that we will not be abandoned. The Holy Spirit will guide, protect, and sustain the Church in every age. For us today, the Holy Spirit continues to be active in our lives, especially through the celebration of the Holy Mass. Each time we gather for the Eucharist, we open our hearts anew to the work of the Spirit. The Mass nourishes us with God’s Word and with the Body and Blood of Christ, enabling the fruits of the Holy Spirit, love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control, to grow within us and shape our daily lives. Similarly, the Novena to the Holy Spirit, beginning on 15th May, offers us a precious opportunity to prepare spiritually for Pentecost. Through this preparation and faithful participation at Mass, we may be renewed by the Holy Spirit to continue the mission of Jesus.

Fr Saju

## Mass Intentions

### Saturday 16th May St Simon Stock

10.00am Edward & Olive Kathleen  
Ashton RIP (Spink)  
11.00am FHC Mass  
6.00pm Eileen Kearns RIP (Gebbie)

### Sunday 17th May 7th Sunday of Easter

8.00am Anthony & Mike McGee  
RIP (Lowery)  
9.15am People of the Parish  
11.00am FHC Mass  
1.00pm **Baptism:**  
Mabel Childs-Cronin  
Lucia Holder RIP  
5.00pm

### Monday 18th May

10.00am John Vincent Fernandes RIP

### Tuesday 19th May

10.00am Int. George Agiru  
Birthday Blessings

### Wednesday 20th May

10.00am Int. Bindu Benny

### Thursday 21st May

10.00am Julia McCarthy RIP

### Friday 22nd May

10.00am Frank & Mary Mayers RIP  
(Demetz)

### Saturday 23rd May

10.00am Jose Baptista Vas RIP  
6.00pm Julia McCarthy RIP  
*Journey in Faith*  
*Reception into the Church*

### Sunday 24th May Pentecost Sunday

8.00am People of the Parish  
9.15am Arthur McKenna RIP  
(Jones)  
11.00am Stephen Kane RIP (Doran)  
5.00pm Deceased members of  
Anthony family

## Our Parish Faith Formation

All those registering to attend one of our Sacramental Preparation Courses are requested to meet with Fr. Saju or a member of the clergy team during surgery hours with the form duly filled.

Surgeries will be held from 4.30-6.30pm in Holy Trinity House:

**Monday:** Fr Saju & Deacon Barry/Aidan

**Wednesday by Appointment only:**

Fr Patrick & Deacon Garry

**First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Preparation for 2026-2027.** If your child will be in Year 3 or above in September and would like to prepare for First Holy Communion please download and complete our Reconciliation & First Holy Communion Registration Form **which can be accessed here:** [https://www.stjosephsbromley.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/First-Holy-Communion-Registration-Form\\_July-2025.pdf](https://www.stjosephsbromley.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/First-Holy-Communion-Registration-Form_July-2025.pdf)

Once completed, you will need to attend a surgery session with Fr Saju, which takes place on Mondays between 4.30-6.30pm in Holy Trinity House.

**Baptism Preparation.** Please see below how to enrol on our next Baptism Preparation Course starting on Saturday 6th June 2026.

**Confirmation Session 6** will be held on Saturday 16th May at 3.45pm in Holy Trinity House.

**Preparing for Pentecost: The Novena to the Holy Spirit** will be prayed after the Final Blessing at Masses from Friday 15th May until Saturday 23rd May 2026. Prayer leaflets are available.

**RCIA: Our Journey in Faith Group meet on Mondays at 8.00pm in Holy Trinity House.** For all enquiries, please ring Matt Gibbs on 07955 084287 or contact the parish office.

**Post RCIA Monthly Meeting led by Fr Saju.** First session on Tuesday 19th May at 7.30pm in the Upper Room. All those who have previously attended our Journey in Faith Group are welcome to attend.

**Altar Server's Training & Refresher session led by Mak** to be held on Saturday 6th June 2026 from 3-5pm in St. Joseph's Church. All new and current Altar Servers are invited to attend.

**The Parish Assembly/AGM will be held on Saturday 6th June at 7.00pm in St. Joseph's Church Hall.** Members of our Finance Committee will present the parish finances at this meeting. All parishioners are invited to attend where you can share your thoughts on the future of the parish.

**Archbishop John Wilson will be visiting our parish on Sunday 18th October 2026.** Archbishop John will celebrate the 11.00am Mass followed by refreshments in the church hall where you will have an opportunity to meet and chat with the Archbishop informally. All parishioners are invited to attend.

**St Joseph's Youth Group for ages 11-18 years of age to be held on Saturday 16th May from 7.00-9.00pm in the church hall** Volunteers required to help out at this session. See posters in the foyer. To register your child please use sign-up sheets in the foyer or contact the parish office.

### 9.15am Sunday Mass:

|           |                    |
|-----------|--------------------|
| 17th May  | Uniform Groups     |
| 24th May  | Children's Liturgy |
| 7th June  | Children's Liturgy |
| 21st June | Children's Liturgy |

Tea and Coffee will be served in the Club Room after the 9.15am Mass.

**Pilgrimage to Medjugorje:** 30th September to 7th October 2026. Please see poster in foyer.

**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,** Paul Gibbs, Mike Heneghan, Maria Dillane, Paul Lowing, Maureen Webster, Alan O'Donnell, Teresa Cadogan, Catherine Rideout, Betty Byrne, Stella Ludlam, , Utz & Yoko Reiff, Veronica Alaneme, Bernadette Murray, Maria Lopes, Billie McPartlan, Fr Bob Mercer, Ann Hoolihan, Patricia Lefkaridi, Fr. David Peck and Gail Mortimer.

**Please pray for our deceased relatives and friends, remembering,** Mary Edwards, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Edward & Olive Kathleen Ashton, Eileen Kearns, Anthony & Mike McGee, John Vincent Fernandes, Julia McCarthy, Frank & Mary Mayers, Jose Baptista Vas, Arthur McKenna and Stephen Kane.

**May they rest in peace.**

### Jubilee Year of St. Francis.

**A Night Vigil will be held on 16th/17th October** commencing with Mass at 7.00pm and concluding with Mass at 6.30am.

**Blessing of Pets** will be held on Sunday 4th October 2026 after 11.00am Mass in the Holy Trinity garden.

**Funeral: The funeral of Mary Edwards RIP** will be held on Tuesday 2nd June 2026 at 11.30am. May she rest in peace.

**Celebrating Month of May.** A Rosary Novena will be prayed from **Friday 22nd - Saturday 30th May 2026** at the Holy Trinity Grotto, after the daily 10am Mass until 11.30am approx. On 30th May the Novena will be completed with a procession with Our Lady's Statue to the Grotto, devotions and return to St Joseph's Church for Benediction. All are welcome.

**Parish Meditation Group.** You are warmly invited to "A Journey of Remembrance" **Spiritual Retreat** led by Mariana Mazzaferri (07428212864) at The Friars, Aylesford on Saturday 20th June, from 10am to 4pm. Mass will be celebrated by Fr Saju at 12 noon. If you wish to attend, inform the Parish office.

**The Couples Group** will meet on Sunday 14th June 2026 from 12 noon in the Upper Room. For further information please email Natalia at : n.domanska@icloud.com

**Coach Outing.** Wed 27 May to Whitstable. If you would like to go please call Gina on 07780 468767.

**Churches Together in Central Bromley United Service for Pentecost Sunday** on 24th May at 6.30pm at Bromley Town Church, Ethelbert Road, BR1 1JA. All welcome to attend to pray, worship and stand together.

**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: [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 to meet a deacon/priest in the Holy Trinity House for the completion of the application. The next Baptism Preparation Course will start on Saturday 6th June 2026.

**Marriage:** Please contact a priest. **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: £1400.00.

#### Cashless contributions last week:

Mass Offerings: £470.00 Building Fund: £75.00

#### Offertory Collection last week:

St. Joseph's: £969.32 St. Swithun's: £187.40

#### 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 the **Cashless Giving**

QR code:



**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 second collection for Catholic Communications Network.**

**Cafod:** At the end of Masses this weekend the Cafod Group will be collecting signatures for a petition about the global debt crises which is causing terrible suffering for our brothers and sisters around the world. Please lend us your support to help build a better world for all.

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

**Mass Intentions**

**Saturday 16th May**

6.00pm Joe Lenney RIP (Bridget)

**Sunday 17th May**

10.00am Wellbeing of Rio & Ginella Menezes

**Monday 18th May**

10.00am Martin Mullan RIP (Grace)

**Saturday 23rd May**

6.00pm Kathleen Hooper RIP  
(Angela & John)

**Sunday 24th May**

10.00am Charles O'Keeffe RIP (Mary Bates)

**Monday 25th May**

10.00am Int. Sandra Clapson (Maria)

*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

**Car Park:** Champion Timbers will be carrying out maintenance work and have erected scaffolding in our car park until the end May.

**Parish Social**

**Cancer Café Group** will meet again on Tuesday 19th May from 1.30pm in the Upper Room.

**The Dad's Group** The next meet up will be on Wednesday 20 May, 19.30-21.00, at The Crown, Plaistow Lane Please contact: Richard Barrett on 07729 392936

**The next Seniors Lunch** will be held on **Tuesday 9th June** from 12 noon to 1.30pm in Holy Trinity House.

**Cafod Plant Sale this weekend.** Outside St. Joseph's Church. For further information please ring Gina on 07780 468767.

**Parish Volunteers Cheese and Wine Evening** on Saturday 20th June from 7.00-8.30pm in St. Joseph's Church Hall. All parish volunteers are invited to attend.

**Parish/Primary School Summer Event on Sunday 28th June 2026.** 10.00am Mass will be followed by a picnic in the grounds of Holy Trinity House. The 9.15am and the 11.00am Masses will be combined on this date and the 10.00am Mass at St. Swithun's will be transferred to St. Joseph's. Please see posters in foyer of the church.

**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: barymellish@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**

**Mondays:** Fr Saju and 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](http://www.st-josephs.bromley.sch.uk)

**Head Teacher: Mrs Cribben**

**St. Joseph's Playgroup Ltd:** Monday-Friday. For enquiries ring: Caroline O'Brien on 07961 413694.