



SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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

Seventh Sunday Year C

23rd February 2025

Readings on Page 141 of the Parish Mass Book

Dear all,

The Gospel passage for this weekend (Luke 6:27-38) is a continuation of the teaching that began in last Sunday's Gospel from Jesus' Sermon on the Plain. Recall that in Luke's Gospel, this teaching is addressed to Jesus' disciples. The basic ethical principles of the whole sermon are summed up in Jesus' love commandment, as "*Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly*".

Similar thought patterns were available in different streams of thinking such as **Hillel**, one of the great Jewish Rabbis, who was asked by a man to teach him the whole law while he stood on one leg. He answered, "what is hateful to thee, do not do to another. That is the whole law and all else is explanation." **Philo**, the great Jew of Alexandria, said, "what you hate to suffer, do not do to anyone else." **Isocrates**, the Greek orator, said, "what things make you angry when you suffer them at the hands of others, do not you do to other people." **The Stoics** had as one of their basic rules, "what you do not wish to be done to yourself, do not you do to any other."

To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic, is a heroic way of living one's life as a disciple of Jesus. This is a life based on *Agape*, an active feeling of benevolence towards the other person; it means that no matter what that person does to us we will never allow ourselves to desire anything but his or her highest good; and we will deliberately and of set purpose go out of our way to be good and kind to her/him. The forthcoming season of Lent in the Jubilee year which begins on Ash Wednesday (5 March) offers the opportunity to reflect and prepare us for this heroic way of living. Pope Benedict XVI observed that every day, but particularly in Lent, Christians must face a struggle that involves the whole of the person and demands attentive and constant watchfulness in life. Lenten talks, Adoration, Rosary, Lent confessions in the Parish during the season of Lent will help us to grow daily in benevolence and active love.

Fr. Saju

Mass Intentions

Saturday 22nd February

10.00am Wellbeing of Baby Ava (Rydeout)
6.00pm People of the Parish

Sunday 23rd February Seventh Sunday

8.00am Tiffin Maguire RIP
9.15am Thanksgiving Andrew, Stephanie, James & John Stoner
11.00am Int. Jill Browning (Doran)
12.30pm **Baptism:**
Sanjana Masilamani
5.00pm Carlos Alberto Clavijo RIP

Monday 24th February

10.00am Johnny Carey RIP (Lowery)

Tuesday 25th February

10.00am Holy Souls (Seidel)

Wednesday 26th February

10.00am Bill McConnell RIP

Thursday 27th February

10.00am Lawrence Doyle RIP (Fanning)

Friday 28th February

10.00am Ann & Peter Kane RIP (Doran)

Saturday 1st March St David

10.00am Monica Cagney RIP (Maguire)
6.00pm Alma Whitelaw RIP

Sunday 2nd March

8.00am People of the Parish
9.15am Arthur McKenna RIP (Jones)
11.00am Barney, Cathy & Gerald Crowe RIP (Doran)
5.00pm Evangeline and Mary Josephine David RIP

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday 22nd February

6.00pm Wellbeing Alwin Noruega

Sunday 23rd February

10.00am Thanksgiving Hazel Lopes

Monday 24th February

10.00am Thanksgiving Bennett Marcellus

Saturday 1st March St David

6.00pm Juliet Pereira RIP

Sunday 2nd March

10.00am Alan Boniface RIP

Monday 3rd March

10.00am Wellbeing Fr Vincent Docherty

For Mass intentions please see Nelson.

Confession will be available in St. Swithun's Church on Saturdays between 5.20-5.45pm.

St. Swithun Parish Hall bookings: 020 8402 0459

Tea & Coffee will be served in the church hall after the 10.00am Mass on Sundays. All welcome.

Jubilee 2025 Pilgrims of Hope

Jubilee Prayer Cards are available in the church pews. We will say this prayer together at the end of all Masses.

As decided in the Pastoral Team Meeting, **Night Vigils in Jubilee Year** will be held in St. Joseph's Church on Friday 28th March, 27th June and 21st November from 6.00pm to 6.00am the following morning. Further details to follow.

Parish Pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi in the Jubilee Year

Dates: 6th – 10th October 2025

Travelling from Gatwick Airport

Cost: £1175 (per person sharing/ Single room supplement – £295.00 (LIMITED AVAILABILITY))

A few highlights: Entering through the Holy Doors of Basilicas in Rome to obtain plenary indulgence
Papal Audience

Visiting the tombs of St. Francis of Assisi, St. Claire and Carlo Acutis.

For more details and booking your seat immediately please email Susan Lowery at: slowery@hotmail.co.uk or contact the parish office.

Our Parish Faith Formation

All those registering to attend one of our **Sacramental Preparation Courses** are invited to meet with one of our priests during surgery hours. Surgeries will be held 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 reverse of Newsletter to enrol on our next Baptism Preparation Course.

First Holy Communion Preparation.

FHC Session 4 will be held on 3rd March, Friday 7th March and Saturday 8th March.

Confirmation Session will be held in Holy Trinity House on Saturday 15th March at 3.45 for 4.00pm start.

The Journey in Faith Group will meet on Wednesday 26th February at 8.00pm in Holy Trinity House. New enquirers only. Please contact Matt Gibbs on 07955 084287 or email: bromleyrcia@rcoas.org.uk

Funerals:

The funeral of Francis Sandrasagra RIP will be held on Friday 7th March at 12.30pm.

The funeral of Brian Murphy RIP will be held in St. Joseph's Church on Tuesday 11th March at 11.30am.

As a parish community we offer our prayers with deepest sympathy to the family and friends of all the deceased. May they Rest in Peace.

Family Mass on Sundays at 9.15 am

23rd February Children's Liturgy

2nd, 9th & 30th March Children's Liturgy

16th March Uniform Groups

For Children's Liturgy, parents are welcome to meet in the hall at 9.10am on Sundays.

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

Archbishop John Wilson has written a new book "Pondering and Praying Vatican II". Copies of this book are available to purchase from the Repository or Parish Office. Price £10.00.

Called to Bear Fruit. Help shape the future of the Diocese. Archbishop John invites you to play a vital role in shaping the future of our Archdiocese. He encourages everyone to reflect on the themes in the Called to Bear Fruit booklet. The booklets are available from the Sacristy or the Parish Office. Parishioners are invited to form group sessions to discuss and reflect on Called to Bear Fruit. **Alternatively, group sessions will be held in Holy Trinity House on Monday 24th February between 10.30-11.30am and 7.30-8.30pm.** Please read the booklet prior to the session to prepare your thoughts. **For further information and to read the booklet online see: <https://rcaos.org.uk/calledtobearfruit>**

Lent in our Parish

Ash Wednesday is on 5th March 2025. Masses will be celebrated at the following times:

St. Joseph's: 7.30am, 10.00am & 7.30pm

St. Swithun's: 10.00am

Stations of the Cross in Lent in St. Joseph's Church:

Wednesdays at 10.30am following the 10.00am Mass

Fridays at 7.30pm

Parish Lent Talks will be held from 7.30-8.30pm in Holy Trinity House on the following Monday evenings during Lent:

10th March Pilgrims of Hope

17th March Pilgrims of Mercy

24th March Pilgrims of Holy Eucharist

31st March Pilgrims of Word of God

Tea and coffee will be served from 7.00pm.

Canon Gerard Bradley (Episcopal Vicar, Southwest) will give two talks in St. Joseph's Church on Wednesday 9th April:

10.30-11.00am and **7.30-8.30pm** followed by Parish Lent Confession. There will be 3 priests available to hear Confession.

Confessions will also be available on 14th & 15th April from 10.30-11.30am

The next Seniors' Lunch will be held on Tuesday 18th March from 12 noon to 1.30pm in Holy Trinity House. Please let the parish office know if you would like to attend.

St Joseph's Primary School Spring Newsletter.

Please open the following link:

<https://heyzine.com/flip-book/91ad8bcb17.html>

Supporting the Parish Parish Finances for last week

Average weekly standing order contributions: £1400.

Mass Offertory last weekend:

St Joseph's: £1016.91 St. Swithun's: £122.50

Racial Justice Sunday

St. Joseph's: £473.48 St. Swithun's £102.75

Weekly Offertory. Thank you for your continued generosity to your Parish. We are grateful to all those who have set up standing orders for their weekly offering. If other parishioners would like the parish bank details to set up a standing order please email either the parish office or: bromleygac@rcaos.org.uk.

Clergy Support Fund. A second collection will be taken this weekend for the annual Clergy Support Fund. This fund ensures a dignified retirement for our brother priests. Donation envelopes are available in the foyer of the church.

The Dad's Group will meet again on Wednesday 26th February at 7.30pm in Franco Manca in Widmore Road, Bromley. This is open to all dads who still have a child at school. Contact: Richard Barrett on 07729 392936 or email: rgtbarrett@gmail.com.

The World Day of Prayer will take place in Bromley this year at St Joseph's Church on Friday 7th March at 10.30am. Refreshments afterwards. All are welcome. The WDP is a global ecumenical movement, with the same prayer service being celebrated all over the world on one day. This year the service has been prepared by the Christian women of the Cook Islands.

Car Park Management. We are still working with Creative Car Park and a number of parishioners and school parents to discuss the Agreement in more detail. Further information will be given in due course.

Bromley Borough Foodbank Thank you to all who have continued to donate to the foodbank. Sadly stocks are running low and there is still a great need. This week we really need tinned vegetables, sugar, tinned potatoes, men's and women's deodorant. Please place in the box in the church foyer, collections are made regularly. Thank you

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, Clare Pascoe, Faith Millar, Stella Ludlam, Robert Straker, Christopher Bevan, Bennett Marcellus, Daniel Y, Paul Gibbs, Gina Clark, Mary Scanlon, Utz & Yoko Reiff, Patricia Supple, Luke Kelly, Simon Franks, Paul Emans, Brian Daley, Veronica Alanemo, 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, Maurice Raphael, Kathleen Dover, Maureen Monique Playford, Robert Fitzpatrick, Brian Murphy, Francis Sandrasagra, Bernie Sheahan, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Tiffin Maguire, Carlos Alberto Clavijo, Johnny Carey, Bill McConnell, Lawrence Doyle, Ann & Peter Kane, Monica Cagney, Alma Whitelaw, Arthur McKenna, Barney, Cathy & Gerald Crowe, and Evangeline & Mary Josephine David. **May they rest in peace.**

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: Parents & Expectant Parents—You are invited to register for your child's baptism on line: www.stjosephsbromley.org/baptism-registration. A separate form needs to be completed for each child. Please register, and then come to one of the surgeries (Monday or Wednesday) in the Parish to meet a deacon/priest in the Holy Trinity House for the completion of the application.

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

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.