



SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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

Fifth Sunday Year C

9th February 2025

Readings on Page 135 of the Parish Mass Book

Let down your nets for a catch

This weekend's Gospel passage (Luke 5:1-11) presents the abundance in listening to God's invitation to mission in the Church. Jesus was on the shore of the Sea of Galilee. He teaches the people who are gathered there. When Jesus finished speaking he made a strange request to Simon Peter. He wanted him to move his boat into the deep water and begin fishing again. We know that Simon was the fisherman; Jesus was a carpenter and a teacher. Who knows more about fishing? Peter should be instructing Jesus about how to fish, not the other way around. Secondly, Simon had already been fishing all night long, and he hadn't caught a thing. Probably the most frustrating of all for Simon, is that he had just finished cleaning his nets to get them ready for fishing later when the fishing would hopefully be better. If he dropped them in the lake now, he would have to clean them again later. But Peter answered, "Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless at Your word I will let down the net." Peter tells Jesus that this request doesn't make much sense, nevertheless **at Your word I** will let down the net. Sometimes, the things that God wants us to do don't make much sense to other people, or even to ourselves.

In the Old Testament God told Noah to build an ark because a flood was coming when nobody had ever even heard of rain. And Noah did it. God called Abraham to pack up his possessions and start walking. And Abraham did it, even though he didn't know where he was going. God wants to work through us and we need to listen. Peter listened to Jesus and the abundant catch of fish is what the future mission of Peter and other disciples will be like. As Pilgrims of Hope, let us learn to listen to the voice of the Holy Spirit at our group discussion with the resource **Call to Bear Fruit**, although the waters around might look barren, we have a mission in the world where God will give light to those in darkness. For Thomas Aquinas, hope points to a future good, "difficult but possible to attain." In the Gospel passage we see Peter with hope, difficult but possible to attain with Jesus' grace.

Fr Saju

Mass Intentions

Saturday 8th February

10.00am Souls in Purgatory (Bull)
6.00pm Peter Bennett RIP

Sunday 9th February Fifth Sunday

8.00am People of the Parish
9.15am Deliverance of N'Zi Oriane Nadia
Baptism Rite of Welcome
11.00am Int. Benny & Bindu
Wedding Anniversary
5.00pm Int Volny Family & Friends

Monday 10th February

10.00am Int Robert Straker (Bennett)

Tuesday 11th February

10.00am Lucia Holder RIP

Wednesday 12th February

10.00am Int. Luke Kelly
Thanksgiving for his recovery

Thursday 13th February

10.00am Protection of N'Zi Oriane Nadia

Friday 14th February St Cyril

10.00am Colm McLoughlin RIP (Maguire)

Saturday 15th February

10.00am Lesley Monk RIP
6.00pm Carlo Inzalaco RIP

Sunday 16th February Sixth Sunday

8.00am Deceased parents, relatives & friends of Maguire & Blythe families
9.15am People of the Parish
11.00am Edward Ernest & Jane Macey RIP
12.30pm **Baptism:**
Isla Hutchinson Clavijo
5.00pm Protection & Deliverance of Konineba Florence & Thomas

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday 8th February

6.00pm Elizabeth Allen RIP

Sunday 9th February

10.00am Aloisio Miranda RIP

Monday 10th February

10.00am Terry Tyler RIP (Bates)

Saturday 15th February

6.00pm Annette Toner RIP (Sylvia P)

Sunday 16th February

10.00am Brendan McLoughlin RIP (Grace)

Monday 17th February

10.00am Beatrice Okiwelu RIP (Ada)

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 Candle and Prayer Cards. The Jubilee Candle will be lit at the start of all Masses in the Jubilee Year. 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.

Pilgrimage to Rome in Jubilee Year

As part of celebrating Jubilee Year with Pope Francis, the Parish has designed a parish pilgrimage to Rome for five days in October 2025. More details to follow.

Archbishop John Wilson has written a new book entitled **The Romero Rosary**. The Archbishop warmly invites everyone to the book launch on **Wednesday 12 February 2025 at 6.00 for 6.30pm** at **Amigo Hall, adjacent St George's Cathedral, Southwark.**

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 after half term on 3rd March, Friday 7th March and Saturday 8th March.

Confirmation Session 3 will be held in Holy Trinity House on Saturday 15th February at 3.45 for 4.00pm start.

The Journey in Faith Group will meet on Wednesday 12th 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 Bernie Sheahan RIP will be held on Monday 17th February at 10.00am in St. Joseph's Church.

Brian Murphy RIP died on 1st February aged 92. His funeral will be held in St. Joseph's Church on Tuesday 11th March at 11.30am.

Francis Sandrasagra RIP died on 20th January. Details of his funeral will be announced in due course.

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.

Racial Justice Sunday. Archbishop John Wilson will celebrate Mass at 10.00am on Sunday 16th February in St. George's Cathedral. The Mass will be live-streamed. To view the Mass please open the following link:

<https://www.youtube.com/live/OD0qTuRqDS0>

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 i.e. SVP, Cafod, Catechists, PPC Groups. 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 please see:** <https://rcaos.org.uk/calledtobearfruit>

Family Mass on Sundays at 9.15 am

9 February	Children's Liturgy
16 February	Uniform Groups
23 February	Children's Liturgy
2 March	Children's Liturgy

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.

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

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 and is an opportunity for dads in the parish to get to know one another. For any queries, please ring Richard Barrett on 07729 392936 or email: rgtbarrett@gmail.com.

A Day with Mary will be held in Westminster Cathedral on Saturday 1st March. The day commences at 9.45am with the Entry Procession. For further information please see poster in the foyer and: www adaywithmary.org.

Bromley Borough Foodbank. Thank you to all those who have donated items to the Foodbank. Further donations are still required, a list of suggested items is on display in the foyer of the church. Thank you.

**Supporting the Parish
Parish Finances for last week**

Average weekly standing order contributions: £1400.
Mass Offertory last weekend:
St Joseph's: £933.32 St. Swithun's: £197.81

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.

Racial Justice Day. Next weekend there will be a second collection for the Catholic Association for Racial Justice.

The World Day of Prayer (formerly Women's 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. The Mayor and Mayoress of Bromley and some Councillors will be attending.

Help for your Marriage. Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped because it only makes it worse? Retrouvaille has helped tens of hundreds of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about the next programme which will be presented on Zoom from 27th February to 2nd March:
email: info@retrouvaille.org.uk or call or text 0788 729 6983.

Car Park Management. Due to excessive congestion in St. Joseph's Car Park at school drop-off and pick-up times it has been unanimously agreed with the PPC, the Pastoral Team and the Premises Committee to work with Creative Car Park to introduce a Vehicle Registration System. We are still working with Creative Car Park and a number of parishioner and school parents to discuss the Agreement in more detail.

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, Christopher Bevan, Mary Edwards, Bennett Marcellus, Daniel Y, Paul Gibbs, Robert Straker, 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, Brian Murphy, Chris Thompson, Rita Cooke (née Duncan), Francis Sandrasagra, Emilio Demetz, Carlos Alberto Clavijo, Jules Nash, Bernie Sheahan, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Peter Bennett, Colm McLoughlin, Lesley Monk, Carlo Inzalaco and Edward Ernest & Jane Macey. **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.