

SS. Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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

Fourteenth Sunday Year A

5th July 2026

Readings: Page 99 of the Parish Mass Book

St Paul, writing to the Romans in the early months of 58AD, is dealing with key aspects of the teaching and redemptive work of Christ, concentrating on four key notions - sin, death, flesh and the Law, which man, in his unredeemed state, is subject to. And St Paul points out that salvation from these forces can only come through the redemption wrought by Christ Jesus.

St Paul reminds us that it is the Holy Spirit within us that provides our escape route from these forces. Through Baptism and indeed Confirmation, we are recipients of the Holy Spirit, which motivates us in our struggles to become more Christ like. But this in itself is a battle, as well we know, because while baptism frees us from original sin, we are not released from the temptations of this world, just as Jesus was not exempted from them either. But He does show us the way to combat them!

How? By encouraging us to allow the Holy Spirit to work actively within us, so we are drawn into an ever-closer relationship with Him and His Church. Whenever we isolate ourselves from prayer, Mass and the Eucharist, our internal Satnav is disconnected from the Holy Spirit, and we open ourselves to sinfulness – as sure as night follows day! But when it is connected, wow, what a difference it makes, not just individually, but as a community in which the Holy Spirit is truly present.

And we saw the truth of this in our Parish-School Summer Event last Sunday, when we joined together as a community to praise and glorify God in our liturgy at mass, with a focus on *Fratelli Tutti*, recognising that while we are from different backgrounds, cultures and experiences, in Christ Jesus we are all brothers and sisters. What a wonderful and joyful time it was coming together at mass, seeing our Yr4 school children afterwards in their drama celebrating the wedding at Cana, and then enjoying a picnic and games in the presbytery garden! A vibrant parish is a loving parish, so please use your God-given talents to help us grow continually in whatever way you can.

Deacon Garry

Mass Intentions

Saturday 4th July

10.00am Int. Austin & Carmita
Fernandes & Family
1.00pm **Wedding:** Shameera
Chandraraja &
Abishake Ratnavel
6.00pm Mary Agnes Lokko Nathan
RIP

Sunday 5th July Fourteenth Sunday

8.00am Showene Chong RIP
9.15am Thanksgiving Deacon Barry
Baptism Rite of Welcome
11.00am Joseph Doran RIP
1.30pm **Baptism:** Eléna Odogwu
5.00pm People of the Parish

Monday 6th July

10.00am Int. Meril Benny
11.30am **Funeral:** Ron Zanre RIP

Tuesday 7th July

10.00am Holy Souls (Seidel)

Wednesday 8th July

10.00am Holy Souls (Lohan)

Thursday 9th July

10.00am Frank Lohan RIP

Friday 10th July

10.00am Private Intention (Lohan)

Saturday 11th July St Benedict

10.00am Patrick Liamín McDonagh
RIP (Lohan)
6.00pm Christopher Armah
Nathan RIP

Sunday 12th July Fifteenth Sunday

8.00am John & Kitty Quinlan RIP
9.15am People of the Parish
11.00am Wendy Louise Blackwood
RIP (Cleary)
5.00pm Frank Lohan RIP

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 with the form duly filled.

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

Monday: Fr Saju and Deacon Barry/Aidan.

Wednesday by Appointment only:

Fr Patrick & Deacon Garry

Parish Open Surgery Hours in Summer

time: Please note that the Parish Open Surgery on Monday, 6th July will be the final one before the summer break and open Surgery will resume on Monday, 7th September 2026. In case of necessity, you can meet with Fr Saju or a member of the clergy team by appointment.

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

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> Once completed, you will need to attend a surgery session to meet with Fr Saju.

First Holy Communion Parents Information Evening will be held on Thursday 10th September at 7.30pm in Holy Trinity House. *Please note new date.*

RCIA: The Journey in Faith Group welcomes new enquirers to start a period of preparation and discernment. For further information please contact Matt Gibbs on 07955 084287 or email Deacon Barry. No meetings until September.

Reduced Summer Mass Schedule. From Sunday 19th July to Sunday 6th September (both inclusive), our weekend Mass times will be as follows:

St Joseph's Church:

Saturdays: 6.00pm

Sundays: 9.00am, 11.00am & 5.00pm

St. Swithun's Church:

Sundays: 10.00am

All weekday Masses will remain unchanged.

Fr Patrick Essien: After more than two years of dedicated service among us, Fr Patrick Essien has been appointed Assistant Priest at St Peter the Apostle Parish, Woolwich. We are grateful to Fr Patrick for the generous way in which he has shared his priestly ministry with our parish community during this time. While we shall be sorry to see him leave and we recognise that this new appointment offers him further pastoral experience as he continues his journey towards taking on the responsibilities of parish leadership. We wish and pray that he may be blessed with happiness and every grace in his life and ministry at his new parish. Fr Patrick will be leaving us during the first week of September. If you would like to express your appreciation, gratitude, and affection for him, envelopes bearing his name are available at the back of the church. Please also sign Fr Patrick's Leaving Card. Thank you

Post RCIA Monthly Meeting led by Fr Saju. Next session on Tuesday 21st July at 7.30pm in the Upper Room. All those who have previously attended our Journey in Faith Group are welcome to attend.

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, Daniel McLoone, 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, Hugh Fraser, Anton Rabot, Paul Gibbs, Ron Zanre, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Mary Agnes Lokko Nathan, Showene Chong, Joseph Doran, Frank Lohan, Patrick Liamin McDonagh, Christopher Armah Nathan, John & Kitty Quinlan and Wendy Louise Blackwood.

May they rest in peace.

Funeral: The funeral of Ron Zanre RIP will be held on Monday 6th July at 11.30am.

9.15am Sunday Mass:

12th July Children's Liturgy

St Joseph's Youth Group for ages 11-18 years of age will be taking a summer break. As we enter into Summer period, next session to be held in September. Date to be confirmed.

Meditation: Final session will be on Thursday 9 July and then to resume on 10 September 2026.

Young Family Group: School of Community to be held on Wednesday 8th July at 8.00pm in the Upper Room. For further information please email Mario Brioschi at mario_brioschi@yahoo.it

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje: 30th September to 7th October 2026. Please see poster in foyer. For further information please email Susan Lowery at: sclowery@hotmail.co.uk

Safeguarding Training for our Catechists, Eucharistic Ministers, Altar Server Trainers and those who lead our Youth Groups and the Elderly Groups in our parish. To be held in Holy Trinity House on:

Saturday 12th September from 4.00-6.00pm

Saturday 19th September from 10.30am-12.30pm

You are invited to attend one of the above sessions. Please let the parish office know which session you will be attending. Thank you.

Parish Bereavement Group on Tuesday 28th July at 7.00pm in the Upper Room. Trained volunteers from our parish will facilitate regular supportive and confidential meetings for those who are living with bereavement, whether recent or long ago. Everyone is welcome, including loss through miscarriage or stillbirth, or if coping with anyone who is terminally ill. More details are on the Parish website.

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 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 starting in September.**

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: £ 352.00 Building Fund: £25.00

Offertory Collection last week:

St. Joseph's: £997.39 St. Swithun's: £65.00

Peter's Pence Collection

St. Joseph's: £408.67 St Swithun's: £20.20

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 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)**

Please remember the Parish with a gift in your Will.

Next Weekend there will be a second collection for Stella Maris (Formally Apostleship of the Sea).

Our Cafod Group will meet again in the Club Room from 9.45am on Sunday 5th July and will serve tea and coffee after the 9.15am Mass. All welcome.

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday 4th July

6.00pm Int. Ann-Marie Marcellus (Steve)

Sunday 5th July

10.00am Paulina & Benjamin Noruega RIP
(Jenny)

Monday 6th July

10.00am Holy Souls

Saturday 11th July

6.00pm Wellbeing of Baby Angelina Pereira
(Lucy)

Sunday 12th July

10.00am Welfare of Wocial Family (Sofia)

Monday 13th July

10.00am Mike Mills RIP (Grace)

Wednesday 15th July Feast of St. Swithun

10.00am Francis Okiwelu RIP (Ada)

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

St Cecilia's Summer Fete on Saturday 11th July
from 12 noon to 4.00pm. 32 Sundridge Avenue.
All welcome. Donations of bric-a-brac required.

Cancer Café Group will meet again on Tuesday
7th July from 1.30pm in the Upper Room.

Coach Outings to Rye on Wednesday 15th July.
If you have booked, please leave £25 for the
coach with Susan in the parish office. Please
contact Gina on 07780 468767.

The Dad's Group will meet on Wednesday 22
July, 19.30-21.00 at The Crown, Plaistow Lane.
There will be no meeting in August. Please
contact: Richard Barrett on 07729 392936 or
email rgtbarrett@gmail.com.

There will be no Seniors Lunch in July and
August due to the main holiday period. The next
Seniors' Lunch will be on Tuesday 15th
September.

**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.

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

Mondays: Fr Saju & Deacon Barry/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. For enquiries ring: Caroline O'Brien on 07961 413694.