SS Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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

Twenty Eighth Sunday **Year A** **11th October 2026**

Readings on page 140 of the Mass Book

Beauty of Praying Rosary

October is traditionally dedicated to **Our Lady of the Rosary.** During his recent visit to Lourdes, Pope Leo XIV renewed his call for the faithful throughout the world to pray the Rosary for peace and unity. He joined the worldwide initiative of Aid to the Church in Need, *One Million Children Praying the Holy Rosary*, encouraging children, families, schools, parishes, and communities to unite in prayer for our troubled world. In response to the Holy Father's invitation, we will gather this weekend after the 11.00 am Mass to pray the Rosary together. We will process prayerfully to the grotto beside the Presbytery, carrying the Pope's intentions for peace and unity. I warmly invite all of you to join in this special occasion.

The Rosary has always held a special place in Catholic family life. St John Paul II in his Apostolic Letter, "*Rosarium Virginis Mariae*," writes Rosary as "a prayer of and for the family". He continues, "we need to return to the practice of family prayer and prayer for families, continuing to use the Rosary." During the Covid-19 pandemic, Pope Francis likewise invited families to rediscover the comfort, strength, and protection that come through praying the Rosary together. At its heart, the Rosary is a Scripture-based prayer. As we meditate on the Joyful, Luminous, Sorrowful, and Glorious Mysteries, we journey through the key moments of Christ's life while accompanying Mary, His Mother. It is more than the repetition of prayers; it is a gentle pilgrimage through the Gospel. Through the Rosary, we bring our joys, worries, hopes, and struggles into the loving presence of God.

Praying the Rosary as a family can be a powerful source of grace. It strengthens family bonds, fosters unity, and creates opportunities to pass on the faith to younger generations. In a world filled with distractions and busy schedules, even a few minutes of family prayer can draw hearts closer to one another and to Christ. The Rosary also brings comfort to the sick, the elderly, and those who carry heavy burdens, becoming what many saints have called a "sweet chain" that binds us to God. This October, following Pope Leo's appeal let us make the Rosary a regular part of our lives. Whether after the 10.00 am weekday Mass, or at home may praying the Rosary help us to keep the flame of faith alive. **Our Lady of the Rosary, pray for us and for our Parish.**

Fr Saju

Mass Intentions

Saturday 10th October
10.00am Franco Casari RIP (Valentina)
12.30pm **Baptism:** Winifred Durkan
6.00pm Wellbeing Charlotte McDonagh (Lohan)

Sunday 11th October 28th Sunday
8.00am Kathleen Murphy RIP (Joyce)
9.15am Breda McAleer RIP (O'Sullivan)
FHC Signed with the Cross
11.00am People of the Parish
5.00pm Margaret Rice RIP (O'Sullivan)

Monday 12th October
10.00am Joseph & Harriet Peat RIP (Spink)

Tuesday 13th October
St Edward the Confessor
10.00am Holy Souls (Seidel)

Wednesday 14th October
10.00am Margaret Russell RIP (Bromley Catenians)

Thursday 15th October
St Teresa of Jesus
10.00am Wellbeing of Simon Rugg (Kilkenny)

Friday 16th October
10.00am Ivy Sheen RIP (Spink)

Saturday 17th October
St Ignatius of Antioch
10.00am Chris Conway RIP (Davies)
6.00pm Int. Vlad. (Slawek)

Sunday 18th October 29th Sunday
8.00am Molly Lau RIP
9.15am Rozaria Fernandes RIP
11.00am People of the Parish celebrated by Archbishop John Wilson
5.00pm Tom Flynn RIP (O'Sullivan)

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.

Open Surgery will be held on Mondays from 4.30-6.30pm in Holy Trinity House with Fr Saju and a Deacon.

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

First Reconciliation and First Holy Communion Preparation. Session 4 will be held on Friday 6th November at 3.45pm in Holy Trinity House & Saturday 7th November at 9.15am in the church hall.

Confirmation Preparation 2026-2027. If your child is in Year 8 or above and would like to prepare to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation in June 2027, please complete and print out our **Confirmation Registration Form:** https://www.stjosephsbromley.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/Confirmation-Registration-Form_July-2025.pdf**.** Once completed, you will need to attend a surgery session to meet with Fr Saju**.**

Confirmation Parents Information Meeting on Thursday 12th November at 7.30pm in Holy Trinity House. First session to be held on Saturday 9th January 2027.

RCIA: The Journey in Faith Group welcomes new enquirers to start a period of preparation and discernment. If you would like further information please email: bromleyrcia@rcaos.org.uk or ring Matt Gibbs on 07955 084287 or email Deacon Barry.

Post RCIA Monthly Meeting led by Fr Saju. Next session on Tuesday 20th October at 7.30pm in the Upper Room. All those who have previously attended our Journey in Faith Group are welcome to attend.

Annual Mass Count—4th count will be taken this weekend.

Installation of Fr Saju as a Chapter Canon. Canon Saju will be formally installed by the Archbishop at St George's Cathedral on Friday 6th November 2026 at 6.00pm, during the Solemn Mass of Dedication of the Cathedral. All parishioners are welcome to attend.

Coach to St. George's Cathedral on Friday 6th November 2026. We have booked a coach to take parishioners to Canon Saju's Installation Mass. A return seat on the coach will be £20.00 per adult. Leaving St. Joseph's car park at 4.00pm and leaving the Cathedral at 8.00pm. Please let the parish office know asap if you would like to book a seat. Spaces will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

We look forward to welcoming Fr Jude Murray JH, as our new Assistant Priest very soon. Fr Jude is a member of Pious Association Jesus the Healer.

Archbishop John Wilson will be visiting our parish on Sunday 18th October 2026 and 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. *Please bring donations of cakes and biscuits to share after the Mass.* **The 10.00am Mass at St Swithun's will be celebrated at 9.30am.**

Missio Red Box Holders: Are invited to bring their boxes for emptying **on Sunday 18th October at the 11.00am Mass celebrated by Archbishop John.** Alternatively, leave boxes at the back of either church or bring to the parish office. Empty boxes will be left in the church porch for you to collect. **World Mission Sunday is on 18th October.** This year is the 100th Anniversary of the Pope's charity appeal. There will be a second collection for Missio. Thank you.

Mass and Anointing of the Sick will be celebrated on Saturday 24th October at 10.00am. Tea & Coffee will be served after the Mass in the church hall by members of our SVP Group. There will be no Confession on this date.

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**, May Kent, Robert Tring, Eileen Day, Gina Clark, Theodore Bennett, Salma Moujalled, Peter Tease, Daniel McLoone, Catherine Rideout, Maria Dillane, Maureen Webster, Alan O'Donnell, Teresa Cadogan, Betty Byrne, Stella Ludlam, Utz & Yoko Reiff, Veronica Alaneme, 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,** Imelda Burns, Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Franco Casari, Kathleen Murphy, Margaret Rice, Joseph & Harriet Peat, Margaret Russell, Ivy Sheen, Chris Conway, Molly Lau, Rozaria Fernandes and Tom Flynn.

May they rest in peace.

9.15am Sunday Mass:
11th October Children's Liturgy

The Christian Meditation Group will meet on Thursdays at 7.00pm in the Upper Room.

October Devotions. A Rosary Procession will take place on Sunday 11th October after the 11am Mass. All are invited to join the celebrations which will conclude with St Joseph prayers and a blessing with a Franciscan relic.

Lectors' & Eucharistic Ministers' Formation Day on Saturday 31st October 2026 at Capuchin Franciscan Friary, Carton Road, Erith DA8 1DN. Canon Victor Darlington will celebrate Mass at 10.00am. Day concludes at 2.00pm. For more information please see poster in foyer.

Young Family Group: School of Community will meet again on Wednesday 14th October at 8.00pm in the Upper Room. Please contact Mario Brioschi at: mario_brioschi@yahoo.it

Parish Bereavement Group. Trained volunteers from our parish will facilitate regular supportive and confidential meetings for those who are living with bereavement. Meeting in the Upper Room on Tuesday 27th October at 7pm. Email: bromleybereavement@rcaos.org.uk

St Joseph's Primary School Open Days. Please see poster in foyer with all the Open Day dates, including Wednesday 14th October at 9.30-11.00am, Wednesday 11th November 2.00-3.30pm.

Bromley Homeless. Their annual fund-raising event, the 'Big Sleep Out' takes place on 14th November and two of our parishioners (Norah Agiru and Teresa Adams) will be participating. If you wish to sponsor them, the links to their JustGiving pages will be advertised soon. If you wish to 'sleep out' yourself please go to https://bromleyhomeless.org/big-sleep-out-2026/ or see the poster in the foyer. To donate directly to Bromley Homeless go to: https://bromleyhomeless.org/

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: £558.00 Building Fund: £3.00
Cafod: £395.00

Offertory Collection last week:
St. Joseph's: £1001.03 St. Swithun's: £154.60

CAFOD:
St Joseph's: £873.18 St. Swithun's: £172.90

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.**

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 your Parish with a gift in your Will.

Next Sunday there will be a second collection for Missio.

Online Bank Transfers. When making an online bank transfer to the parish for Mass Intentions, Hall Hire, Repository etc. please remember to include your surname as the reference.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturdays from10.30-11.30am 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 is starting on Saturday 31st October.**

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

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday 10th October
6.00pm Maria Antonia Albuquerque Thanksgiving

Sunday 11th October
10.00am Georghe Chiriac RIP

Monday 12th October
10.00am Aluiza and Lactancio Menezes RIP (Agnelo)

Saturday 17th October
6.00pm Amelia Rodrigues Thanksgiving (Rita)

Sunday 18th October
9.30am Deceased souls of Miranda & Coutinho Family (Jenny)

Monday 19th October
10.00am Wellbeing of Baby Martin Commane

For Mass Intentions *please see Nelson*

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

St Swithun's Hall Bookings: 020 8402-0459

Parish Social

Cancer Café Group will meet again on Tuesday 20th October from 1.30pm in the Upper Room. The group will not meet on 6th October. Please call Gina on 07780 468767.

Ss Joseph & Swithun Youth Group for ages 11-18 years of age. Next session to be held on Saturday 7th November from 7-9pm in the church hall. Please let the parish office know if your child would like to attend or if you are able to volunteer to help out at this session.

New Mum's Coffee Morning. To be held on the second Friday of each month from 8.40am in Holy Trinity House. Babies & young siblings welcome.

Seniors Lunch: The next Seniors' Lunch will be on Tuesday 13th October 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 4 November at 19.30 at The Crown, Plaistow Lane.
For further information please email Richard Barratt at: rgtbarrett@gmail.com

Christmas Day International Lunch to be held in St. Joseph's Church Hall after the 11.00am Mass. Please contact Nana-Ama Martey on 07932 674557 for further information and see poster in foyer of 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

Canon Saju Thomas (Parish Priest)	Tel: 020 8402 0459	e: sajuthomas@rcaos.org.uk
Fr Jude Murray (Asst. Priest)	Tel: 020 8402 0459	e:
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

Surgery Times: 4.30-6.30pm in Holy Trinity House
Mondays: Fr Saju & Deacon Barry/Aidan/Garry

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.