SS Joseph & Swithun Parish News

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

Christ the King **Year A** **22nd November 2026**

Readings on page 158 of the Mass Book

Dear All,

This weekend we come to the end of the Church's liturgical year, celebrating the Solemnity of **Christ the King** on the final Sunday of Ordinary Time. Next Sunday we begin a new Liturgical Year with the First Sunday of Advent, entering once again into that sacred season of listening and joyful anticipation as we await the celebration of the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ. On this beautiful feast, I wish you all a very joyful Feast of Christ the King. The Feast of Christ the King reminds us that Jesus is not merely a historical figure or a moral teacher, but the sovereign Lord of all creation. His kingship is unlike any earthly power because His throne is the Cross, and His crown is one of thorns and His kingship is of the Shepherd King. The Kingdom of Christ is a kingdom of justice, peace, and compassion.

Through the first readings for this Sunday prophet Ezekiel presents, God declares: "I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep." The Lord promises to seek the lost, bring back the strayed, bind up the injured, and strengthen the weak. This image reveals a God who cares deeply for His people, accompanying them through every joy and struggle of life. Jesus fulfils this promise perfectly. He is the Shepherd who knows His sheep by name, feeds them with His Word and Sacraments, and lays down His life for them. On this feast day, as disciples, we are invited to ask ourselves: Who is my shepherd? Whose voice do I listen to amid the many voices competing for my attention? In whom do I place my trust and find my refuge?

In the Gospel (Matthew 25:33-34), Jesus identifies Himself with those in need: "I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me." Here Christ teaches us that true discipleship is expressed in practical love and service. Every act of kindness offered to another becomes an act of love offered to Christ Himself. Today's feast reminds us that we allow Him to reign in our hearts and make us shepherds of His compassion to others. By caring for the lonely, welcoming the stranger, supporting the weak, and serving those in need, we help make His Kingdom visible in our community/parish today.

Next weekend we welcome Canon Victor Darlington who will be with us for a Canonical visit.

Fr Saju

Mass Intentions

Saturday 21st November
The Presentation of the Blessed Virgin Mary
10.00am Deceased members of the Legion of Mary
6.00pm Annette McDonagh RIP (Lohan) neé Doherty

Sunday 22nd November Christ the King
8.00am Deirdre O'Donovan RIP (Maguire)
9.15am Eleanor Welham RIP (McGovern)
Baptism Rite of Welcome
11.00am Thanksgiving Mass for Canon Saju People of the Parish
12.30pm **Baptism**: Isla-Rae Taylor
1.30pm **Baptism**: Vivienne Corlett
5.00pm Tony Jiggins RIP (Atkinson)

Monday 23rd November
10.00am Timmy Kelliher RIP (Gorey)

Tuesday 24th November St Andrew Dũng-Lac
10.00am Ken Finch RIP (Spink)
12 Noon Deanery Memorial Mass

Wednesday 25th November
10.00am Thanksgiving Basil & Kathy

Thursday 26th November
10.00am Lois Mary & Justin Oluka RIP (Norah)

Friday 27th November
10.00am Deceased Members of Benny & Bindu's Family

Saturday 28th November
10.00am Joy Abbarti RIP (Alessio)
6.00pm People of the Parish

Sunday 29th November 1st Sunday of Advent
8.00am Int. Monique Fernandes
9.15am Thanksgiving Mia Benny (Meril)
Y6 Class Mass
11.00am Robert & Eileen Macey RIP
5.00pm Cecil Mariyathasan 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.

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 6 will be held on Saturday 21st November at 9.15am in the Church Hall and on Friday 27th November at 3.45pm in the Upper Room.

First Holy Communion Parents Review Session to be held on Wednesday 2nd December at 7.30pm in Holy Trinity House.

First Reconciliation to be celebrated on Saturday 5th December from 4.00-5.00pm in St. Joseph's Church.

RCIA: The Journey in Faith Group for further information please email: bromleyrcia@rcaos.org.uk or ring Matt Gibbs on 07955 084287 or email Deacon Barry.

9.15am Sunday Mass:

22nd November	Children's Liturgy
29th November	Children's Liturgy
13th December	Children's Liturgy
20th December	Uniform Groups

Funeral: Alan O'Donnell RIP died on Monday 9th November 2026. Details of his funeral will be announced in due course. May he rest in peace.

South East Area Carol Service with Canon Victor Darlington will take place on Sunday 13th December 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at St Saviour's Catholic Church, 175 Lewisham High Street, London SE13 6AA. All welcome to attend. See poster in foyer of church.

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

Advent:

Advent & Christmas Leaflet is now available to collect from the foyer. This contains the times of our Christmas Services.

Early morning Masses in Advent to be celebrated at 7.30am in Holy Trinity Chapel on Tuesday and Friday mornings. All welcome.

Advent Talks to be given by David Wells on Saturday 5th December after the 10.00am Mass. The first talk will be given at 10.45am in St. Joseph's Church Hall and the second talk will be given at 12 noon in the church. Refreshments will be served. All welcome.

School/Parish Christmas Carol Service and Social Event on Thursday 10th December starting at 6.00pm in St. Joseph's Church followed by refreshments available to purchase in the church hall and a raffle. 1st prize is 50in Samsung TV. Other prizes include: Signed Bromley FC football, Bromley Court Hotel Gift Voucher, 3 tickets for the Pantomime, Wine & chocolate Hamper, a Cosmetics Hamper & Free Full Car Service. **Raffle tickets** available to purchase after Sunday Masses.

Night Vigil for Advent: Mass will be celebrated at 7.00pm on Friday 11th December to start the Night Vigil. Mass will be celebrated at 6.30am on Saturday 12th December to conclude the Night Vigil. All welcome

The Deanery Memorial Mass will take place in St Joseph's Church at midday on Tuesday 24th November. All are welcome to join to pray for the deceased clergy in our Deanery.

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 24th November at 7pm. Email: bromleybereavement@rcaos.org.uk

Annual Christmas Party for all current Altar Servers and Young Volunteers will be held on 12th December from 12.30 pm till 3.30 pm at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School. Altar Servers Training and Refresher session will start before the party at 11.30 am in the Church.

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**, Ivor Lewis, Roque Gustilo, May Kent, Robert Tring, Eileen Day, Gina Clark, Theodore Bennett, Salma Moujalled, Peter Tease, Daniel McLoone, Catherine Rideout, Maria Dillane, Maureen Webster, 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,** Alan O'Donnell, Emma Constantinides Lucia Holder, Graham Morton, Annette McDonagh, Eleanor Welham, Tony Jiggins, Timmy Kelliher, Ken Finch, Lois Mary & Justin Oluka, Joy Abbarti, Robert & Eileen Macey and Cecil Mariyathasan. ***May they rest in peace.***

Missio – Thank you to all Red Box holders who brought their boxes for emptying, the total banked was £905.32. Thank you also to our members who donate to Missio on line.

Parish Football Evening for ages 14+. Would you be interested in a Parish Football Evening? Lads and dads but also to include girls and ladies. If so, please click on the link so we can assess the interest: https://forms.gle/dq4ayYxVCxNW3hPL8

Christmas Trees. We will be selling Christmas Trees again his year for delivery to your home. Please see order form in the foyer of the church or contact the parish office. **Closing date Friday 27th November 2026.**

Bromley Homeless: Very many thanks indeed to all the parishioners who supported Norah and Teresa on the 'Big Sleep Out' on Saturday. Between them £1688.50 plus £322.50 Gift Aid was raised. Final totals for the whole event will be displayed in the foyer. The charity is urgently in need of NEW pillows for their **'Starter Packs',** and also (used but clean) double duvet covers and cooking dishes. Please take to their collection at SS Peter & Paul on Saturday 5th December, 10 am to 12. For full details see notice in foyer or go to their website: https://bromleyhomeless.org/starter-pack-service/

Thank you to everyone who watched the film about Mary's Meals. 14 hungry children will have a meal at school all year through your generosity. We will continue to support this charity through our teas and coffees after 10.00am Mass on Sundays.

Rosary in The Park. Why not enjoy walking through a lovely local park whilst praying the Rosary with friends and parishioners? **Venue:** Kelsey Park in Beckenham - entrance closest to the High Street on Saturday 28th November 2026. **Time:** Meet for a coffee at 'Q' Bar & Café (High Street, Beckenham) at 11 am. Start the Rosary at 12 noon and complete by 1.30 pm. More information from Peter Bull (07956 684926) or Jaydev Chauhan (079 6767 5509).

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: £423.00 Building Fund: £88.00

Offertory Collection last week:
St. Joseph's: £837.69 St. Swithun's: £217.85

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.

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.

Youth Club. If you would like to contribute to supporting our Youth Ministry please indicate **"Youth"** as the reference when donating to the church. This will help us to provide new games equipment and refreshments. Thank you.

This Weekend there will be a second collection for Catholic Youth Services. This collection supports youth work in the diocese and beyond, especially the Southwark Catholic Youth Service.

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

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

Mass Intentions

Saturday 21st November **Christ the King**
6.00pm Int. Anthony & Raisha on their wedding
Sunday 22nd November
10.00am George Mariathas & Siblings RIP
Monday 23rd November
10.00am Wellbeing of Oliver Shepherd (Bates)
Saturday 28th November
6.00pm Nelson Lopes Birthday Thanksgiving
Sunday 29th November **1st Sunday of Advent**
10.00am Good health of Jenny Noruega & Thanksgiving to the Sacred Heart of Jesus & Mary
Monday 30th November
10.00am Dilfi & Siva Wedding Anniversary

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

Join us at St Swithun's for our Advent Carol Service, followed by seasonal refreshments, at St Swithun's Church on Sunday 20th December at 3.30pm. All proceeds will go to supporting Mary's Meals.

Parish Social

Cancer Café Group will meet again on Tuesday 1st December from 1.30pm in the Upper Room.

Ss Joseph & Swithun Youth Group for ages 11-18 years of age. Next sessions will be held on **Saturday 21st 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.

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 8th December from 12 noon to 1.30pm in Holy Trinity House. Please let the parish office know if you would like to attend.

Cafod Group will meet again on Sunday 6th December at 9.45am in the Club Room. All welcome to join.

The Dad's Group will meet again on Wednesday 25 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: judemurray@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

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.