



## St Joseph's Parish, Diocese of Northampton

Order of Discalced Carmelites (OCD)

St Joseph's Priory, Austenwood Common, Chalfont St Peter, Buckinghamshire SL9 8RY

Fr Michael Spain OCD (Prior & Parish Priest), Fr Robert Davies OCD, Fr Maurice Flynn OCD

17 December 2017  
Third Sunday of Advent

Sundays Year B – Weekdays Year 2 – Psalter Week 3

26 December	St Stephen, First Martyr - Feast
27 December	St John, Apostle & Evangelist – Feast
28 December	The Holy Innocents – Feast
29 December	St Thomas Becket, Martyr & Bishop
31 December	The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph – Feast
1 January	Mary, The Holy Mother of God – Solemnity
2 January	SS Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops & Doctors of the Church – Memorial

**THE OFFERTORY COLLECTION** last weekend amounted to £1,610. Your continued support is appreciated.

The **SECOND COLLECTION** for Church Flowers was £409.

The **Christmas Eve and Christmas Day collections** will be for the clergy of the parish.

An **ADVENT SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION** (with visiting priests) will take place next **Tuesday 19 December** at 8pm in St Joseph's Church. As we prepare for Christmas, why not come along to renew and strengthen your relationship with the Lord.

**CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:** If you haven't picked up the Christmas card which gives times of all the Masses in St Joseph's Parish over Christmas and New Year, there are some in the church porch. These details are also available on the Parish website.

**PRAYING THE ROSARY** will resume on Tuesday 9 January.

**EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION** will start again on Wednesday 10/Thursday 11 January.

**DIOCESAN YEAR OF PRAYER AND VOCATION:** Bishop Peter has called us all to share a Year of Prayer and Vocation. You can now link to his video message about this via our website. Throughout this year we are invited to renew our commitment to personal prayer. To help us, **Prayer Cards** are available from the Church porch. In December our focus is on praying for all the people of our Diocese.

**RECENTLY DECEASED:** Your prayers are requested for the repose of the soul of George Robinson who died recently. The funeral will take place on Friday 29 December at 11:30am in St Joseph's Church. We extend our deepest sympathy to all his family and friends.

**CHILDREN'S ADVENT DISPLAY:** The recent Children's Liturgy Advent Workshop was a great success. Many thanks to everyone who came along or helped in any way. The artwork on display in the church was created by the children at the workshop.

**'A BIBLICAL WALK THROUGH THE MASS':** A five week course for Lent 2018. This programme explores where the words and gestures we use in the Mass each week come from, explaining their significance, giving insights for getting the most out of every Mass – and much more. This course will run on Wednesday evenings starting on 21 February at 7:45pm for 8pm. It will run simultaneously on Thursday mornings starting on 22 February at 9.30am. If you wish to enrol, please contact the Parish Office to sign up. Payment of £20 per person needs to be made by Monday 15 January so your books can be ordered.

Advance Notice – **'FOLLOW ME – MEETING JESUS IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN'** will be an 8 week study course running on Wednesday evenings/Thursday mornings starting on 2/3 May 2018.

**PRAYERS FOR THE SICK:** Please pray for the sick of our Parish and for those who have asked for our prayers.

**LONDON AND SLOUGH RUN FOR THE HOMELESS:** Please note that there will be NO London Run on Monday 25 December or Monday 1 January. Back to normal on **MONDAY 8 JANUARY**. Many thanks for your continued support.

**The CHRISTMAS RUN FOR THE HOMELESS IS TOMORROW Monday 18 December.**

**CHRISTMAS CARDS AND 2018 DIARIES** are now on sale in the Repository.

**PARISH DIARY 2018:** Please help yourself to one of the new blue pocket diaries, which you will find at the front entrance to the church. There are a limited number, so please just one per family. These are available free thanks to the generosity of the publisher and advertisers within.

**THANK YOU** to everyone who delivered an Advent Activities letter to those not on email. Your help is much appreciated and I'm sure it was lovely to receive the flyer through the door!

**CHRISTMAS CONCERT:** Come along to a wonderful evening of Christmas music **TODAY Sunday 17 December** at 7:30pm in The Most Holy Name Church, Denham. Join Richard Cottle and the Holy Name Choir for an evening of seasonal music and readings, featuring some of the parish's favourite carols for everyone to sing. All are welcome.

**DO YOU WANT TO BLOW AWAY THE DUST OR TURN OVER A LEAF IN THE NEW YEAR? Then here are fresh opportunities for you!** We are reviewing our existing contracts for cleaning and gardening and are going out to Tender for these contracts which run from 1 February 2018. If any of our parishioners or local companies would like to tender for either of the contracts, then please send a letter or an email to [office@stjosephs.org.uk](mailto:office@stjosephs.org.uk) marked for the attention of Malcolm Johnstone by 5pm Monday 18 December.

**SLOUGH SLEEPOUT FOR THE HOMELESS:** Well – it's over and done with for another year and what a cold night! While sleeping outside with not much more than cardboard for shelter, was a tough challenge for one night, it was but a mere taster of what homeless people on our streets have to endure – night after night. It's difficult to put into words just how grateful we are to you and to everyone who played a part in this event. 94 people participated on the night which is twice the number compared to last year and the best news of all is that we have hit our target for the funds needed to run the Winter Night Shelter once again this winter! A BIG THANK YOU.

**TEA IN THE POT** will start back on Friday 5 January in the Parish Centre. Call in after you have dropped the children off at school for a chat and a cuppa.

**NEW DISABLED ENTRANCE:** Building work continues on the new disabled entrance to St Joseph's Church. **The side door to the car park is now an emergency fire exit only.** Please use the main door or the side door by the bookshop to enter and leave the church. During these works the disabled toilet will open for use at weekends.

The last **TEA AND A CHAT** for the year will take place next Thursday 21 December in the First Committee Room between 2 and 4pm.

### Sunday Mass Times

St Joseph's, Chalfont St Peter: Saturday Vigil Mass at 5:30pm, Sunday at 7:45am, 9am, 11am and 5:30pm  
Holy Name, Denham: Sunday Mass at 9:30am  
Bridgettine Convent, Iver Heath: Saturday Vigil Mass at 4:30pm, Sunday at 9am

### All the following take place at St Joseph's, Chalfont St Peter

**Weekday Mass:** Monday to Friday at 7am and 9am, Saturday and Bank Holidays at 10am  
**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturday from 10:30 – 11am and 4:45 – 5:15pm  
**Rosary:** Tuesday and Friday at 7:30pm  
**Eucharistic Adoration:** Wednesday and Thursday from 10am until 9pm in the Oratory

Website: [www.stjosephs.org.uk](http://www.stjosephs.org.uk)

Telephone: **01753 886581**  
Registered Charity Number 234091

Email: [office@stjosephs.org.uk](mailto:office@stjosephs.org.uk)

**ST JOSEPH'S FURNITURE MARKET** distributed £4,000 in December as follows:

The Parish	£2,000
ScanAppeal	£500
Guide Dogs	£500
La Leche	£200
International Liberty Association	£500
Water Search and Rescue	£300

**The FURNITURE MARKET WILL BE CLOSED** on Saturday 30 December. We wish all our customers a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**CHRISTMAS LUNCH REFUND:** Regretfully we had to cancel the Parish Christmas Lunch last Sunday due to the snow! Please return your tickets to the Parish Office and you will be refunded.

**KEEP CHURCH DOORS CLOSED:** Now that the cold weather is upon us, please help us keep the building warm by closing the door behind you when you enter or leave the church. Thank you.

**NEWSLETTER:** The next normal printed version of the newsletter will be Sunday 7 January – articles to be included should be with the Parish Office by 12 noon on Thursday 4 January.

**THE PARISH OFFICE IS CLOSED** from 5pm on Friday 22 December and will not re-open until 9:30am on Tuesday, 2 January. If you require any information please refer to the parish website. For enquiries please email [office@stjosephs.org.uk](mailto:office@stjosephs.org.uk) or phone 01753 886581, press 1 and leave a message. We will get back to you as soon as we can in the New Year.

## 200 Club Winners

The 200 Club draw was drawn at the **Tea and a Chat** on Thursday and the lucky winners are:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Elizabeth Howe
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Mr S. Hopson
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Richard Brumby
- 4<sup>th</sup> Jane Roberts

***Congratulations!***