



CATHOLIC BANBURY

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ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

25 South Bar Street, Banbury. OX16 9AF

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

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Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Philip Harrop

Assistant Priest: Rev. Fr. Sean Gough

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Rev. Mr. Jim Brannan: 07737 076660

Rev. Mr. Bob Hughes: 07766 711984



QR code
for
WhatsApp Parish
Community

DAY	ST JOHN'S	ST JOSEPH'S	INTENTION
YEAR C Sunday 1st December FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT Violet	4.00pm Vigil Mass		Special Intentions
		8.30am St. Thomas' Wroxton	Brian Seymour & Hnatko Family
	8.45am Mass		Georgette Di Caprio Illes
		10.00am Mass	Nan Mc Kenna
	11.15am Mass		People of the Parish
		<i>5.00pm Confessions</i> 5.30pm Mass	John Hamill
Monday 2 nd <i>Advent Feria</i>	9.30am Mass		Chiara Marshall
Tuesday 3 rd <i>Memorial of St. Francis Xavier</i>	9.30am Mass (November Requiem)		Ryan & Coughlan Families
Wednesday 4 th <i>Advent Feria</i>	9.30am Mass		John Joe Barry RIP
Thursday 5 th <i>Feast of St. Birinus</i>	9.30am Mass 10.30am School Mass		Patrick Short RIP Molly Doyle RIP
Friday 6 th <i>Advent Feria</i>	6.45am Rorate Caeli Mass <i>Confessions & Holy Hour</i> <i>6.00-7.00pm</i>	9.30am School Mass	Holy Souls Sienna Marshall
Saturday 7 th <i>Memorial of St. Ambrose</i>	10.00am Mass <i>Confession 10.30 – 11am</i>		Mary Fogerty RIP
YEAR C Sunday 8th December SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT Violet	4.00pm Vigil Mass		Vanessa Sawers RIP
	8.45am Mass		Desy Titto Intentions
		10.00am Mass	Anne Marie Boyd Intentions
	11.15am Mass		People of the Parish
		<i>5.00pm Confessions</i> 5.30pm Mass	Mary & James Lynch Intentions

WELCOME TO MASS - as we begin the holy season of Advent and a new liturgical year.

From today we are using the **new translation of the scriptures**. For those who are readers at Mass, next Sunday's readings are available from the sacristy today. For this liturgical year our companion will be St Luke, whose gospel will accompany us through much of the coming year. St Luke's gospel falls into two. The Gospel proper, and then the Acts of the Apostles which gives an account of the Church in those earliest years from the Ascension of the Lord and Pentecost.

Tom Wright, the biblical theologian, introduces his commentary on the gospel 'Luke for everyone' (introduction vii) by telling us that 'Luke had a chance to stand back from the extraordinary events that had been going on, to talk to the people involved, to read some earlier writings, and to make his own quite full version so that readers could know the truth about the things to do with Jesus. He was an educated and cultured man, the first real historian to write about Jesus. His book places Jesus not only at the heart of the Jewish world of the first century, but at the heart of the Roman world into which the Christian gospel exploded and which it was destined to change so radically.'

Make Advent Special with the **Rorate Caeli Mass** that will take place each Friday of Advent – this coming Friday, and then the 13th and 20th of December. For those who haven't been or experienced it, Rorate Caeli is the Dawn Mass of Advent offered in honour of Our Lady and in candlelight. It is offered in the traditional orientation of the liturgy – facing East – the direction of the approaching dawn and the rising sun, and so a poignant reminder of the Benedictus canticle of St Luke's Gospel where Zechariah speaks of the Incarnation as 'the loving kindness of the heart of our God who visits us like the dawn from on high.' The Mass will begin at 6.45am, and is a said Mass – it's early! However, Elizabeth Burak has again kindly agreed to sing the Rorate Caeli chant as a solo – a beautiful and ethereal opening to this special dawn Mass of Advent hope. Following Mass, for those who can stay, there will be a simple breakfast in the Dupuis Centre of tea, coffee, toast etc. Any donations after costs will go to this year's Crib Collection. This Friday the breakfast after the Mass will be organised by the Legion of Mary.

THE LEGION OF MARY is a lay organisation - originally founded in Dublin, but now international – which forms its members in their baptismal vocation to give glory to God and make the Gospel known in today's world. They are inspired in this by a strengthening of their devotion to Our Lady, Mary always points us to her Son, and her powerful intercession always seeks to draw us closer to him.

A legion was originally a division of the Roman army. St Paul, in his letter to Timothy, encourages him to be a 'good soldier of Jesus Christ', and in his letter to the Ephesians, for them to 'put on the whole armour of God.' This text speaks of the battle against evil which is the vocation of the Christian. For when we renew our baptismal promises at Easter we are asked: Do you renounce Satan, and all his works, and all his empty show?

Evil is a true reality that we must do battle with, both in ourselves and in the world. The Legion is one way in which Catholics have found encouragement and companionship in living this out. The Legion of Mary works to strengthen the faith of Catholics, to recall those who have fallen away, and to be evangelisers in bringing those who do not know Christ to the fullness of the Catholic faith. The legion meets at St John's on Saturday morning at 10.45am and at St Joseph's on Wednesday at 6.30pm and any parishioner is welcome.

CHRISTMAS....for those planning ahead. Christmas Mass times are now available on the cards at the back of Church.

LOURDES BAKE SALE - There will be a bake sale on the today after the 8:45 and 11:15 masses organised by Year 12 students from BGN to raise funds for their pilgrimage to Lourdes during spring 2025. Any donations will be gratefully received.

MONDAY LUNCH CHRISTMAS MEAL will be on Monday 9th December 2024. Due to limit on numbers, please ensure you have booked your place for the lunch with Marilena as soon as possible.

CHRISTMAS DRAW & SOCIAL - please join us in the Dupuis Centre for wine and mince pies for the Christmas Draw which will take place after the 11.15am Mass on the 15th December. Please return all sold tickets stubs to the parish office with money as soon as you are able. Any unwanted tickets should also be returned in good time to be able to re-distribute to those still wanting tickets. Any donations of gifts should be left at the Parish Office.

SVP CHRISTMAS HAMPER- St Vincent De Paul Society is a Charity that raise funds in order to support those less fortunate in the world and our group is particularly concentrating on this area. We have a Christmas Hamper to be won and tickets are a £1 each and will be sold after Masses this weekend. Please help support this good cause if you can.

ALTAR SERVERS TRIP TO THE PANTOMIME - Saturday 11th January at 6pm. If parents of Altar servers– for the under 18's – please email the office and let us know whether your child/children would like to come and they have your permission. Please indicate if they are 16+. Those 18+ you can email yourself! Please let us know if your child would like to go by Monday 2nd December so we can try to ensure tickets. They will need to be dropped off at the theatre in Chipping Norton. If there are problems with lack of transport, please have a word with one of the priests or Deacon Jim.

ST JOHNS QUIZ - DATE FOR THE DIARY - Return of the Quiz Night will be on Friday 7th February 2025. Further details to follow.

MISSO RED BOXES - If anyone has a Red Missio Box from St John's Parish which needs emptying please contact Sue Hale on 07814 733170 or 01295 596838 so we can arrange collection, or bring the box to Mass to be left in the Church office for collecting. If you do not want the box back please put a note in the box so that we keep hold of it".

200 CLUB WINNERS – 1st; No. 69 - £142.50, 2nd; No.65 - £85.50, 3rd; No52 - £57.00.

BGN FUNDRAISING EVENT – A celebration evening on Saturday 1st February, dinner and dancing. Tickets are £35 per head with proceeds going to the Rachel Smith Memorial Fund & Friends of BGN. Please contact the school for tickets.

BGN VACANCY – The school are currently recruiting for a part time Catering Assistant. For more information, please go to the school's website.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY –

GOOD GRIEF CAFÉ - Saturday 7th December 10am – 12pm

PENITENTIAL SERVICE - Friday 13th December at 7pm.

PADRE PIO MEETING –Thurs 12th December, after mass.

ECUMENICAL CAROLS IN THE TOWN CENTRE – Sat.14th December at 4pm.

Please pray for the dead ...

*Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently.
Pray also for those whose anniversaries occur this coming week:*

- 01 Frank Davis 2020; Kathleen Russell 2014; Mary (Jo) August 2007; Winifred McLaughlin 2001; Michael Riley 1995; Kathleen Hawtin 1982
- 02 Roy Kennedy 2020; Kevin Day 2014; Peggy Adams 2010; Kenneth Hemmings 2010; Con Houlihan 2008; John Heffernan 1992; Nora Oxlade 1987
- 03 Jackie Barnes 2021; Theresa Temple 2018; James Amos 2000; Guy Higgs 1995
- 04 William Hardy 2021; James Whelan 2014; Rita Ashdown 2012; Pauline Crockett 2012; Patrick Clarke 2006; Winifred Boscott 2000; Ena Tindell 1993; James Englishby 1993; Elsie Burton 1985
- 05 Thomas Cashman 2000; Mary Ho Swee Chin 1998; Anthony O'Carroll 1993
- 06 John Lannagan 2017; Gweneth Greenway 1993; Laura Taylor 1987
- 07 Dennis Craig 2019; Bridget Franklin 2015; Noreen Page 2014; Betty Crawley 2013; Richard Burns 2006; Ryan Dwyer 1993; Phyllis Gainey 1988; Bertha Hone 1985; Ivy Lewis 1985; Florence Clothier 1983

***Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May they rest in peace. Amen.***

Please pray for the sick of our Parishes ...

Julie Aikenhead, Vicky Aikenhead, Deacon Henry Allen, Edward Andrews, Audrey Anthistle, Cora Barnard, Marianne Balazs, Douglas Bond, Brenda Brennan, Eileen Bristoll, Christopher Browne, Clifford Browne, Ann Dagger, Nick Davies, Oliver Davies, Michael Evans, Alan Fitchett, Barbara Fleming, Carl Gill, Diane Greenwood, Pat Heritage, Roger Johnson, Eileen & Michael Jordan, Teresa Kurszewska, Catherine Ley, Iris Jean Lloyd, Liam Malone, Anne Nolan, Harry Rhodes, Trish Rossenrode, Eileen Shea, Nicky Smith, Elaine Steer.

PARISH FINANCIAL MATTERS

Weekly Income: 24th November	<u>ST JOHN'S</u>	<u>ST JOSEPH'S</u>
Gift Aid	£ 97.00	£266.00
Non-Gift Aid	£ 426.77	£143.60
Contactless Card	£ 107.00	£113.00
Standing Orders – October	£3159.00	£928.00
Catholic Youth Service	£ 322.00	£201.47

GIFT AID – If you pay tax on your income, please consider completing a Gift Aid form and the church can claim the tax you have paid. It does not cost you anything extra. For every £1 donated, we will receive another 25p

GENERAL TIMES FOR SACRAMENTS AND OTHER CELEBRATIONS

St. John's:	Reconciliation	Friday, 6.00-7.00 pm; Saturday, 10.30-11.00 am
	Adoration	Friday at 6.00-7.00 pm
	Baptisms	Sunday from 12.30 pm
	Weddings	A minimum of six months' notice is required
	Legion of Mary	Saturday at 10.45 am (Wall Room, Dupuis Centre)
St. Joseph's:	Adoration	Wednesday at 10.00-11.00 am
	Baptisms	Sunday at 11.30 am
	Weddings	A minimum of six months' notice is required
	Legion of Mary	Wednesday at 6.30 pm
	Youth Group	3 rd Saturday, 6.30 – 8pm for children Yr 6 & 7 3 rd Sunday, 6.30-8.30pm, for children Yr 7 & above.

DONA CARD READER:

Remember to use our contactless card reader for all your donations. Donations can also be made by scanning the QR code.



PARISH OFFICE [The office is situated at St John's Presbytery; office hours Tuesday – Thursday, 9.00am – 3.00pm]

Bookkeeper: *Catherine Dukes.* Email: pt.stjohn.banbury@rcaob.org.uk
Pastoral & Property: *Nicola Mollard.* Email: sg.stjohn.banbury@rcaob.org.uk

SAFEGUARDING: The Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative for St John's is Nicola Mollard; for St Joseph's, Eileen Bristoll. They can be contacted at: sg.stjohn.banbury@rcaob.org.uk or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

Entrance Antiphon

To you, I lift up my soul, O my God.
In you, I have trusted; let me not be put to shame.
Nor let my enemies exult over me;
and let none who hope in you be put to shame.

First reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David, and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

Responsorial Psalm

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

O Lord, make me know your ways.
Teach me your paths.
Guide me in your truth, and teach me;
for you are the God of my salvation.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he shows the way to sinners.
He guides the humble in right judgement;
to the humble he teaches his way.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

All the Lord's paths are mercy and faithfulness,
for those who keep his covenant and commands.
The Lord's secret is for those who fear him;
to them he reveals his covenant.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

Second reading

1 Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Brothers and sisters: May the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Finally, then, brothers and sisters, we ask and urge you in the Lord Jesus, that as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God, just as you are doing, that you do so more and more. For you know what instructions we gave you through the Lord Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
Show us, O Lord, your mercy,
and grant us your salvation.
Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples: 'There will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.

'But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

Communion Antiphon

The Lord will bestow his bounty, and our earth shall yield its increase.

Solemn Blessing

May the almighty and merciful God,
by whose grace you have placed your faith
in the First Coming of his Only Begotten Son
and yearn for his coming again
sanctify you by the radiance of Christ's Advent
and enrich you with his blessing.

Amen.

As you run the race of this present life,
may he make you firm in faith,
joyful in hope and active in charity.

Amen.

So that, rejoicing now with devotion
at the Redeemer's coming in the flesh,
you may be endowed with the rich reward of eternal life
when he comes again in majesty.

Amen.

And may the blessing of almighty God,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit,
come down on you and remain with you for ever.

Amen.