



# CATHOLIC BANBURY

[www.catholicbanbury.org](http://www.catholicbanbury.org)



## ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

25 South Bar Street, Banbury. OX16 9AF

## ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

Edmunds Road, Banbury. OX16 0PP

Telephone: 01295 262073

General Office Email: [stjohn.banbury@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:stjohn.banbury@rcaob.org.uk)

**Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Philip Harrop**

**Deacons:** Rev. Mr. Henry Allen: 01295 780642

Rev. Mr. Jim Brannan: 07737 076660; Rev. Mr. Bob Hughes: 07766 711984

SVP 07399 471662



Facebook search:  
'Catholic  
Banbury'



QR code  
for  
**WhatsApp** Parish  
Community

YEAR A	ST JOHN'S	ST JOSEPH'S	INTENTION
<b>Sunday 3rd May</b> <b>FIFTH SUNDAY</b> <b>OF EASTER</b>  <i>White</i>	4.00pm Vigil Mass ( Saturday)		Michale Kearns RIP
	8.30am Mass		Macfarlane family
		10.00am Mass	Sue Allen - 80 <sup>th</sup> birthday
	11.30am Mass		People of the Parish
Monday 4 <sup>h</sup> <b>THE ENGLISH MARTYRS</b>	9.30am Mass		Mary Griffin RIP
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> <i>Easter Feria</i>		9.30am Mass	Patrick Sheahan RIP
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> <i>Easter Feria</i>		9.30am Morning Prayer & Benediction	~~~~~
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> <i>Easter Feria</i>	6.30pm Mass		Mark Enright RIP
Friday 8 <sup>th</sup> May <i>Easter Feria</i>	9.30am Mass 10.30am Requiem Mass – Margaret Balasz RIP 6.00pm Adoration, Vespers & Benediction with Confession		Special Intention
Saturday 9 <sup>th</sup> <i>Easter Feria</i>	<u>11.00am</u> Mass and Anointing of the Sick		Leo & Stephanie Tucker RIP
<b>Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May</b> <b>SIXTH SUNDAY</b> <b>OF EASTER</b>  <i>White</i>	4.00pm Vigil Mass ( Saturday)		WJ & M McCarthy RIP
	8.30am Mass		Marianne Balazs RIP
		10.00am Mass	Mary Marron RIP
	11.30am Mass		Martin Leonard RIP

## Mary's Month of May!

**Welcome to Mass on this Fifth Sunday of Easter.** If you are visiting the parish today, you are most welcome. If you are visiting today, but aren't a Catholic, you are very welcome if you wish, at the time of Holy Communion, to come forward for a blessing. Just place your right hand on your left shoulder, or simply ask for a blessing, so that the priest or deacon is aware.

For Catholics receiving holy communion, it is good to remind ourselves of the way we are to receive holy communion as described in the document issued by the Holy See 'Redemptionis Sacramentum': *The faithful should receive kneeling or standing. There should be an act of reverence where communion is received standing. Communicants may receive on the tongue, or hand where permitted. Care should be taken that it is consumed in the presence of the minister.*

If we can all ensure that this is done, then the act of holy communion will receive that reverence the sacred mysteries demand.

**It was a joy to welcome back to the parish Deacon Jithin last Sunday.** It was good to hear that, God willing, he will be ordained priest on Monday July 6<sup>th</sup> in St Chad's Cathedral. It is going to be a special joy for us that on the next day, **Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July, he will offer his First Holy Mass in St John's at 6.30pm.** The Mass in church, which will bring together family, friends and parishioners, will be followed by a celebration with drinks and nibbles at Blessed George Napier School, and we are grateful to the school for facilitating this. This is a ticketed event so that we can cater for all those who wish to come.

If you would like a free ticket(s) for this special event please send your name(s) in an email to [mass.celebration@gmail.com](mailto:mass.celebration@gmail.com) by June 6<sup>th</sup>. Tickets will be available for collection after Sunday Masses at both St Joseph's and St John's following this.

**This Saturday at 11am** there will be a Mass for the sick and housebound with the Sacrament of the Sick. Confessions will be heard next Saturday from 10.15am. This opportunity of confession is a lovely way of preparing to receive the sacrament of the sick. The Parish SVP group will be organising a light lunch after Mass in the Dupuis Centre. **For catering purposes please call the dedicated SVP number 07399471662.**

**Mary's Meals** – in April those gathered raised the terrific figure of £517.30 (£174 of which was gift aided). This amount will feed 27 children for one year in the world's poorest communities. The provision of meals is linked with schools, and so the promise of food will draw many of these children towards education, and so to a brighter future. Thanks to all those volunteers – and supporters – who help to make Mary's Meals possible in our own parish.

Mary's Meals links in with the Pope's intention for May - *Let us pray that everyone, from large producers to small consumers, be committed to avoid wasting food, and to ensure that everyone has access to quality food.*

### **BASIC SAFEGUARDING TRAINING FOR VOLUNTEERS –**

Thank you to the volunteers who have completed a Volunteer Information Form, as required by the Archdiocese of Birmingham. It is also required that all volunteers have a basic understanding of safeguarding matters for the wellbeing of our whole community. Level 1 of the CSSA (Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency) training can be found by the following link:

<https://training.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk/>

There are more forms at the back of church for anyone who is yet to complete one.

**On Monday the 18<sup>th</sup> of May** Our Lady will be duly honoured in Banbury.

**At 2.15pm at St John's School there will be the May Procession**

This is always a special and prayerful occasion in the life of our school, as we come together to honour Our Lady through reflection, song, and a joyful procession. It is a cherished tradition that brings our school and parish community together in faith and devotion.

The school would be delighted if you were able to join us for this beautiful celebration.

**At 7.30pm at St Thomas's, Wroxton,** there will be Mass in honour of Our Lady, procession to the image of Our Lady in the garden, followed by refreshments in the bright sunshine!

**Altar Servers Guild of St Stephen.** It's good to see so many of our young people now involved in altar serving, and it serves to enrich our worship so much.

For those altar servers who have now served on the altar for over 1 year they can now be admitted to the Guild of St Stephen and receive their medal. There is a list in both sacristies for the youngsters to fill in.

**Monday Lunch Club** – 11<sup>th</sup> May 12.30-2.30pm. Please contact Marilena if you would like to attend on 07891 178920

**Indian Evening** – Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May, 7pm – 10pm. There are still some tickets available, £25pp and can be purchased through the parish office or by contacting: [sajusacaria@outlook.com](mailto:sajusacaria@outlook.com)

All proceeds will go to your local SVP, which supports those in our community in need of help.

**The SVP contact number** for those in special need is 07399 471662

**Padre Pio** – The next prayer meeting will be on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> May at 10am in the downstairs of the Dupuis Centre. *This change is due to the Bank Holiday.*

**BGN job vacancy** – The school are currently recruiting for a Casual Kitchen Assistant (relief cover). For more information, please go to;

<https://mynewterm.com/school/Blessed-George-Napier-Catholic-School-and-Sixth-Form/141146>

### **REGINA CAELI, SIMPLE TONE:**



Ant. 6.

**R** E-gi-na caeli \* lae-ta-re, alle-lu-ia : Qui-a quem me-ru-isti portá-re, alle-lu-ia : Re-surréx-it, si-cut dix-it, alle-lu-ia : Ora pro no-bis De-um, alle-lu-ia.

1. Gáude et laetáre, Vírgo María, allelúia.  
2. Oúia surréxít Dóminus vére. allelúia.

**Please pray for the dead ...**

*Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently,  
Particularly Maurice (Massey) Lellis, Ray Hughes, Moya Burn  
& Marianne Balazs.  
Pray also for those whose anniversaries occur this coming week*

**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, Ruth Aris, Cora Barnard, Peter Barton, Douglas Bond, Brenda Brennan, Eileen Bristoll, Christopher Browne, Clifford Browne, Sue Davis, Nick Davies, Oliver Davies, Michael Evans, Alan Fitchett, Barbara Fleming, Carl Gill, Diane Greenwood, Pat Heritage, Anita Higham, Gwen Ingham, Roger Johnson, Michael Jordan, Teresa Kurszewska, Catherine Ley, Iris Jean Lloyd, Liam Malone, Anne Nolan, Harry Rhodes, Eileen Shea, Nicky Smith, Elaine Steer.*

**PARISH FINANCIAL MATTERS**

<b>Weekly Income:</b> 19 <sup>th</sup> April 2026	<b>ST JOHN'S</b>	<b>ST JOSEPH'S</b>
Gift Aid	£ 103.00	£ 46.00
Non-Gift Aid	£ 846.03	£ 152.10
Contactless Card	£ 172.00	£ 55.00
Standing Orders – March	£ 3540.00	

**Thank you for all your support.**

**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**

<b>St. John's:</b>	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)
<b>St. Joseph's:</b>	Adoration	Wednesday at 9.30am – 10.30am
	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 <sup>rd</sup> Saturday, 6.30 – 8pm for children Yr 6 & 7 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 & Wednesday, 10.00am – 2.30pm

Bookkeeper: *Catherine Dukes.* Email: [pt.stjohn.banbury@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:pt.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 tbc; for St Joseph's, Eileen Bristoll. They can be contacted at: [sg.stjohn.banbury@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stjohn.banbury@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.

**Entrance Antiphon****Cf. Ps 97: 1-2**

O sing a new song to the Lord, for he has worked wonders; in the sight of the nations he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

**Collect**

Almighty ever-living God,  
constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us,  
that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism may,  
under your protective care, bear much fruit  
and come to the joys of life eternal.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, you Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
God, for ever and ever.

**First reading****Acts 6:12-7**

In those days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. And the Twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, 'It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. Therefore, brothers and sisters, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. But we will devote ourselves to prayer and ministry of the word.' And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. These they set before the Apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

**Responsorial Psalm****Ps 33**

*May your merciful love be upon us, as we place all our hope in you, O Lord.*

Ring out your joy to the Lord, O you just;  
for praise is fitting from the upright.  
Give thanks to the Lord upon the harp:  
With a ten-stringed lute sing him songs. **R**

The word of the Lord is upright,  
and all his works to be trusted.  
The Lord loves justice and right,  
And his merciful love fills the earth. **R**

Yes, the Lord's eyes are on those who fear him,  
who hope in his merciful love,  
to rescue their soul from death,  
to keep them alive in famine. **R**

**Second reading****1 Peter 2:4-9**

Beloved: Come to the Lord, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious. You yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in Scripture: 'Behold, I am laying in Sion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious, and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.' So the honour is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe, 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone', and 'A stone of stumbling, and rock of offence.' They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia.

I am the way, the truth, and the life, says the Lord.

No one comes to the Father except through me.

Alleluia.

**Gospel****John 14:1-12**

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going.' Thomas said to him, 'Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?' Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.'

Philip said to him, 'Lord show us the Father, and it is enough for us.' Jesus said to him, 'Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, "Show us the Father"? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves.

'Truly, truly I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these I will do, because I am going to the Father.'

**Prayer over the Offerings**

O God, who by the wonderful exchange effected in this sacrifice have made us partakers of the one supreme Godhead,  
grant we pray, that, as we have come to know your truth,  
we may make it ours by a worthy way of life.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon**

I am the true vine and you are the branches, says the Lord.  
Whoever remains in me, and I in him, bears fruit in plenty, alleluia.

**Prayer after Communion**

Graciously be present to your people, we pray, O Lord, and lead those you have imbued with heavenly mysteries to pass from former ways to newness of life.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**Solemn Blessing**

May God, who by the Resurrection of his Only Begotten Son was pleased to confer on you the gift of redemption and of adoption,  
give you gladness by his blessing.

**Amen.**

May he, by whose redeeming work you have received the gift of everlasting freedom,  
make you heirs to an eternal inheritance.

**Amen.**

And may you, who have already risen with Christ in Baptism through faith,  
by living in a right manner on this earth be united with him in the homeland of heaven.

**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.**