



CATHOLIC BANBURY

www.catholicbanbury.org



ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

25 South Bar Street, Banbury. OX16 9AF

ST. JOSEPH THE WORKER

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General Office Email: 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

St. Vincent de Paul: 07399 471662



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Community

YEAR A	ST JOHN'S	ST JOSEPH'S	INTENTION
Sunday 8 th February FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	4.00pm Vigil Mass (Saturday)		Anne Mulroy RIP
	8.30am Mass		Anna & Augustyn Bala RIP
		10.00am Mass	Kevin Quinn RIP
<i>Green</i>	11.30am Mass		People of the Parish
Monday 9 th <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9.30am Mass		Holy Souls
Tuesday 10 th <i>Memorial of St. Scholastica</i>		9.30am Mass	Terry Wheeler RIP
Wednesday 11 th <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		<i>9.30am Morning Prayer and Benediction</i>	~~~~~
Thursday 12 th <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	11am Funeral Mass 6.30pm Mass		Benedetto Dibratto RIP Eleanor & Thomas Thomason
Friday 13 th <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9.30am Mass 6.00pm – 7.00pm <i>Adoration & Confessions</i>		Ann Parkin
Saturday 14 th <i>Feast of St. Cyril</i>	10.00am Mass <i>Confessions 10.30am- 11am</i>		Holy Souls
Sunday 15 th February SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	4.00pm Vigil Mass (Saturday)		Maureen Hardwick
	8.30am Mass		People of the Parish
		10.00am Mass	Trent Posch RIP
<i>Green</i>	11.30am Mass		Norah Waters

Pope Leo's Prayer Intention for February 2026

*For children with incurable diseases
Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.*

Welcome to Mass on the 5th Sunday of Ordinary Time. A special welcome to any visitors with us today. If you are not a Catholic you are very welcome, during the time of Holy Communion, to come forward for a blessing. Just place your right hand on left shoulder and the priest or deacon will know to give you a blessing.

St John's Cleaning Team – thanks to a few volunteers we have the beginnings of a church cleaning team. They will meet straight after morning Mass this Monday (tomorrow). If you would like to do a spot of dusting and cleaning to make St John's look spick and span, then come along and join in.

Wednesday is the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.....a timely reminder that bookings are now open for those who would like to go on pilgrimage there with the diocese from Monday 25th-Friday 30th May 2026 with Archbishop Bernard Longley. If you would like to enquire please contact Kathy White – on adminlourdes@rcaob.org.uk or call 0121 230 6288.

LENT 2026 - The Season Of Lent begins in a matter of days – ten to be exact!

This year Ash Wednesday falls on February 18th and, as it is school half term, Masses will be at 9.30am and 6.30pm at St John's, and 12.30pm at St Joseph's.

Palm Crosses - if you have any at home you are welcome to bring them to church so that they can be burned to make the ashes for Mass on Ash Wednesday.

You can collect your Walk With Me book after Mass today in which you will find your daily guide through Lent.

Come and See Catholic Formation Services is running a Lent Bible Course that is online and free. Each session will break open the Sunday Gospel. It starts Tuesday 17th February 7pm-8.15pm.

You can register on: comeandsee.org/lent26

The Rite of Election with the Archbishop will take place at St Chad's Cathedral on the First Sunday of Lent (February 22nd) at 3pm. For some months now we have been having adult catechesis on Friday nights. It is great that a good number of them will be preparing for the Easter Sacraments this year at the Easter Vigil. Please keep them in your prayers. The group has been meeting from 7.15pm-8.15pm in the Dupuis Centre in term time. If there are any adults out there who want to explore the catholic faith, or thinking of becoming Catholics, then come along. You'll be very welcome.

On Saturday March 14th we will be welcoming the Archbishop to the parish who will be coming to Confirm some of our young people. Please remember them in your prayers as they prepare for this sacrament, and for those who are helping to prepare them.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL - Members of the Banbury St Vincent De Paul Society (SVP) will be talking briefly after each Mass over the weekend of the 14th/15th February. An update on the work they have been doing in their first year of working in the local community and in particular asking for new members to join them to help them continue the work they do. The 2nd collection will be for this cause.

Happy 101st Birthday to Ena Bowley who has been a parishioner here for many years. Many happy returns.

PARISH COMMUNITY EVENT - St David's Day Country Walk. **Saturday 28th Feb**, From St Joseph's, Banbury to St Thomas' in Wroxton and return to St Joseph's after lunch. **Time: 9.45am for 10am prompt departure.** Distance: 5.6 miles in total. Picnic lunch in Wroxton Village Hall. Sponsored walk to raise money for young people from our Parish to attend Summer Camp at Alton Castle in August. This annual event brings our Parish Community together and raises money for our youth at the same time.

All parishioners are most welcome to join us for fellowship, friendship & gentle exercise!

SHEPHERDS' PAUSE – ALL ARE WELCOME - St. John's and St. Joseph's Catholic Primary Schools warmly invite parishioners to *Shepherds' Pause*. This relaxed gathering offers a chance to pause and connect, with our chaplaincy teams providing warm drinks, sweet treats, and activities such as arts and crafts and story time. It's a lovely opportunity to chat, build relationships, and strengthen our parish community. **Dates, times, and locations: 3rd March, 2.00pm** – St. John's School, **21st April, 2.00pm** – St. Joseph's School, **2nd June, 2.00pm** – St. John's Catholic Primary School, **7th July, 2.00pm** – St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School. If you would like to join us, please contact the school offices so that we know how many cups and chairs to have ready!

Lenten Stay and Pray - Stay and Pray During Lent Throughout Lent, St. John's and St. Joseph's Catholic Primary Schools will be hosting *Stay and Pray* events. Parishioners are warmly invited to join the school communities for these moments of shared prayer and reflection.

Dates and venues: 2nd March, 2:50–3:15pm – St. John's School, 9th March, 2:50–3:15pm – St. Joseph's School, 16th March, 2:50–3:15pm – St. John's School, 23rd March, 2:50–3:15pm – St. Joseph's School. Parishioners who would like to attend are warmly encouraged to contact the relevant school office beforehand, to help us have an idea of numbers.

BLESSED GEORGE NAPIER SCHOOL Are currently seeking a Teacher of Business. If you have any questions, please email Laura Boswell, Subject Leader for Business on lboswell@bgn.oxon.sch.uk or call us on 01295 264216

LUNCH CLUB – Tomorrow (9th) if you are no longer able to attend please contact Marilena 07891 178920.

MARY'S MEALS – 27th Feb is now fully booked, if you are no longer able to attend, please contact Karen on 07976 591424. This month we will be serving delicious homemade soup and cheese scones.

LOST PROPERTY – There is a large box of lost property in the foyer. If you are missing any items please have a look before the 18th Feb as after then we will donate the contents to charity.

200 Club December winners – 1st, No. 58: £133.75. 2nd, No 89: £80.25, 3rd, No 22: £53.50

Please pray for the dead ...

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently.

Particularly Benedetto Di Bratto

Pray also for those whose anniversaries occur this coming week:

- 08 Jean-Claude Peissel 2016; Hedwig Pinther 1994; Mabel Henry 1991
- 09 Tim O'Mahoney 2020; Henry Walton 2016; Julia Griffin 1989; Elsie Bennett 1985
- 10 Trevor Mold 2022; Wieslaw Krupski 2006; Doreen Harrison 2004; Terrie Cadd 2001; Verdun Burke 1999; Gladys Vale 1991; Harold Goodway 1988
- 11 Marie Scales 2010; Derrick Ault 1996; Mary O'Callaghan 1985; Zofia Frankiewicz; Albert Stockley
- 12 John Buchanan 2015; Thomas Keegan 2013; Antonio D'Amore 2008; Eileen Beckett 2008; Mary Morris 1995; Ellen Bradley 1987
- 13 Pat Ryder 2016; Kathleen Mandeman 2003; Ross Warland 2000
- 14 Finbarr Donovan 1980

***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, Marianne Balazs, 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, Dorothy Wright.

PARISH FINANCIAL MATTERS

Weekly Income: 1 st February 2026	<u>ST JOHN'S</u>	<u>ST JOSEPH'S</u>
Gift Aid	£ 125.00	£ 49.00
Non-Gift Aid	£ 734.30	£ 196.60
Contactless Card	£ 169.00	£ 30.00
Standing Orders – October	£ 2988.00	£ 789.00

**Next weekend's second collection is for the St. Vincent de Paul Society.
*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

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 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 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

O come, let us worship God
and bow low before the God who made us,
for he is the Lord our God.

Collect

Keep your family safe, O Lord, with unfailing care,
that, relying solely on the hope of heavenly grace,
they may be defended always by your protection.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading**Isaiah 58:6-10**

Thus says the Lord:
Is not this the fast that I choose:
to loose the bonds of wickedness,
to undo the straps of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
and to break every yoke?
Is it not to share your bread with the hungry
and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover him,
and not to hide yourself from your own flesh?
Then shall your light break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up speedily;
your righteousness shall go before you;
the glory of the LORD shall be your rearguard.
Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.'
If you take away the yoke from your midst,
the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness,
if you pour yourself out for the hungry
and satisfy the desire of the afflicted,
then shall your light rise in the darkness
and your gloom be as the noonday.

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 112(111):4-5. 6-7. 8a, 9. ☩4a*****A light rises in the darkness for the upright. R/.***

A light rises in the darkness for the upright;
he is generous, merciful, and righteous.
It goes well for the man who deals generously and lends,
who conducts his affairs with justice. **R/.**
He will never be moved;
for ever shall the upright be remembered.
He has no fear of evil news;
with a firm heart, he trusts in the LORD. **R/.**
With a steadfast heart he will not fear.
Open-handed, he gives to the poor;
his justice stands firm for ever.
His might shall be exalted in glory. **R/.**

Second reading**1 Corinthians 2:1-5**

I, when I came to you, brothers and sisters, did not come
proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech
or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you
except Jesus Christ and him crucified. And I was with you

in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my
speech and my message were not in plausible words of
wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,
so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but
in the power of God.

Gospel Acclamation**John 8:12**

Alleluia, alleluia.
I am the light of the world, says the Lord;
whoever follows me will have the light of life.
Alleluia.

Gospel**Matthew 5:13-16**

At that time: Jesus said to his disciples, 'You are the salt of
the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness
be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be
thrown out and trampled under people's feet.
'You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot
be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a
basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house.
In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that
they may see your good works and give glory to your
Father who is in heaven.'

Prayer over the Offerings

O Lord, our God,
who once established these created things
to sustain us in our frailty,
grant, we pray,
that they may become for us now
the Sacrament of eternal life.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Let them thank the Lord for his mercy,
his wonders for the children of men,
for he satisfies the thirsty soul,
and the hungry he fills with good things.

Prayer after Communion

O God, who have willed that we be partakers
in the one Bread and the one Chalice,
grant us, we pray, so to live
that, made one in Christ,
we may joyfully bear fruit
for the salvation of the world.
Through Christ our Lord.