



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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Telephone: 01295 262073

General Office Email: stjohn.banbury@rcaob.org.uk

Parish Priest: Rev. Fr. Philip Harrop

Assistant Priest: Rev. Fr. Sean Gough

Deacons: Rev. Mr. Henry Allen: 01295 780642

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	4.00pm Vigil Mass		Vanessa Sawers RIP
Sunday 8th December	8.45am Mass		Desy Titto Intentions
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT		10.00am Mass	Anne Marie Boyd Intentions
	11.15am Mass		People of the Parish
Violet		<i>5.00pm Confessions</i> 5.30pm Mass	Mary & James Lynch Intentions
Monday 9 th		9.30am Mass	Holy Souls
<i>THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</i>	7.30pm Mass		Winhall Family
Tuesday 10 th	9.30am Mass		Martin Finn Intentions
<i>Memorial of St. Francis Xavier</i>			
Wednesday 11 th		9.30am Mass	Edmund Ortiz RIP
<i>Advent Feria</i>			
Thursday 12 th	9.30am Mass		For unborn babies
<i>Advent Feria</i>	10.30am School Mass		Dulcie & John Robinson
Friday 13 th	6.45am Rorate Caeli Mass	9.30am Mass	Eugene & Anne Devaney Joe Tynan RIP
<i>Memorial of St. Lucy</i>	7.00pm Penitential Service		
Saturday 14 th	10.00am Mass		Bridie Cox RIP
<i>St. John of the Cross</i>	<i>Confession 10.30 – 11am</i>		
YEAR C	4.00pm Vigil Mass		Mannion Family Intentions
Sunday 15th December	8.45am Mass		Edward Nosal RIP
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT		10.00am Mass	People of the Parish
	11.15am Mass		Andy McGrath & Family
Violet		<i>5.00pm Confessions</i> 5.30pm Mass	Tom O' Brian & Family

WELCOME TO MASS on this second Sunday of the Advent season. You will find the readings and prayers for the Mass on the reverse of this newsletter. If you would like a card for the order of the Mass, they are available at the back of church or from one of the wardens.

If you are not a Catholic, or a Catholic not coming for whatever reason to Holy Communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing during Holy Communion. Please place your right hand on your left shoulder so that the priest or deacon will know that you wish for a blessing. For Catholics receiving Holy Communion, if you are receiving on the hand rather than the tongue, please consume the host immediately, in from of the priest, before walking away.

PENITENTIAL SERVICE this Friday at 7pm in St John's. This is for the whole of Catholic Banbury and is a marvellous opportunity for us all to prepare for the coming Feast of Christmas by going to confession. There should be five or six priests hearing confessions that evening, so grace will abound! For those who haven't been to confession for some time, it can be a cause of anxiety and so we put it off. Please don't. It is a sacrament, and so the Lord is ready to receive and welcome you as we seek his mercy.

In a few days' time, as we celebrate Christmas we will hear again the message of the angels: 'I bring you news of great joy. For unto you is born this day, in the city of David, a Saviour, who is Christ the Lord.' The Lord wasn't born to seek out the perfect but sinners. If you aren't perfect – then Friday night is a night for you!

The **Regina Caeli Mass** is also on Friday at 6.45am. This Mass is the ancient Votive Mass of Our Lady of Advent always offered before the dawn as we look to the East for Christ the Light of the World who is 'the loving kindness of the heart of our God who visits us like the dawn from on high.' (Luke 1:78). Following Mass there will be a simple breakfast in the Dupuis Centre. This will be catered by the Catenians.

THE CATENIAN ASSOCIATION is a network of Catholic men who meet regularly to enjoy each other's company and to help and support each other throughout the world. Founded in Manchester, Catenians can now be found in many countries and today are active throughout the U.K., Ireland, Australia, Malta, India, Bangladesh Zimbabwe, South Africa and *Nazareth*. Our local "Circle" at Banbury meets at 7.00 p.m. on the first Monday of each month. We arrange activities both for members and their families: meals together, barbecues, picnics, visits to the theatre and sporting events are all popular. Circles in the U.K. raised over £250,000 in the past year for local charities as well as supporting the Association's two in-house charities; the Benevolent Fund which supports members and their families and the Bursary Fund which sponsors young persons in projects contributing to wider society at home and abroad. Last year in Banbury we raised over £1000 for the "Refuge" charity. This year we are raising money to support local Catholic school projects. We also like to do as much as we can to support our local parish community. There is much to tell you about the Catenians. We'd love to meet you and make you welcome. If you are interested in learning more please contact me at the following email address banburycatenians@gmail.com.

Banbury Christmas Mass Times

Christmas Eve

6pm Vigil Mass at St John's
8pm Vigil Mass at St Joseph's
11.30pm Carols at St John's
Midnight Mass at St John's

Christmas Day

8.30am St Thomas, Wroxton
8.45am Mass at St John's
10am Mass at St Joseph's
11.15am Mass at St John's

New Years Day (Mary, Mother of God)

11am Mass with carols followed by Benediction.

ECUMENICAL CAROLS IN THE TOWN CENTRE

Saturday 14th December at 4pm. Children can meet the Holy Family, the Shepherds and the Three Kings (actors!), and come dressed as their favourite Character. See the leaflets for further details.

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.

CONGRATULATIONS TO FR CRAIG DAVIES who was inducted as Parish Priest of the Immaculate Conception, Bicester, last Thursday. We pray that he will have a fruitful priestly ministry there.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM is usually celebrated on Sundays after Mass as it is the sacrament of the resurrection. Catholic parents are obliged to see that their infants are baptized, and the Church encourages parents to have them baptized within the first few weeks of their birth if possible. If you wish your child to be baptized, there is a preparation meeting on the first Tuesday of the month in the Dupuis Centre. If you wish to attend this, please email the office so that we know who will be coming.

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".

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.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

PADRE PIO MEETING –Thurs 12th December, after mass.
PENITENTIAL SERVICE - Fri 13th December at 7pm.
KHH TRACTOR RUN – Sat 14th December from 5.00pm
BGN CAROL SERVICE – Tue 17th December at 7pm.
QUIZ NIGHT – Fri 7th February at 7pm

Please pray for the dead ...

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

- 08 Heather Tutthill 2021; Phylis Dimalow 1998; Ida O’Hagan 1995; Gwendoline Hawke 1992
- 09 Sandra Arthur 2007; James Hussey 2002; Frances Cannon 2001; Kathleen King 1988;
Ellen McAuley 1986
- 10 Helena Dudek 2020; Desmond Ferguson 2013; John Baker 2007; Michael Ryan 2003; Lilian Hill 1989;
Amy Hemmings 1988
- 11 Cecil Thornicroft 2003; Oscar Chini 2002
- 12 Margaret Madigan-Harding 2019; Vera Cochrane 2018; Sheelagh Castle 2006; Michael Foster 2005; Joseph Allen
2004; Eileen Earle 1991; Antoni Partyka 1990; Thomas Crosse 1989; Winifred James 1984
- 13 William Hutchings 1995; Doreen Eyre 1992; Konstanty Atroszko 1989; John Shannon 1983
- 14 John Carey 2011; John Travers 1977

***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, 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, Eileen Shea, Nicky Smith, Elaine Steer.

PARISH FINANCIAL MATTERS

Weekly Income: 1st DECEMBER	<u>ST JOHN’S</u>	<u>ST JOSEPH’S</u>
Gift Aid	£ 135.00	£ 150.00
Non-Gift Aid	£ 583.86	£ 255.38
Contactless Card	£ 212.00	£ 10.00
Standing Orders – October	£ 3159.00	£ 928.00
Mary’s Meals		£ 891.85

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)
	Gospel Sharing	Thursdays 5.00pm (Presbytery)
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

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

Collect

Almighty and merciful God,
may no earthly undertaking hinder those
who set out in haste to meet your Son,
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom
gain us admittance to his company.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading**Baruch 5:1-9**

Take off the garment of your sorrow and affliction, O Jerusalem,
and put on for ever the beauty of the glory from God.
Put on the robe of the righteousness from God;
put on your head the crown of the glory of the Everlasting.
For God will show your splendour everywhere under heaven.
For your name will for ever be called by God:
'Peace of righteousness and glory of godliness'.
Arise, O Jerusalem, stand upon the height
and look towards the east
and see your children gathered from west and east,
at the word of the Holy One,
rejoicing that God has remembered them.
For they went forth from you on foot,
led away by their enemies;
but God will bring them back to you,
carried in glory, as on a royal throne.
For God has ordered that every high mountain
and the everlasting hills be made low
and the valleys filled up to make level ground,
so that Israel may walk safely in the glory of God.
The woods and every fragrant tree
have shaded Israel at God's command.
For God will lead Israel with joy
in the light of his glory,
with the mercy and righteousness that come from him.

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 126(125):1-2b. 2c-3. 4-5. 6. R3**

***What great deeds the LORD worked for us!
Indeed, we were glad. R/.***

When the LORD brought back the exiles of Sion,
we thought we were dreaming.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter;
on our tongues, songs of joy. **R/.**

Then they said among the nations,
'What great deeds the LORD worked for them!'
What great deeds the LORD worked for us!
Indeed, we were glad. **R/.**

Bring back our exiles, O LORD,
as streams in the Negeb.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **R/.**

They go out, they go out, full of tears,
bearing seed for the sowing;
they come back, they come back with a song,
bearing their sheaves. **R/.**

Second reading**Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11**

Brothers and sisters: I thank my God in all my remembrance of you,
always in every prayer of mine for you all, making my prayer with joy,
because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.
And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring
it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of
Christ Jesus. And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and

more, with knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve
what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ,
filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ,
to the glory and praise of God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight;
all flesh shall see the salvation of God.
Alleluia.

Gospel**Luke 3:1-6**

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate
being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his
brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and
Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and
Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the
wilderness.

And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a
baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the
book of the words of Isaiah the prophet,

'The voice of one crying in the wilderness:
"Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight.
Every valley shall be filled,
and every mountain and hill shall be made low,
and the crooked shall become straight,
and the rough places shall become level ways,
and all flesh shall see the salvation of God." '

Prayer over the Offerings

Be pleased, O Lord, with our humble prayers and offerings,
and, since we have no merits to plead our cause,
come, we pray, to our rescue
with the protection of your mercy.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

Prayer after Communion

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment,
we humbly beseech you, O Lord,
that, through our partaking in this mystery,
you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth
and hold firm to the things of heaven.
Through Christ our Lord.

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.