



CATHOLIC BANBURY

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

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



Facebook search:
'Catholic
Banbury'



QR code
for
WhatsApp Parish
Community

YEAR A	ST JOHN'S	ST JOSEPH'S	INTENTION
Sunday 12th April SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER <i>Divine Mercy Sunday</i> White	4.00pm Vigil Mass (Saturday)		Priesthood & Clergy
	8.30am Mass		Jose Hernandez-Mendiola
		10.00am Mass	Lynda Solomon RIP
	11.30am Mass		Carole Cooper RIP
Monday 13 th Easter Feria	<i>9.30am Morning Prayer</i> & <i>Benediction</i>		~~~~~
Tuesday 14 th Easter Feria		<i>9.30am Morning Prayer</i> & <i>Benediction</i>	~~~~~
Wednesday 15 th April Easter Feria		<i>9.30am Morning Prayer</i> & <i>Benediction</i>	~~~~~
Thursday 16 th Easter Feria	<i>6.30pm Vespers</i> & <i>Benediction</i>		~~~~~
Friday 17 th Easter Friday	<i>6.00pm Adoration, Vespers</i> & <i>Benediction</i>		
Saturday 18 th Easter Feria	<u>No morning Mass</u>		~~~~~
Sunday 19th April THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER White	4.00pm Vigil Mass (Saturday)		British Heart Foundation Volunteers
	8.30am Mass		Tekla Dembska RIP
		10.00am Mass	Sr. Thérèse O Neill RIP
	11.30am Mass		People of the Parish

Welcome to Mass - Today is the Octave Day of Easter and the Feast of Divine Mercy. Today's gospel gives a word of encouragement to those who wrestle with doubt. St Thomas couldn't believe that Christ was truly risen, even though he'd heard the testimony of his fellow apostles. And now, through the mercy of the risen Lord who came to him, he enunciated so powerfully the faith of the Church in who Jesus truly is.' My Lord and my God!' It was wonderful to see such great crowds for all the main Masses and liturgies over the Sacred Triduum, and also at the Masses early on in Holy Week. It was also heartening to see that the confessional was very busy too in both the mornings and evenings of Holy Week!

Divine Mercy devotions in the Deanery will be at St Peter's, Leamington Spa at 3pm today.

This coming week, instead of the daily Mass, there will be either morning and evening prayer followed by Benediction. There will also be an opportunity for Holy Communion at the end. These times of prayer should last about 25 minutes.

Thanks to all those who worked so hard to clean and beautify our churches – our cleaning teams, the flowers, the sacristy team - in preparation for Easter. Also, grateful thanks to our musicians who enlivened the liturgy in praise of our Risen Lord, and who organised the liturgy leaflets. And...thanks to our great team of servers, and the deacons, who again showed great dedication in carrying out their essential duties which brought such dignity and beauty to the celebration.

Fr Philip thanks all those who contributed towards the Easter Offering, and for the cards and gifts he received. It is much appreciated.

Continued congratulations for those adults who received the sacraments at the Easter Vigil.

Almighty Father, we praise you for your great love and for the gift of new life. We pray for our brothers and sisters, washed in the waters of baptism and now sealed with the Holy Spirit.

Keep them in the light of Christ, that they may persevere in faith, rejoice in hope, and be rooted in love.

May the sacraments they have received strengthen them for the journey ahead, that they may true witnesses to Christ, our Risen Lord. Through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confessional and Piety Shop in St John's. In the days before Holy Week the Confessional and Piety Shop was renovated. The confessional works follow on from instructions received from the listing buildings authority (which hadn't originally approved the original changes made many years ago) to make the necessary changes to ensure that the structure was sympathetic to a listed building. Some of the the interior works are still awaiting completion. The work on the confessional also to take safeguarding advice for good practice into consideration. Penitents now enter the confessional by the left-hand door . A green light denotes whether a priest is hearing confessions, and the narrow window enables one to see if it is free. For those who wish to have face-to-face confession, simply ask the priest and he can facilitate that.

The piety stall hasn't been running for some years, so hopefully it will prove to be both useful, and when it is completed, a source of income to the parish in the years to come.

Hopefully there will be a small group of parishioners who will take the running of the shop on. More later!

Bicentenary Book. The bicentenary of the parish will be celebrated in 2028.....but time flies! As part of the celebration a new history of the parish is being written by Garry O'Connor who is a published author and attends Mass at St John's. Gary writes that he is: seeking colourful, off-beat, even sometimes humorous accounts of the people (of the parish) who were there and involved – stories of a more personal character which will serve to bring alive this whole remarkable story and endow it with depth and quality.' He will also be interested in photos which will bring alive the history of the parish. The bicentenary actually predates both the building of St John's and St Joseph's and their separation into distinct parishes, and so the bicentenary celebrates the roots of what would become Catholic Banbury. If you have any information for Garry, or photos, then please email him on garry@theunexaminedlife7.co.uk

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR APRIL 2026 FOR PRIESTS IN CRISIS

Let us pray for priests going through moments of crisis in their vocation, that they may find the accompaniment they need and that communities may support them with understanding and prayer.

SR. THÉRÈSE'S REQUIEM MASS – 11.00am on Wednesday 22nd April. The funeral will take place at St. Paul's Convent, Selly Park, Birmingham, B29 7LL. There will also be a live stream, the link for this is <http://chapel.sellypark.org> The password is **dupuis**

PATRICIANS - Next Meeting: Friday 17th April at 7.00pm. TOPIC: The Divine Mercy Revelations. The Intentions of Jesus revealed to St. Faustina.

MARY'S MEALS – Fri. 24th April, we will be serving delicious homemade soup & scones. We are full, if you are no longer able to attend, please let Karen know on 07976 591424 ASAP. Please note there will be NO lunch in May.

INDIAN EVENING – Saturday 15th May, 7pm – 10pm. Come and enjoy authentic Indian cuisine in the Dupuis Centre. Tickets £25pp and can be purchased through the parish office or by contacting: sajusacaria@outlook.com All proceeds from these events will go to your local SVP, which supports those in our community in need of help.

Sequence Victimae Paschali Laudes

Christians, to the Paschal Victim

offer sacrifice and praise.

The sheep are ransomed by the Lamb;

and Christ, the undefiled,

hath sinners to his Father reconciled.

Death with life contended:

combat strangely ended!

Life's own Champion, slain,

yet lives to reign.

Tell us, Mary:

say what thou didst see

upon the way.

The tomb the Living did enclose;

I saw Christ's glory as he rose!

The angels there attesting;

shroud with grave-clothes resting.

Christ, my hope, has risen:

he goes before you into Galilee.

That Christ is truly risen

from the dead we know.

Victorious king, thy mercy show!

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. Gaude et laetare, Virgo Maria, allelúia.

2. Quia surrexit Dominus vére. allelúia.

Please pray for the dead ...

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently, particularly Marianne Balazs & Sr. Thérèse O' Neill.

Pray also for those whose anniversaries occur this coming week:

- 05 Enid Mackenzie 1998
- 06 Colin Goodall 2024; Keith Rhodes 2023; Carole Cooper 2021; Peter Durkin 2020; Kitty Willis 2016; Douglas Barnfield 2009; Mary O'Dowd 2006; George Leatherdale 2000; Victor Bateman 1996
- 07 Eileen Jordan 2025; Shelagh Gardner 2010; Joan Beak 2002; Susan Ellis 2001; Violet Haynis 1999; Mary Blackman 1990; Veronica Sheehan 1983
- 08 Helen Cregan 2022; John Scales 2021; Doreen Powell 2013; Elizabeth Chappell 2011; Vera Tower 2007; Hester Baldwin 1998; Ethel Moreby 1987; Joan Honer 1985
- 09 Desmond Harding 2025; Margaret McHale 2023; Adam Mawle 2020; Brigid Tohill 2011; Roger Mochan 1994; Edward Flower 1983
- 10 Theresa Whitman 2018; Joanna Ciaputa 2018; Joan O'Connell 2015; Raffaele Lella 2006; Terry Bletchly 1995; Yvonne Plant 1995
- 11 Patrick Monaghan 2020; Barbara McGurk 2012; Maureen Swift 2004; Sally Boss 1998; Sybil Lickorish 1991; Francis McCarthy 1986

***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

Weekly Income: 5th April 2026

	<u>ST JOHN'S</u>	<u>ST JOSEPH'S</u>
Gift Aid	£ ~~~~	£ ~~~~
Non-Gift Aid	£ ~~~~	£ ~~~~
Contactless Card	£ 00.00	£ 00.00
Standing Orders – January	£ 3014.00	£ 789.00

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

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

Like newborn infants, you must long for the pure, spiritual milk,
that in him you may grow to salvation, alleluia.

Collect

God of everlasting mercy, who in the very recurrence of the paschal feast, kindle the faith of the people you have made your own, increase, we pray, the grace you have bestowed, that all may grasp and rightly understand in what font they have been washed, by whose Spirit they have been reborn, by whose Blood they have been redeemed. 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**Acts 2:42-47**

The believers devoted themselves to the Apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the Apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common. And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. And day by day, attending the Temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they shared their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 118(117)**

*Give praise to the LORD, for he is good,
his mercy endures for ever. R/.*

Let the house of Israel say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'

Let the house of Aaron say,
'His mercy endures for ever.'

Let those who fear the LORD say,
'His mercy endures for ever.' *R/.*

They pushed me, pushed me hard to knock me down,
but the LORD was my helper.

The LORD is my strength and my song;
he was my saviour.

There are shouts of joy and salvation
in the tents of the righteous. *R/.*

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done,
a marvel in our eyes.

This is the day the LORD has made;
let us rejoice in it and be glad. *R/.*

Second reading**1 Peter 1:3-9**

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith — more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire — may be found to result in praise and glory and honour at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia alleluia.

You believed, Thomas, because you have seen me, says the Lord.
Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.

Alleluia.

Gospel**John 20:19-31**

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.' And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.'

Now Thomas, one of the Twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord'. But he said to them, 'Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe.'

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name.

Prayer over the Offerings

Accept, O Lord, we pray,

the oblations of your people and of those you have brought to new birth, that, renewed by confession of your name and by Baptism, they may attain unending happiness. Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Bring your hand and feel the place of the nails, and do not be unbelieving but believing, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that our reception of this paschal Sacrament may have a continuing effect in our minds and hearts. Through Christ our Lord.

Solemn Blessing

May almighty God bless you

through today's Easter Solemnity

and, in his compassion,

defend you from every assault of sin.

Amen.


And may he, who restores you to eternal life in the Resurrection of his Only Begotten, endow you with the prize of immortality.

Amen.

Now that the days of the Lord's Passion have drawn to a close, may you who celebrate the gladness of the Paschal Feast come with Christ's help, and exulting in spirit, to those feasts that are celebrated in eternal joy.

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.