



CATHOLIC BANBURY

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Community

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

Deacons: Rev. Mr. Henry Allen: 01295 780642

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

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YEAR A	ST JOHN'S	ST JOSEPH'S	INTENTION
Sunday 19th April THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER <i>White</i>	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
Monday 20 th <i>Easter Feria</i>	<i>9.30am Morning Prayer & Benediction</i>		~~~~~
Tuesday 21 st <i>Easter Feria</i>		<i>9.30am Morning Prayer & Benediction</i>	~~~~~
Wednesday 22 nd April <i>Easter Feria</i>		<i>9.30am Morning Prayer & Benediction</i>	~~~~~
Thursday 23 rd <i>Feast of St George, Patron of England</i>	<i>6.30pm Vespers & Benediction</i>		~~~~~
Friday 24 th <i>Easter Feria</i>	9.30am Mass <i>6.00pm Adoration, Vespers & Benediction with Confession</i>		Sebastian Marshall
Saturday 25 th <i>Easter Feria</i>	10.00am Mass		Teresa Leonard RIP
Sunday 26th April THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER <i>White</i>	4.00pm Vigil Mass (Saturday)		Eamon Boyle RIP
	8.30am Mass		Tomasz Radziwonowicz RIP
		10.00am Mass	People of the Parish
	11.30am Mass		Peter-John Robertson RIP

Welcome to Mass today, and a special welcome to any visitors with us today. As Fr Philip is on his Easter break we welcome to the parish Fr Paul Martin who will be celebrating the 4pm Saturday Vigil Mass, and Canon Michael Dolman who will celebrate the Sunday morning Masses.

Fr Paul Martin heads up the St Barnabas Society which provides practical and financial help to ministers of other Christian denominations who decide to become Catholics. This is such an important work as many of these men and women will have homes and income tied to their previous roles and often come with their own families to support. The aim of the St Barnabas Society is to support them, and to alleviate at least some of the worries of leaving where they are to where the Lord is calling them to be in full-communication with his Church. **Canon Michael Dolman** is the Rector of Oscott College, the seminary of the Archdiocese of Birmingham. The seminary is responsible for the formation of men for the priesthood, both for our diocese and beyond. Please do remember him, and the whole seminary community, in your prayers.

We are very grateful to both Fr Martin and Canon Dolan for coming today. It is increasingly difficult to find priests available to cover parishes during the absence of their priest.

So linked with that, continue to place before the Lord in prayer our need for vocations to the priesthood, and to create within our parishes a culture where our priests are supported and valued, and so vocations encouraged.

Talking of which.....Deacon Jithin Titto who was ordained to the diaconate before Christmas will be ordained to the priesthood in July. As he has his home here he will celebrate his First Holy Mass at St John's on Tuesday 7th July. In helping us to prepare for this important occasion – both for him, the parish and the diocese - he will be preaching at the Masses of 25/26th April – which by coincidence is Vocations Sunday.

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 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**

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.

ST. JOHN'S AND ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS -We warmly invite all parishioners to join us for our next *Shepherds Pause* café, a gentle opportunity to gather, reflect, and share in fellowship. This special time will be led by the chaplaincy team from St. John's and St. Joseph's. The café will be held at St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School on Tuesday 21st April at 2:00pm. Please do come along—we would be delighted to welcome you.

INDIAN EVENING – Friday 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.

BGN QUIZ NIGHT – Friday 24th April at 7pm. Tickets are £7 and can be purchased from the school website. It should be a good fun evening of friendly team competition. All welcome.

A personal note.... After many years of service, Roy (16), Christine (16), Nicola (15) and Sharon (9) will be leaving their roles in the parish by the end of the month. We would like to thank everyone for the love, support and kindness that has been shown to them. We will miss this wonderful community very much but hope to keep in touch with many of you.

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. Ouia surréxit 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 Ray Hughes, Maya Burns, Marianne Balazs & Sr. Thérèse O' Neill.
Pray also for those whose anniversaries occur this coming week:*

- 19 Mary (Bridie) O' Connell 2025; Maureen O'Flynn 2020; David Godfrey 2018; Frederick Stubley 2009; Walter Kenna 2006; Edith Hutchings 2002; Violet Drennan 1999; Patrick Lovelock 1994; Rev. Fr. Reginald Slade 1988; Thomas Skinner 1986; William Sefton 1983
- 20 Dolly Lim 2021; Katherine White 2015; Francis Woollam 2010; Philip Tooley 2006; William Boss 1990; Alain Ritter 1989; Albert Jennings 1987; James McCarthy 1986
- 21 Norman Cannon 2017; Eugene McCrohan 1986; Sidney Ball 1985; Leonard Dowd 1984
- 22 James Murtagh 1999; Samuel Spencer-Wort 1995
- 23 Patrick Lyons 1993; Thomas English 1990
- 24 Anna-Marie Kovacs 2005; Simon Jones 1998; Alan James 1988; Lilian Frith 1988
- 25 Maria Pujol 2010; Renigiusz Chrobot 1989; Florina Lines 1987; Mary Donovan 1987; Edith Needham 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, 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: 12 th April 2026	<u>ST JOHN'S</u>	<u>ST JOSEPH'S</u>
Gift Aid	£ 84.00	£ 92.00
Non-Gift Aid	£ 625.23	£ 102.56
Contactless Card	£ 195.00	£ 00.00
Standing Orders – January	£ 3014.00	£ 789.00

Next weekend's second collection is for The Clergy Training Fund

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

Cry out with joy to God, all the earth;
 O sing to the glory of his name.
 O render him glorious praise, alleluia.

Collect

May your people exult for ever, O God,
 in renewed youthfulness of spirit,
 so that, rejoicing now in the restored glory of our adoption,
 we may look forward in confident hope
 to the rejoicing of the day of resurrection.
 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 2:14, 22-33**

On the day of Pentecost Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst — as you yourselves know — this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it.

'For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence."

'Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this which you yourselves are seeing and hearing.'

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 16(15):1-2a, 5. 7-8. 9-10. 11. R1*****O Lord, you will show me the path of life. R/.***

Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

I say to the LORD, 'You are my Lord.'

O LORD, it is you who are my portion and cup;
 you yourself who secure my lot. **R/.**

I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel,
 who even at night directs my heart.

I keep the LORD before me always;
 with him at my right hand, I shall not be moved. **R/.**

And so, my heart rejoices, my soul is glad;
 even my flesh shall rest in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,
 nor let your holy one see corruption. **R/.**

You will show me the path of life,
 the fullness of joy in your presence,
 at your right hand, bliss for ever. **R/.**

Second reading**1 Peter 1:17-21**

Beloved: If you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. He was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for the sake of you who through him are believers in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are in God.

Gospel Acclamation**cf. Luke 24:32**

Alleluia, alleluia.

Lord Jesus, open the Scriptures to us;
 make our hearts burn within us when you speak to us.

Alleluia.

Gospel**Luke 24:13-35**

On the first day of the week, two of the disciples of Jesus were going to a village named Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing together, Jesus himself drew near and went with them. But their eyes were kept from recognising him. And he said to them, 'What is this conversation that you are holding with each other as you walk?' And they stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, named Cleopas, answered him, 'Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who does not know the things that have happened there in these days?' And he said to them, 'What things?' And they said to him, 'Concerning Jesus of Nazareth, a man who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and rulers delivered him up to be condemned to death, and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things happened. Moreover, some women of our company amazed us. They were at the tomb early in the morning, and when they did not find his body, they came back saying that they had even seen a vision of angels, who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see.' And he said to them, 'O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?' And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

So they drew near to the village to which they were going. He acted as if he were going farther, but they urged him strongly, saying, 'Stay with us, for it is towards evening and the day is now far spent.' So he went in to stay with them. When he was at table with them, he took the bread, and blessed, and broke it, and gave it to them. And their eyes were opened, and they recognised him. And he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, 'Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?' And they rose that same hour and returned to Jerusalem. And they found the Eleven and those who were with them gathered together, saying, 'The Lord has risen indeed, and has appeared to Simon!' Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he was known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Prayer over the Offerings

Receive, O Lord, we pray,
 these offerings of your exultant Church,
 and, as you have given her cause for such great gladness,
 grant also that the gifts we bring
 may bear fruit in perpetual happiness.
 Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

The disciples recognized the Lord Jesus
 in the breaking of the bread, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

Look with kindness upon your people, O Lord,
 and grant, we pray,
 that those you were pleased to renew by eternal mysteries
 may attain in their flesh
 the incorruptible glory of the resurrection.
 Through Christ our Lord.

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.