



CATHOLIC BANBURY

www.catholicbanbury.org



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

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

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for
WhatsApp Parish
Community

| YEAR A | ST JOHN'S | ST JOSEPH'S | INTENTION |
|---|---|---|--|
| Sunday 26th April FOURTH 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 |
| Monday 27 th <i>Easter Feria</i> | 9.30am Mass | | Deceased Hedgecox Family |
| Tuesday 28 th <i>Easter Feria</i> | | 9.30am Mass | Special Intention |
| Wednesday 29 th <i>Feast of St Catherine of Siena</i> | | 9.30am Morning Prayer & Benediction | ~~~~~ |
| Thursday 30 th <i>Easter Feria</i> | 9.30am Mass at <u>St. John's school</u> 6.30pm Mass | | Holy Souls Rachel Smith RIP |
| Friday 1 st May <i>Easter Feria</i> | 6.00pm Adoration, Vespers & Benediction with Confession | 9.30am Mass at <u>St. Joseph's School</u> 12 Noon Mass at <u>St. Thomas' Wroxton</u> | Rachel Smith RIP Gerhild Osborn RIP |
| Saturday 2 nd <i>Memorial of St. Athanasius</i> | 10.00am Mass | | Nora Breen Birthday |
| Sunday 3rd May FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER <i>White</i> | 4.00pm Vigil Mass (Saturday) | | Michael Kearns RIP |
| | 8.30am Mass | | Mac Farlane Family |
| | | 10.00am Mass | Sue Allen 80 th Birthday |
| | 11.30am Mass | | People of the Parish |

Welcome to Mass on this Fourth Sunday of Easter. If you are visiting the parish today, you are most welcome.

Today is called Good Shepherd Sunday, a term inspired by the Gospel reading of today, with our Lord's description of himself as the one who is our shepherd. As such, today is also kept throughout the universal Church as vocations Sunday – the annual day of prayer for vocations.

In his letter to the Catholic Church for this Sunday the Pope especially addresses young people:

Dear young people, listen to the voice of the Lord who invites you to a full and fruitful life, calling you to put your talents to us and to unite your limitations and weaknesses to the glorious cross of Christ. Make time, then, for Eucharistic adoration; meditate faithfully on the word of God, so that you may put it into practice every day; and participate actively and fully in the sacramental and ecclesial life of the Church. In this way you will come to know the Lord. through the intimacy of his friendship, you will discover how to give of yourselves, whether through marriage, the priesthood, the permanent diaconate, or consecrated life every vocation is an immeasurable gift for the Church and for those who receive it with joy. To know the Lord means above all learning to entrust oneself to him, and to his providence, which is abundant in every vocation.

The Pope concludes by looking to the example of St Joseph who is 'an example of complete trust in God's designs. He trusted even when everything around him seemed shrouded in darkness and uncertainty, when events appeared to diverge from his own plans. He trusted and abandoned himself to God, certain about the goodness and fidelity of the Lord.'

We welcome back amongst us today Deacon Jithin Titto who was ordained to the diaconate at Oscott before Christmas, and will be ordained at the Cathedral to the sacred 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 Holy Mass today.

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

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. Level1 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.

**POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY 2026
THAT EVERYONE MAY HAVE FOOD**

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.

NOTICES FROM ST. JOHN'S SCHOOL –

Dear Parishioners,

I hope this message finds you well. You are warmly invited to join us for Mass to be held in St. John's school hall on Thursday 30th April at 9:30am. This will be a wonderful opportunity for our school and parish community to come together in reflection and celebration of the Easter season. We would be delighted to welcome you as we gather with our pupils and staff for this meaningful occasion.

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to seeing you there.

BAKE SALE – The Parish Youth will be selling cakes after the 8.30am and 11.30am Mass at St. John's today.

We also invite you to join us for our Marian Celebrations at St. John's Catholic Primary School on Monday 18th May at 2:15pm.

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.

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

With every blessing,

Mrs McGeehan

INDIAN EVENING – Friday 15th May, 7pm – 10pm. There are still some tickets available, £25pp and can be purchased through the parish office or by contacting: sajusacaria@outlook.com

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

PADRE PIO – The next prayer meeting will be on Monday 11th May at 10am in the Dupuis Centre. All most welcome.

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. 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 Maurice (Massey) Ray Hughes, Moya Burns & Marianne Balazs.
Pray also for those whose anniversaries occur this coming week:*

- 26 Anna Horne 2014; Keith Fallowfield 2010
- 27 Edna Barson 2023; Joe Mee 2016; Edward Gill 2014; Teresa Calvert 2013; Alexandre Andrews-Semple 1997; William Stockdale 2004; Giacomina Pace 2004; Sydney Tomkins 2003; Mary Nelson 1994; Reginald Grainger 1988
- 28 Eamon Boyle 2022; Dorothy Jubey 2020; Eileen O’Sullivan 2014; Pamela Rawson 2013; Francesca Thomas; Catrina Ashwell 2001; Edward Lawrence 1995; John Mullally 1992; Hilda Bower 1987
- 29 Mary Griffin 2018; Bridget Hayes 2001
- 30 Wendy Dailly 2016; Bill Gibbs 2014; Denis Pethebridge 2013; David Kirk 2006; Elizabeth Preedy 1994
- 01 Rachel Smith 2022; John Brennan 2022; Jamie Smith 2021; June Cullimore 2017; John McLaughlin 2014; Lucia Yates 2008; Tyrone Noble 2007; Thomas O’Cleary 2000; Tom Hutchings 1998
- 02 Stephanie Tucker 2021; Michael Kearns 2016; James Ferris 1999

***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: 19 th April 2026 | <u>ST JOHN’S</u> | <u>ST JOSEPH’S</u> |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|
| Gift Aid | £ 68.00 | £ 79.00 |
| Non-Gift Aid | £ 698.19 | £ 138.74 |
| Contactless Card | £ 256.00 | £ 25.00 |
| Standing Orders – January | £ 3014.00 | £ 789.00 |

This 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 & Wednesday, 10.00am – 2.30pm

Bookkeeper: *Catherine Dukes.* Email: 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 or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

Entrance Antiphon**Cf. Ps 32: 5-6**

The merciful love of the Lord fills the earth;
by the word of the Lord the heavens were made, alleluia.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
lead us to a share in the joys of heaven,
so that the humble flock may reach
where the brave Shepherd has gone before.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

First reading**Acts 2:14a, 36-41**

On the day of Pentecost Peter, standing with the Eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed the crowd: 'Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the Apostles, 'Brothers, what shall we do?' And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptised, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.' And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this crooked generation.' So those who received his word were baptised, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

Responsorial Psalm**Ps 23(22):1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6. R1*****The LORD is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want. R/.***

The LORD is my shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.
Fresh and green are the pastures
where he gives me repose.
Near restful waters he leads me;
he revives my soul. **R/.**

He guides me along the right path,
for the sake of his name.
Though I should walk in the valley of the shadow of death,
no evil would I fear, for you are with me.
Your crook and your staff will give me comfort. **R/.**

You have prepared a table before me
in the sight of my foes.
My head you have anointed with oil;
my cup is overflowing. **R/.**

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life.
In the LORD's own house shall I dwell
for length of days unending. **R/.**

Second reading**1 Peter 2:20b-25**

Beloved: If when you do good and suffer for it you endure, this is a gracious thing in the sight of God. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you might follow in his steps. He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. For you were straying like sheep, but have now returned to the Shepherd and Overseer of your souls.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
I am the good shepherd, says the Lord.
I know my sheep and my own know me.
Alleluia.

Gospel**John 10:1-10**

At that time: Jesus said, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, he who does not enter the sheepfold by the door but climbs in by another way, that man is a thief and a robber. But he who enters by the door is the shepherd of the sheep. To him the gatekeeper opens. The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes before them, and the sheep follow him, for they know his voice. A stranger they will not follow, but they will flee from him, for they do not know the voice of strangers.' This figure of speech Jesus used with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So Jesus again said to them, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.'

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, we pray, O Lord,
that we may always find delight in these paschal mysteries,
so that the renewal constantly at work within us
may be the cause of our unending joy.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

The Good Shepherd has risen,
who laid down his life for his sheep
and willingly died for his flock, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

Look upon your flock, kind Shepherd,
and be pleased to settle in eternal pastures
the sheep you have redeemed
by the Precious Blood of your Son.
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.