



CATHOLIC BANBURY

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Catholic Banbury



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Community

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

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

DAY	ST JOHN'S	ST JOSEPH'S	INTENTION
Year B	8.00pm Easter Vigil		People of the Parish
Sunday 31st March		8.30am Mass At St. Thomas' Wroxton	Elizabeth Tracey
	8.45am Mass		Edward Nosal RIP
SOLEMNITY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD		10.00am Mass	Betty Power RIP
White	11.15am Mass	No 5.30pm Mass	Roy Smith RIP
Monday 1 st <i>Easter Monday</i>	10.00am Mass		John & Gerhild Osborn - Diamond Wedding Anniversary.
Tuesday 2 nd <i>Easter Tuesday</i>	10.00am Mass		Mary Casey RIP
Wednesday 3 rd <i>Easter Wednesday</i>	10.00am Mass		Chris White RIP
Thursday 4 th <i>Easter Thursday</i>	10.00am Mass		Maureen Napier
Friday 5 th <i>Easter Friday</i>	10.00am Mass No Holy Hour or Confessions		Holy Souls & Deceased members of Friends of Suffering Souls
Saturday 6 th <i>Easter Saturday</i>	10.00am Mass <i>Confessions 10.30 – 11am</i> 4.00pm Vigil Mass		Lynda Solomon RIP James Mulroy RIP
Year B		8.30am Mass At St. Thomas' Wroxton	Holy Souls
Sunday 7th April	8.45am Mass		Mary Pickering RIP
Octave Day of Easter		10.00am Mass	K J Joseph RIP
Feast of The Devine Mercy	11.15am Mass		Danny Brady RIP
White	3.00pm Holy Hour	5.00pm Confessions 5.30pm Mass	People of the Parish

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.

Welcome to Mass on this Easter Day - and a special welcome if you are visiting the parish today to celebrate the Lord's resurrection. Today is the Feast of Feasts – for Christ, who was crucified, is risen!

At the Easter Vigil and First Mass of Easter held in the darkness of the night, the first reading from the scriptures is the beautiful account of the creation. In that reading we hear the Word of God first speak on the very first day of the creation story: 'Let there be light!'

Where there was darkness - absolutely nothing, utter emptiness - the Word of God speaks and brings light and then life. Time begins! Creation's story begins.

The late Pope Benedict, reflecting on this truth a few years ago said, at Easter Mass,

At Easter, on the morning of the first day of the week, God said, once again, "Let there be light." The night of the Mount of Olives, the solar eclipse of Jesus' passion and death, the night of the grave had all passed. Now it is the first day once again – creation is beginning anew. "Let there be light", says God, "and there was light. Jesus rises from the grave. Life is stronger than death. Good is stronger than evil. Love is stronger than hate. Truth is stronger than lies.

We have marked this season of Lent over these last few weeks with prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Many of us will have given things up we love! But the real point of these disciplines isn't to make us miserable, or thinner! They are there to nurture freedom – to free us to live as the children of God gifted to us in our baptism:

For you have given your children a sacred time for the renewing and purifying of their hearts, that, freed from disordered affections, they may so deal with the things of this passing world as to hold rather to the things that eternally endure. (Preface of Lent)

The forty days of Lent are followed by the fifty days of Easter. So, as we renew our Easter promises today, let us exult in our Risen Lord who accompanies us through the sacraments and the scriptures. As we hear in the appearance of Jesus on the road to Emmaus:

Did not our hearts burn within us as he talked to us on the road and explained the scriptures to us Then they told their story of what had happened on the road, and how they had recognised him in the breaking of bread. (Luke 24)

A very happy Easter to you all!

Emma Clamens RIP - Emma was one of our young children of the St John's children's liturgy. Emma has been poorly for some time. Recently, as some of you will know, Emma's parents took her to the United States for treatment. Sadly, Emma died last weekend. In the coming days we will have a Mass for her. Please remember Emma, her Mum and Dad and her family in your prayers.

EASTER COLLECTION - at the Easter Vigil and Easter Day is the Easter offering for the priests of the parish. There are envelopes at the back of church for this collection as well as the contactless point in St John's and St Thomas's. The Easter Offering, along with the Christmas Offering, are the main sources of income for priests, and help to provide the tools for their ministry such as cars, as well as providing personal expenses. Thank you for your generosity.

DIVINE MERCY NOVENA – 8.00am every morning from Good Friday until Holy Saturday at St John's Church. A recording will be available online.

Jesus asked that Divine Mercy Sunday be preceded by a Novena, beginning on Good Friday. He said: "*On each day of the Novena you will bring to My heart a different group of souls and you will immerse them in this ocean of My mercy ... On each day you will beg My Father, on the strength of My passion, for the graces for these souls.*" The last day has most difficult intention, for the lukewarm and indifferent. He said: "*These souls cause Me more suffering than any others*".

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – 7th April, 3.00pm Holy Hour at St John's with devotions to the Divine Mercy, Benediction, Confessions and the Blessing of Divine Mercy Images.

St. Faustina, who received visions from Jesus, wrote in her diary that He said: "*I want the Image to be solemnly blessed on the first Sunday after Easter [now called Divine Mercy Sunday], and I want it to be venerated publicly so that every soul may know about it... I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. I pour out a whole ocean of graces upon those souls who approach the fount of My mercy.*" According to the vision, those who receive communion and attend confession on the Feast of Mercy receive total forgiveness of sin and its effects on us.

GOOD GRIEF CAFÉ - The next café meeting is on Sat 6th April, 10am – 12noon in the Brabazon Room, Dupuis Centre. For anyone who has suffered a bereavement, join us for support and refreshments.

LUNCH CLUB – The next lunch is on Mon 8th April at 12.30pm in the Dupuis Centre. Please contact Marilena to confirm your attendance.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES – The 2024 envelopes are now available to collect from the Parish Office.

Please pray for the dead ...

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently, particularly Emma Clamens, Philip Mason, Anne Burke, Diana Aylward, Kevin French and Costanza Pannoza.

Pray also for those whose anniversaries occur this coming week:

- 31 Edna Preece 1997; James Busby 1983
- 01 Jim Mulroy 2022; Gerald Eaglestone 2012; May Paynton 2008; Denis Finn 2008; Phyllis Hill 2003; Stanislaw Cwenar 1996; Geoffrey Lammin 1996
- 02 Domingos Fernandes 2009; Anthony Sharpe 2004; Mervyn Gardner 1997; Katherine Hickey 1997; Annette Hall 1994; Morris Busby 1989; Tony Doolan
- 03 Robert Bowman 2017; Michael Sheehan 2009; Kathleen Blencowe 2002; Bridget Johnson 1996; Reginald O’Dell 1989
- 04 Shirley Geritz 2011; Major Ernest Kinsey 1986; Stanley Harrison 1984
- 05 Enid Mackenzie 1998
- 06 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

***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, Cora Barnard, Douglas Bond, Brenda Brennan, Eileen Bristoll, Christopher Browne, Clifford Browne, Ann Dagger, Mary Dant, 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, Christine Napier, Anne Nolan, Harry Rhodes, Trish Rossenrode, Eileen Shea, Nicky Smith, Elaine Steer.

PARISH FINANCIAL MATTERS

Weekly Income:	<u>24 MARCH</u>	<u>ST JOHN’S</u>	<u>ST JOSEPH’S</u>
Gift Aid:		£ 25.00	£ 74.00
Non-Gift Aid:		£ 862.30	£ 234.21
Contactless Card:		£ 180.00	-----
QR code		£ 10.00	-----
Standing Orders for February		£ 3574.00	£ 1068.00

The collection at the Easter Masses is your kind gift to the priests.

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 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 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
 Social Secretary: *Marilena Kearns.* Email: mjkearns@hotmail.co.uk. Mob: 07891178920

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

I have risen, and I am with you still, alleluia.
You have laid your hand upon me, alleluia.
Too wonderful for me, this knowledge. Alleluia, alleluia.

Collect

O God, who on this day, through your Only Begotten Son, have conquered death and unlocked for us the path to eternity, grant, we pray, that we who keep the solemnity of the Lord's Resurrection may, through the renewal brought by your Spirit, rise up in the light of life. 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 10:34,37-43

Peter addressed Cornelius and his household: 'You must have heard about the recent happenings in Judaea; about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and because God was with him, Jesus went about doing good and curing all who had fallen into the power of the devil. Now I, and those with me, can witness to everything he did throughout the countryside of Judaea and in Jerusalem itself: and also to the fact that they killed him by hanging him on a tree, yet three days afterwards God raised him to life and allowed him to be seen, not by the whole people but only by certain witnesses God had chosen beforehand. Now we are those witnesses – we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead – and he has ordered us to proclaim this to his people and to tell them that God has appointed him to judge everyone, alive or dead. It is to him that all the prophets bear this witness: that all who believe in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through his name.'

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 117(118):1-2,16-17,22-23

This day was made by the Lord: we rejoice and are glad. R/.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good,
for his love has no end.

Let the sons of Israel say:
'His love has no end.' *R/.*

The Lord's right hand has triumphed;
his right hand raised me up.

I shall not die, I shall live
and recount his deeds. *R/.*

The stone which the builders rejected
has become the corner stone.

This is the work of the Lord,
a marvel in our eyes. *R/.*

Second reading

Colossians 3:1-4

Since you have been brought back to true life with Christ, you must look for the things that are in heaven, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand. Let your thoughts be on heavenly things, not on the things that are on the earth, because you have died, and now the life you have is hidden with Christ in God. But when Christ is revealed – and he is your life – you too will be revealed in all your glory with him.

Sequence

To the Paschal Victim, Christians, offer a sacrifice of praise.

The Lamb has ransomed his sheep;
the innocent Christ has reconciled sinners with the Father.

Death and life confronted each other in a prodigious battle;
The Prince of Life who died, now lives and reigns.

"Tell us, Mary, what did you see upon the way?"

"I saw the sepulchre of the living Christ; I saw the glory of the Risen One.

I saw the angels, his witnesses, the shroud and the garments.

Christ, my Hope, is risen; he will go before his own into Galilee."

We know that Christ is truly risen from the dead;

O Victorious King, have mercy on us.

Sequence

V
Ictimae paschá-li laudes * ímmo-lent Christi- á-ni.
Agnus re-démit oves : Christus ínno-cens Patri re-conci-
li- ávit pecca-tó-res. Mors et vi-ta du-él-lo con-flí-xé-re mi-rán-
do : dux vi-tae mórtu-us, regnat vivus. Dic no-bis Ma-rí- a,
quid vi-dísti in ví- a? Sepúlcrum Christi vi-véntis, et gló-
ri- am vi-di re-surgéntis : Ángé-li-cos testes, sudá-ri- um,
et vestes. Surré-xit Christus spes me- a : praecédet su-os in
Ga-li-laé- am. Scimus Christum surrexísse a mórtu- is ve-re :
tu no-bis, victor Rex, mi-se-ré-re.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!
let us celebrate the feast then, in the Lord.
Alleluia!

Gospel

John 20:1-9

It was very early on the first day of the week and still dark, when Mary of Magdala came to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb and came running to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved. 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb' she said 'and we don't know where they have put him.'

So Peter set out with the other disciple to go to the tomb. They ran together, but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, reached the tomb first; he bent down and saw the linen cloths lying on the ground, but did not go in. Simon Peter who was following now came up, went right into the tomb, saw the linen cloths on the ground, and also the cloth that had been over his head; this was not with the linen cloths but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple who had reached the tomb first also went in; he saw and he believed. Till this moment they had failed to understand the teaching of scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Prayer over the Offerings

Exultant with paschal gladness, O Lord,
we offer the sacrifice
by which your Church
is wondrously reborn and nourished.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Christ our Passover has been sacrificed, alleluia;
Therefore, let us keep the feast with the unleavened bread
of purity and truth, alleluia, alleluia.

Prayer after Communion

Look upon your Church, O God,
with unfailing love and favour,
so that, renewed by the paschal mysteries,
she may come to the glory of the resurrection.
Through Christ our Lord.