



CATHOLIC BANBURY

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Catholic
Banbury



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Parish
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	4.00 pm Vigil Mass		Kathleen & Michael Szykarewicz RIP	
Sunday 10th March	8.45 am Mass		John Smith RIP	
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT		10.00 am Mass	People of the Parish	
	11.15 am Mass		Dorothy Wright & Family	
		4.45pm Stations of the Cross		
	Rose		<i>5.00 pm Confessions</i> 5.30 pm Mass	Hussey/Merrick Fam Deceased
	Monday 11 th		No Mass	
<i>Lent Feria</i>				
Tuesday 12 th	9.30 am Mass		Kathleen O' Hara	
<i>Lent Feria</i>				
Wednesday 13 th		9.30 am Mass <i>10.00 am Exposition</i>	John Harrison RIP	
<i>Lent Feria</i>				
Thursday 14 th	9.30 am Mass <i>10.30am Mass at St. John's School</i>		Carlos Rey Letrondo RIP & Vincent Letrondo RIP <i>Holy Souls</i>	
<i>Lent Feria</i>				
Friday 15 th	6.45 am Mass		Julia McIntyre RIP	
<i>Lent Feria</i>	6.00 pm Stations of the Cross <i>Confessions 6.00 – 7pm</i>	9.30 am Mass	The Caroll Families	
Saturday 16 th	10.00 am Mass <i>Confessions 10.30 – 11am</i>		Elizabeth O'Neill RIP	
Year B	4.00 pm Vigil Mass		Sherin Cyriac in Thanksgiving	
Sunday 17th March	8.45am Mass		A.J. Stephenson	
FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT		10.00 am Mass	People of the Parish	
	11.15 am Mass		Hugh Berrill RIP	
	Violet		<i>5.00pm Confessions</i> 5.30 pm Mass	Kevin French RIP

LAETARE SUNDAY – MOTHERING SUNDAY - The name 'Laetare' comes from the entrance chant or antiphon for Mass on this Fourth Sunday of Lent: Laetare Jerusalem: et conventium facite omnes qui diligitis eam....words which come from the book of the Prophet Isaiah: Rejoice, O Jerusalem; and gather round, all you who love her. Isaiah, through these words, pictures Jerusalem as a mother who gathers her children around her. It is this image of Isaiah that led to today being called Mothering Sunday when we give thanks for the gift of Motherhood. As Catholics we are familiar with understanding the Church in maternal terms – Holy Mother Church – she who begets us at the font, and who feeds and nurtures us throughout our lives with the scriptures, the sacraments and the teaching of Mother Church. It is this mystical body of Christ that we are called to love.

Today is also a wonderful opportunity to give thanks to God for our mothers, whether living and departed, and for all those who have shown us a mother's love.

We also commend ourselves to the love and the prayers of Our Lady – the one who Jesus himself gave us from the Cross 'behold your mother' - his gift to all those who would become his disciples.

As Easter approaches, the solemn penitential purple in the vestments is lightened to rose. A sign of the coming feast, and an encouragement to persevere in our Lenten journey with its prayer, fasting and works of mercy. There are now just two weeks to go of ordinary Lent before the Great Week or Holy Week begins when we follow the Lord in the celebration of the Paschal Mystery.

It goes without saying, that Lenten discipline is relaxed for all mothers on this special day!!

VISITING THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND – There will be a short meeting for Eucharistic Ministers, those who are considering becoming a Eucharistic Minister and anyone who can spare some time to visit parishioners unable to come to Mass; Fri. 22nd March at 7pm in The Dupuis Centre. We would really like to be able to visit all those whose who would welcome contact from the parish but need your support to enable this to happen.

CHAPLAINCY FOR BANBURY - This is an ecumenical group of lay people who exercise a ministry of chaplaincy in the Town Centre. It is different from the street pastors who work mostly in the evenings, but is a valued daytime chaplaincy amongst the shops and workers of the town. If you enjoy meeting people, have a few hours to spare in the week, and are interested in this work you can contact them on chaplaincy4banbury@gmail.com There will be an introductory training sessions on Tue 12th March, 7.30pm, at The Haven, 61-63 Calthorpe St.

ALTAR SERVING FOR HOLY WEEK – Altar Servers have a hugely important role in the Holy Week celebrations. There is a sign-up sheet in the Sacristy for those who can serve. There will be a rehearsal before each of the main Liturgies, Maundy Thursday, 4.30pm at both St. John's and St. Joseph's, Good Friday, 1pm at both St. John's and St. Joseph's and Holy Saturday, 10.30am at St. John's.

LENT SYCAMORE PRAYER COURSE – Fr. Sean warmly invites you to six sessions about Christian prayer and the adventure of the spiritual life, each Wednesday of Lent at 7.00pm, in the Wall Room in the Dupuis Centre. Lent 2024 is during the 'Year of Prayer', called by Pope Francis to help us prepare for the Jubilee year in 2025. The Sycamore prayer course will be of great benefit to those who are just beginning or struggling in their life of prayer, as well as those who have been praying happily for a long time!

JOHN (JACK) HARRISON – The cremation service for John Harrison is on Wednesday 13th March at 4.00pm at the Banbury Crematorium.

PATRICIANS – next meeting Fri 15th March, [7pm](#) in the Dupuis Centre, downstairs. This is a lively, friendly discussion group. It helps us gain confidence in talking about our Faith with others. Refreshments provided. Topic: 'Forgiveness and Healing'.

BORN FOR THIS – BGN students will perform the story Jesus' Passion in St. John's church on Thur 21st March at 7pm, all welcome.

UNIVERSE NEWSPAPER – If you would be interested in buying this weekly newspaper, please contact the Parish Office.

200 CLUB – Congratulations to the winners of the February draw. 1st prize: £148.75, No.146; 2nd prize £89.25, No. 89; 3rd prize: £59.50, No.113.

MARY'S MEALS – The next lunch will be on Fri 22nd March, one week earlier than usual because of Easter.

LUNCH CLUB – The next lunch is on Mon 11th March at 12.30pm in the Dupuis Centre. Please contact Marilena to confirm your attendance.

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT – At BGN School, Fri 22nd March, 6.30 – 8pm. Tickets available on the door, £2 for a single book or £10 for a book of six. All welcome.

BGN VACANCIES – Currently seeking Drama, Computing Teachers and an LSA. See noticeboard for further details. www.eteach/careers/bgn-oxon

NEW WEBSITE - PLEASE NOTE OUR NEW WEBSITE ADDRESS; WWW.CATHOLICBANBURY.ORG

Please pray for the dead ...

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently, particularly Kevin French, Thomas Mannion, John Harrison, Mary Mordaunt Halina Watts and Costanza Pannozo.

Pray also for those whose anniversaries occur this coming week:

- 10 Charles McAleese 2018; Roberta Baskerville 1992; Benjamin Bailey 1987; Owen Gaffrey 1984
- 11 Margaret Hughes 2020; Terence O’Flynn 2013; Vincent Mark 2011; Alfred Martin 2005; Enea Pannozzo 2004; Joseph Hillier 1991; Patrick Deegan 1986; Alfred Scales 1984
- 12 Barbara Flower 2010; Alba Fragola 2009; Monica Goodwin 1991
- 13 Reginald Voice 2016; Charles Manderman 2002; John Arnold 2001; Gwen Gillett 1994; Bridget O’Mahoney 1984
- 14 Patrick Sullivan 2016; Esme Ake 2007; Joyce Greatbatch 1998; Dorothy Gibson 1988; Mieczyskawa Batt 1987; Leslie Kent 1983
- 15 Barbara Gasiorowska 2018; Kathleen McCleaf 2013; David Brain 2012; Ernest Bowden 2007; William Lord 1995; Stella Hudson
- 16 Daniel Sheehan 2011; Monica Jones 2006; Waclaw Kudlik 1996

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.

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, Trish Rossenrode, Eileen Shea, Nicky Smith, Elaine Steer.

PARISH FINANCIAL MATTERS

Weekly Income:	<u>03 MARCH</u>	<u>ST JOHN’S</u>	<u>ST JOSEPH’S</u>
Gift Aid:		£ 45.00	£ 148.95
Non-Gift Aid:		£ 649.28	£ 347.28
Contactless Card:		£ 105.00	-----
QR code		£ 20.00	-----
Standing Orders for January		£ 3374.00	£ 1088.00

Second collection this weekend at St. Joseph’s for Cathedral Maintenance.

Second collection next weekend for Easter Flower.

Thank you for all your support.

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

Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her.
Be joyful, all who were in mourning;
exult and be satisfied at her consoling breast.

Collect

O God, who through your Word
reconcile the human race to yourself in a wonderful way,
grant, we pray,
that with prompt devotion and eager faith
the Christian people may hasten
toward the solemn celebrations to come.
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**2 Chronicles 36:14-16,19-23**

All the heads of the priesthood, and the people too, added infidelity to infidelity, copying all the shameful practices of the nations and defiling the Temple that the Lord had consecrated for himself in Jerusalem. The Lord, the God of their ancestors, tirelessly sent them messenger after messenger, since he wished to spare his people and his house. But they ridiculed the messengers of God, they despised his words, they laughed at his prophets, until at last the wrath of the Lord rose so high against his people that there was no further remedy.

Their enemies burned down the Temple of God, demolished the walls of Jerusalem, set fire to all its palaces, and destroyed everything of value in it. The survivors were deported by Nebuchadnezzar to Babylon; they were to serve him and his sons until the kingdom of Persia came to power. This is how the word of the Lord was fulfilled that he spoke through Jeremiah, ‘Until this land has enjoyed its sabbath rest, until seventy years have gone by, it will keep sabbath throughout the days of its desolation.’

And in the first year of Cyrus king of Persia, to fulfil the word of the Lord that was spoken through Jeremiah, the Lord roused the spirit of Cyrus king of Persia to issue a proclamation and to have it publicly displayed throughout his kingdom: ‘Thus speaks Cyrus king of Persia, “The Lord, the God of heaven, has given me all the kingdoms of the earth; he has ordered me to build him a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. Whoever there is among you of all his people, may his God be with him! Let him go up.”’

Responsorial Psalm**Psalm 136(137):1-6*****O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not! R/.***

By the rivers of Babylon
there we sat and wept,
remembering Zion;
on the poplars that grew there
we hung up our harps. **R/.**

For it was there that they asked us,
our captors, for songs,
our oppressors, for joy.
‘Sing to us,’ they said,
‘one of Zion’s songs.’ **R/.**

O how could we sing
the song of the Lord
on alien soil?
If I forget you, Jerusalem,
let my right hand wither! **R/.**

O let my tongue
cleave to my mouth
if I remember you not,
if I prize not Jerusalem
above all my joys! **R/.**

Second reading**Ephesians 2:4-10**

God loved us with so much love that he was generous with his mercy:
when we were dead through our sins, he brought us to life with

Christ – it is through grace that you have been saved – and raised us up with him and gave us a place with him in heaven, in Christ Jesus.

This was to show for all ages to come, through his goodness towards us in Christ Jesus, how infinitely rich he is in grace. Because it is by grace that you have been saved, through faith; not by anything of your own, but by a gift from God; not by anything that you have done, so that nobody can claim the credit. We are God’s work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life as from the beginning he had meant us to live it.

Gospel Acclamation

Glory and praise to you, O Christ!
God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son:
everyone who believes in him has eternal life.
Glory and praise to you, O Christ!

Gospel**John 3:14-21**

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

‘The Son of Man must be lifted up
as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.
Yes, God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not be lost
but may have eternal life.
For God sent his Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but so that through him the world might be saved.
No one who believes in him will be condemned;
but whoever refuses to believe is condemned already,
because he has refused to believe in the name of God’s only Son.
On these grounds is sentence pronounced:
that though the light has come into the world
men have shown they prefer darkness to the light
because their deeds were evil.
And indeed, everybody who does wrong
hates the light and avoids it,
for fear his actions should be exposed;
but the man who lives by the truth comes out into the light,
so that it may be plainly seen that what he does is done in God.’

Prayer over the Offerings

We place before you with joy these offerings,
which bring eternal remedy, O Lord,
praying that we may both faithfully revere them
and present them to you, as is fitting,
for the salvation of all the world.
Through Christ our Lord.

Communion Antiphon

Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together.
It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
to praise the name of the Lord.

Prayer after Communion

O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world,
illuminate our hearts, we pray,
with the splendour of your grace,
that we may always ponder
what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty
and love you in all sincerity.
Through Christ our Lord.

Prayer over the People

Look upon those who call to you, O Lord,
and sustain the weak;
give life by your unfailing light
to those who walk in the shadow of death,
and bring those rescued by your mercy from every evil
to reach the highest good.
Through Christ our Lord.