



# 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](mailto: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	<b>4.00 pm Vigil Mass</b>		Sherin Cyriac in Thanksgiving	
<b>Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>8.45 am Mass</b>		A.J. Stephenson	
<b>FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>		<b>10.00 am Mass</b>	People of the Parish	
	<b>11.15 am Mass</b>		Hugh Berrill RIP	
		<b>4.45pm Stations of the Cross</b>		
	Violet		<b>5.00 pm Confessions</b> <b>5.30 pm Mass</b>	Kevin French RIP
	Monday 18 <sup>th</sup>		<b>9.30 am Mass</b>	The Mak Families
<i>Lent Feria</i>				
Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup>	<b>9.30 am Mass</b>		C.T. Thomas	
<i>Lent Feria</i>				
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup>		<b>9.30 am Mass</b> <i>10.00 am Exposition</i>	Una Butler RIP	
<i>Lent Feria</i>				
Thursday 21 <sup>st</sup>	<b>9.30 am Mass</b> <i>10.30am Mass at St. John's School</i>		St. Jude in Thanks <i>Fred O'Grady RIP</i>	
<i>Lent Feria</i>		<b>12 Noon Funeral Mass at St. Thomas', Wroxton</b>	<i>Mary Mordaunt</i>	
Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>6.45 am Mass</b>		James Davis	
<i>Lent Feria</i>	<b>6.00 pm Penitential Service</b>	<b>9.30 am Mass</b>	William Ellis RIP	
Saturday 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>10.00 am Mass</b> <i>Confessions 10.30 – 11am</i>		Denise Thornton RIP	
Year B	<b>4.00 pm Vigil Mass</b>		Mary Dennett Birthday Ints	
<b>Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March</b>	<b>8.45am Mass</b>		Jadwiga Dabrowska RIP	
<b>PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD</b>		<b>10.00 am Mass</b>	People of the Parish	
	<b>11.15 am Mass</b>		James & Irene Brown Golden Anniv.	
	RED		<b>5.00pm Confessions</b> <b>5.30 pm Mass</b>	Dennis Breen RIP

**PASSIONTIDE** – The final two weeks of Lent, beginning on the Fifth Sunday of Lent, is Passiontide, wherein the Church particularly commemorates the suffering of Christ. The second week of Passiontide is Holy Week, ending on Holy Saturday. During this particularly sombre time, crucifixes and images are covered in purple veils until the beginning of the Easter Vigil.

**LENTEN PENITENTIAL SERVICE** – Fri 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 6pm in St John's Church. Priests from outside of Banbury will be available to hear confession for Lent in addition to our own priests. We should, as Catholics, as a bare minimum, go to confession once a year to confess any serious (mortal) sins. Lent is a great time to go and make ourselves spiritually ready to celebrate the Lord's Resurrection.

**VISITING THE SICK AND HOUSEBOUND** – There are many sick or housebound parishioners who are unable to attend Holy Mass, but would love to be able to receive Holy Communion in their homes. At present, we do not have nearly enough lay ministers of Holy Communion. Would you be willing to serve Christ with the sick in this way? To find out more, come to the meeting on Tue 26<sup>th</sup> March at 7pm in The Dupuis Centre.

**GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL WALK OF WITNESS** – The walk begins at 11.15am, meeting outside of The People's Church and finishing with refreshments at St John's Church. Our own parish youth group have created an incredible life-sized crucifix which will be used for the procession. Here's three great reasons for you to attend:

1. Support our parish youth group.
2. Support Christian unity in Banbury.
3. Bear witness to our Lord in Banbury on Good Friday, the day he died for love of us.

**BLESSING OF FOOD (IN ENGLISH)** – The traditional Eastern European blessing of Easter food will take place at midday on Holy Saturday at St Joseph's Church. This blessing will be in the English Language.

**DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY** – 3pm 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.

**DIVINE MERCY NOVENA** – 8am 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"*.

**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.

**SYCAMORE** – Please note, there will **not** be Sycamore on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

**SALE OF UNWANTED GIFTS** – There is a second opportunity to buy some lovely items today at St. Joseph's church after the 10am Mass. All monies raised will go towards the roof fund.

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

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

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

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

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

**BGN VACANCIES** – Currently seeking Drama, Computing Teachers and an LSA. See noticeboard for further details. [www.eteach/careers/bgn-oxon](http://www.eteach/careers/bgn-oxon)

**Please pray for the dead ...**

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

*Pray also for those whose anniversaries occur this coming week:*

- 17 Onofrio Pannozzo 2009; Beryl Holloway 2005; John Skidmore 1998
- 18 Avril Ewart 2023; Gerald Gormley 2023; Lilian Davies 2021; Caterina Brinknell 2020; Rachele Grossi 1998; Cornelius Shea 1995; Percy King 1989
- 19 Margaret Busby 2006; Ivy Jarvis 1998; Eileen Jackson 1994; Joan Kent 1986
- 20 Florence Curl 2011; Florence Green 2000; Elizabeth Noone 1995; Patrick Cuzack 1993
- 21 Maggie England 2020; Nancy Brennan 2008; William Croly 2006; Ann Bird 2006
- 22 Denise Thornton 2014; Kathleen Boscott 2006; Janet Gilligan 2002; Veronica Smith 1999; Giovannina Cardarelli 1999; Walter Holt 1986; Jeanne Sherridan 1985
- 23 Clementina Sinagra 2017; Ruth Harris 2004; Harold Parker 2003; Gladys Cregan 2001; Edith Houldcroft 1993; Marjorie Clifford 1988

***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**

<b>Weekly Income:</b>	<b><u>10 MARCH</u></b>	<b><u>ST JOHN'S</u></b>	<b><u>ST JOSEPH'S</u></b>
	Gift Aid:	£ 30.00	£ 53.00
	Non-Gift Aid:	£ 757.84	£ 267.75
	Contactless Card:	£ 180.00	-----
	QR code	£ -----	-----
	Standing Orders for January	£ 3374.00	£ 1088.00
	Cathedral Maintenance	£ 128.60	£ 91.21

***Second collection this weekend for Easter Flowers.  
Thank you for all your support.***

**GENERAL TIMES FOR SACRAMENTS AND OTHER CELEBRATIONS**

<b>St. John's:</b>	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)
<b>St. Joseph's:</b>	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 <sup>rd</sup> 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](mailto:pt.stjohn.banbury@rcaob.org.uk)  
 Pastoral & Property: *Nicola Mollard.* Email: [sg.stjohn.banbury@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:sg.stjohn.banbury@rcaob.org.uk)  
 Social Secretary: *Marilena Kearns.* Email: [mjkearns@hotmail.co.uk](mailto: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](mailto:sg.stjohn.banbury@rcaob.org.uk) or alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk) if you have any concern.

**Entrance Antiphon****Cf. Ps 42: 1-2**

Give me justice, O God,  
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.  
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,  
for you, O God, are my strength.

**Collect**

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God,  
may we walk eagerly in that same charity  
with which, out of love for the world,  
your Son handed himself over to death.  
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****Jeremiah 31:31-34**

See, the days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks – when I will make a new covenant with the House of Israel (and the House of Judah), but not a covenant like the one I made with their ancestors on the day I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt. They broke that covenant of mine, so I had to show them who was master. It is the Lord who speaks. No, this is the covenant I will make with the House of Israel when those days arrive – it is the Lord who speaks. Deep within them I will plant my Law, writing it on their hearts. Then I will be their God and they shall be my people. There will be no further need for neighbour to try to teach neighbour, or brother to say to brother, ‘Learn to know the Lord!’ No, they will all know me, the least no less than the greatest – it is the Lord who speaks – since I will forgive their iniquity and never call their sin to mind.

**Responsorial Psalm****Psalm 50(51):3-4,12-15**

*A pure heart create for me, O God. R/.*

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin. R/.

A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit. R/.

Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,  
that I may teach transgressors your ways  
and sinners may return to you.

**Second reading****Hebrews 5:7-9**

During his life on earth, Christ offered up prayer and entreaty, aloud and in silent tears, to the one who had the power to save him out of death, and he submitted so humbly that his prayer was heard. Although he was Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; but having been made perfect, he became for all who obey him the source of eternal salvation.

**Gospel Acclamation**

Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!  
Whoever serves me must follow me, says the Lord;  
and where I am, there also will my servant be.  
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

**Gospel****John 12:20-33**

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. These approached Philip, who came from Bethsaida in Galilee, and put this request to him, ‘Sir, we should like to see Jesus.’ Philip went to tell Andrew, and Andrew and Philip together went to tell Jesus. Jesus replied to them:

‘Now the hour has come  
for the Son of Man to be glorified.  
I tell you, most solemnly,  
unless a wheat grain falls on the ground and dies,  
it remains only a single grain;  
but if it dies,  
it yields a rich harvest.  
Anyone who loves his life loses it;  
anyone who hates his life in this world  
will keep it for the eternal life.  
If a man serves me, he must follow me,  
wherever I am, my servant will be there too.  
If anyone serves me, my Father will honour him.  
Now my soul is troubled.  
What shall I say:  
Father, save me from this hour?  
But it was for this very reason that I have come to this hour.  
Father, glorify your name!’

A voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ People standing by, who heard this, said it was a clap of thunder; others said, ‘It was an angel speaking to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘It was not for my sake that this voice came, but for yours.

‘Now sentence is being passed on this world;  
now the prince of this world is to be overthrown.  
And when I am lifted up from the earth,  
I shall draw all men to myself.’

By these words he indicated the kind of death he would die.

**Prayer over the Offerings**

Hear us, almighty God,  
and, having instilled in your servants  
the teachings of the Christian faith,  
graciously purify them  
by the working of this sacrifice.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon**

Amen, Amen I say to you: Unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains a single grain. But if it dies, it bears much fruit.

**Prayer after Communion**

We pray, almighty God,  
that we may always be counted among the members of Christ,  
in whose Body and Blood we have communion.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

**Prayer over the People**

Bless, O Lord, your people,  
who long for the gift of your mercy,  
and grant that what, at your prompting, they desire  
they may receive by your generous gift.  
Through Christ our Lord.