



CATHOLIC BANBURY

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Catholic Banbury



QR code
for
WhatsApp Parish
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

Assistant Priest: Rev. Fr. Sean Gough

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Rev. Mr. Bob Hughes: 07766 711984

DAY	ST JOHN'S	ST JOSEPH'S	INTENTION
<i>Easter Feria</i>	4.00pm Vigil Mass		Aleyamma Xavier
Year B	8.45am Mass		Tomasz Radziwonowicz RIP
Sunday 21st April		10.00am Mass	Mary Bills RIP
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	11.15am Mass		Martin Leonard RIP
White		<i>5.00pm Confessions</i> 5.30pm Mass	People of the Parish
Monday 22 nd		9.30am Mass	Rita Ellis RIP
<i>Easter Feria</i>			
Tuesday 23 rd	9.30am Mass		Sebastion Marshall
<i>Solemnity of St. George</i>			
Wednesday 24 th		9.30am Mass <i>Holy Hour 10am</i>	Hannah & Iannah
<i>Easter Feria</i>		1.00pm Funeral Mass	Colin Goodall
Thursday 25 th	9.30am Mass		Adrian & Fergal Nolan Special Int.
<i>Feast of St. Mark, Evangelist</i>	10.30am School Mass		Holy Souls
Friday 26 th		9.30am Mass	Mary Bills RIP
<i>Easter Feria</i>	<i>Confession & Holy Hour</i> <i>6.00-7.00pm</i>		
Saturday 27 th	10.00am Mass <i>Confession 10.30 – 11am</i>		Peter-John Robertson RIP
<i>Easter Feria</i>	4.00pm Vigil Mass		Eamon Boyle RIP
Year B	8.45am Mass		Tekla Dembska RIP
Sunday 28th April		10.00am Mass	People of the Parish
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER	11.15am Mass		Jery in Thanksgiving
White		<i>5.00pm Confessions</i> 5.30pm Mass	Holy Souls

Today is Vocations Sunday, and here is part of a message from the Archbishop of Liverpool about vocations, and the need for us all to listen:

'Listening deeply is at the heart of discerning our vocation in life. The way in which we listen is not to think of what we want to say; not to have pre-formed answers in mind and to await our turn to speak. In listening like this we become receptive to the Holy Spirit. We listen because we are called; every one of us is called to holiness. St John Paul II called this the universal call to holiness, and it applies to every single human person even if they are not Christian. But within this general vocation there are many other calls which we should listen to. One of our modern problems is that our world is very noisy, and it is often difficult to hear our own voices and thoughts in the surrounding din, let alone the words of others. One situation that can occur is we find ourselves on set paths in life, and it is not easy to change direction even if we want to do just that. Commitment to our families and other responsibilities block our ears and we just carry on as before.

Today is Vocations Sunday, traditionally a day for asking young men and women if they are called to the priesthood and religious life. There is no doubt that the church needs priests to celebrate the Eucharist and other sacraments, and Religious to offer a living witness to the values of the Kingdom of God. Without them, we would be a very impoverished Church. But how do we work out whether God is calling us to a particular vocation? One simple test is whether following a particular path in life gives us joy. If we are happy and content, or at least think we will be, then it is worth giving it a try. I am not saying that we should be deliriously happy all the time but there should be an underlying knowledge that we have chosen the right path in response to God's call.

Following a vocation is not an obstacle course that has to be overcome. There will be difficulties, but an inner state of contentment is important. This develops as our friendship with Jesus grows, and our sense of purpose becomes clear. Following a vocation does involve making a leap of faith but it is not a leap into the unknown. Just as there are risks in getting married no matter how much we prepare for it, so there are risks in offering yourself for priesthood and religious life. In all cases we have examples of happy and fulfilled people living their vocation.

If we listen deeply within our prayer, we may hear that call from God. But we may hear God speaking to us through our families or in our circle of friends. Usually, it is not a very clear call, just some hints and nudges, or a notion that keeps coming back. I would like to suggest to you two ways forward which apply to every Christian, but I think they have special meaning for someone who is discerning a particular vocation.

Pope Francis at the end of the international Synod gave two directions of travel for the participants. The first was to spend time before Jesus in the Blessed Sacrament. This he said would free us in spirit so that we would avoid other attractions. Adoration is a special kind of prayer which helps us shirk off everything except that one person who is important to us – Jesus Christ. His second point was to steer us towards service of others. In serving others, giving ourselves to other people in response to different needs, we undoubtedly find Jesus.

In today's gospel reading Jesus says that he is the good shepherd: the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his sheep. Becoming close to Jesus, through prayer and listening, through adoration and service will involve sacrifice there is no escaping that. But the word sacrifice means to make holy, and holiness is what we are all made for and that which we all should seek.

May God bless you as you seek to come closer to the Lord and deepen your understanding of what God is calling you to be.' Archbishop Malcolm McMahon OP

The Second Collection at Mass today is for the Clergy Training Fund. The collection will take place after Holy Communion. This goes towards feeding, housing and teaching those seminarians of the diocese discerning their vocation in seminary and to support diaconate training. Please be as generous as you can. Please also continue to remember Jithin in your prayers during his time at Oscott College in formation for Priesthood. He will officially become a candidate for ordination on Ascension Day.

MARY'S MEALS – The next lunch will be on Fri. 26th April, please confirm your place with Sue Allen.

PATRICIANS - Fri. 26th April. 7pm. downstairs in the Dupuis Centre. Parishioners of all ages are welcome to join this lively, friendly discussion group aimed at gaining confidence in talking about our Faith. Refreshments provided . Topic: ' Why go to Jesus through Mary?'

THE BANBURY CATENIANS - have organised a guided tour to the Historic St Mary's Church Bloxham on the 27th April starting at 10.45am at a cost of £5. The tour will bring to life the history, architecture and art of the church. We have a number of places available if you are interested please contact Rodney Kane . Rodney can be contacted on 07518 355230.

St. Joseph the Worker Feast Day - On Wednesday 1st May, the parish mass will be celebrated in St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, at the usual time of 9.30 a.m. The staff and children of St Joseph's would like to extend a warm welcome to parishioners to join us in school on this, our Patronal Feast Day.

Mass for Rachel Smith - Please join us for Mass on Wednesday 1st May at 7pm to celebrate the life of Miss Rachel Smith (R.I.P) who taught RE at BGN for the entirety of her teaching career. She is so hugely missed by her friends and colleagues, and we come together on this evening to remember her. The BGN choir which was such a beloved part of Rachel's life will be in attendance and past members are most welcome to join.

ANNUAL THANKSGIVING MASS FOR MARRIAGE - An invitation is extended to married couples, those celebrating a milestone anniversary and those preparing to marry this year, to our annual Mass for Marriage at St Chad's Cathedral on Saturday 4th May at 12 Noon, followed by light refreshments. Please visit www.vocations.org.uk/marriage-mass.

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION GIFT & CARD SALE – Saturday 11th May between 10am -12 noon and Sunday 12th May between the morning masses at St. John's Church. There is a lovely selection of items for sale, cash or card accepted.

Please pray for the dead ...

Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently, particularly Colin Goodall. Pray also for those whose anniversaries occur this coming week:

- 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
- 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

***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>14 APRIL</u>	<u>ST JOHN'S</u>	<u>ST JOSEPH'S</u>
Gift Aid:		£ 20.64	£ 72.00
Non-Gift Aid:		£ 595.25	£ 234.17
Contactless Card:		£ 160.00	-----
QR code		£ ----	-----

This weekend's second collection is for The Clergy Training Fund.

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

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 4:8-12

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Peter said: 'Rulers of the people, and elders! If you are questioning us today about an act of kindness to a cripple, and asking us how he was healed, then I am glad to tell you all, and would indeed be glad to tell the whole people of Israel, that it was by the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene, the one you crucified, whom God raised from the dead, by this name and by no other that this man is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence, today. This is the stone rejected by you the builders, but which has proved to be the keystone. For of all the names in the world given to men, this is the only one by which we can be saved.'

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 117(118):1,8-9,21-23,26,28-29

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

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

It is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to trust in men;

it is better to take refuge in the Lord
than to trust in princes. **R/.**

I will thank you for you have answered
and you are my saviour.

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

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

Blessed in the name of the Lord
is he who comes.

We bless you from the house of the Lord;
You are my God, I thank you.

My God, I praise you.

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good;
for his love has no end. **R/.**

Second reading 1 John 3:1-2

Think of the love that the Father has lavished on us,
by letting us be called God's children;
and that is what we are.

Because the world refused to acknowledge him,
therefore it does not acknowledge us.

My dear people, we are already the children of God
but what we are to be in the future has not yet been
revealed;

all we know is, that when it is revealed
we shall be like him
because we shall see him as he really is.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

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

Gospel

John 10:11-18

Jesus said:

'I am the good shepherd:
the good shepherd is one who lays down his life for his
sheep.

The hired man, since he is not the shepherd
and the sheep do not belong to him,
abandons the sheep and runs away
as soon as he sees a wolf coming,
and then the wolf attacks and scatters the sheep;
this is because he is only a hired man
and has no concern for the sheep.

'I am the good shepherd;
I know my own
and my own know me,
just as the Father knows me
and I know the Father;
and I lay down my life for my sheep.
And there are other sheep I have
that are not of this fold,
and these I have to lead as well.
They too will listen to my voice,
and there will be only one flock,
and one shepherd.

'The Father loves me,
because I lay down my life
in order to take it up again.
No one takes it from me;
I lay it down of my own free will,
and as it is in my power to lay it down,
so it is in my power to take it up again;
and this is the command I have been given by my Father.'

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.