



CATHOLIC BANBURY

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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. Jim Brannan: 07737 076660

Rev. Mr. Bob Hughes: 07766 711984



QR code
for
WhatsApp Parish
Community

DAY	ST JOHN'S	ST JOSEPH'S	INTENTION
YEAR C	4.00pm Vigil Mass		Vanessa Sawyers RIP
SUNDAY 2 nd FEBRUARY FEAST OF THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD <i>White</i>		8.30am Mass St. Thomas' Wroxton	Victoria O' Connor
	8.45am Mass		Jismaria Titto
		10.00am Mass	Mariusz Walio in Thanksgiving
	11.15am Mass		John Hackett RIP
		5.00pm Confessions 5.30pm Mass	Ruth Aris
Monday 3 rd <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>		9.30am Mass	Sr. Barbara Quilty
Tuesday 4 th <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	9.30am Mass		Michael Whelan RIP
Wednesday 5 th <i>Memorial of St. Agatha</i>		9.30am Mass	Tallulah Marshall
Thursday 6 th <i>Memorial of St. Paul Miki</i>	9.30am Mass 10.30am St. John's school		James Turnery RIP Holy Souls
Friday 7 th <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	6.00pm – 7.00pm Confession & Holy Hour	9.30am Mass	Daniel James B'day Intention
Saturday 8 th <i>Feria in Ordinary Time</i>	10.00am Mass Confession 10.30 – 11am		K. J. Joseph RIP
YEAR C	4.00pm Vigil Mass		Anne Mulroy RIP
SUNDAY 9 th FEBRUARY FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME <i>Green</i>	8.45am Mass		Lukasz, Ilona Sala & Family
		10.00am Mass	Members of the Mak Family
	11.15am Mass		Holy Souls
		5.00pm Confessions 5.30pm Mass	James Oliver RIP

WELCOME TO MASS FOR CANDLEMAS DAY, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple. In past days today was always seen as the last day of Christmas and so after today the Crib will be removed as a focus of prayer. The Crib offerings this year will be for Aid to the Church in Need which helps support beleaguered Christian communities who are suffering persecution and hardship (acnuk.org). Tomorrow is the feast of St Blaise and there will be the traditional blessing of throats with Candlemas candles.

THE CANDLEMAS CEREMONIES

The choir sing:

Behold, our Lord will come with power, to enlighten the eyes of his servants, alleluia.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen

The Lord be with you

And with your spirit.

Dear brothers and sisters, forty days have passed since we celebrated the joyful feast of the Nativity of the Lord. Today is the blessed day when Jesus was presented in the Temple by Mary and Joseph. Outwardly he was fulfilling the Law, but in reality, he was coming to meet his believing people. Prompted by the Holy Spirit, Simeon and Anna came to the Temple. Enlightened by the same Spirit, they recognized the Lord and confessed him with exultation. So let us also, gathered together by the Holy Spirit, proceed to the house of God to encounter Christ. There we shall find him and recognize him in the breaking of the bread, until he comes again, revealed in glory.

The Priest blesses the candles, saying, with hands extended:

Let us pray. O God, source and origin of all light, who on this day showed to the just man Simeon the Light for revelation to the Gentiles, we humbly ask that, in answer to your people's prayers, you may be pleased to sanctify with your blessing + these candles, which we are eager to carry in praise of your name, so that, treading the path of virtue, we may reach that light which never fails. Through Christ our Lord.

R. Amen.

He sprinkles the candles with holy water and puts incense into the thurible for the procession.

Then the Priest receives from the Deacon the lighted candle prepared for him and the procession begins, with the Deacon announcing

Let us go in peace to meet the Lord.

R. In the name of Christ. Amen.

The Procession

A light for revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel

All: A light for revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel.

Lord, now you let your servant go in peace, in accordance with your word.

All: A light for revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel.

For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all the people.

All: A light for revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel.

A light for revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel.

All: A light for revelation to the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen

PLAINCHANT DAY - March 8th 10.45am until the Vigil Mass. To cover expenses the cost will be £10 per participant. Please place in an envelope marked with name and contact number by the end of February and drop into the presbytery or give to one of the clergy.

"SOUP & A SMILE" AT A WARM HUB – Tuesday between 12.30pm and 2.30pm, and then running every Tuesday during these colder weeks in the Dupuis Centre. Run by St. Vincent De Paul Society volunteers for anyone who would appreciate a warm and friendly place to spend a couple of hours. Donations welcome. Contact Nicola on 07795 681226.

ST. DAVID'S DAY WALK – A beautiful countryside walk to St. Thomas' church in Wroxton. Saturday 1st March, setting off from St. Joseph's church at 10.30am. All are most welcome. There will be a mass at St. Thomas' followed by a picnic in Wroxton village hall. Funds raised will go towards helping our young people attend the summer camp at Alton castle.

THANKSGIVING MASS FOR MARRIAGE - REGISTER NOW

Are you celebrating a significant wedding anniversary in 2025? Are you engaged to be married this year? Or would you simply like to give thanks to God for your marriage, and ask for His ongoing blessings?

If so, we would like to invite you to attend this year's Thanksgiving Mass for Marriage.

To be held on **Saturday 3 May**, 12noon, at St Chad's Cathedral. Celebrated by Bishop Richard Walker.

www.birminghamdiocese.org.uk/event/thanksgiving-mass-for-marriage

Please register by Sunday 13 April.

ST. JOHN'S QUIZ NIGHT Friday 7th February. Tickets are now available at £6.00 per person teams of 8 max. Bring your own refreshments. There will be a raffle on the night. Please contact Marilena asap to reserve your tickets.

Highclere Castle (Downton Abbey) Wednesday 16th April. Entrance to house and Gardens, Coach and two course meal on return journey is £65.00 pp. If you wish to book your place, a £20 deposit is required and full payment by 1st March 2025. Limited places available. contact Marilena 07891 178920 / mjkearns@hotmail.co.uk

Please pray for the dead ...

*Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently,
Particularly Geraldine Peissel and James Smethurst.
Pray also for those whose anniversaries occur this coming week:*

- 02 Arthur Waddoups 2015; Paolo Monaco 2007; Peter Southam 2006; Constance Hardy 2006; Anne Aitken 1999; Michael Whelan 1997; Thomas McManus 1996; Reginald Manning 1990
- 03 Esteban Pascal-N 2020; Andy Lyons 2017; Evelyn Lynes 2015; Deri Robson-Dixe 1996
- 04 Mick O’Driscoll 2022; Anne Mulroy 2022; Carmela Webster 2020; Julie Cronin 2014; Ruth Bonner 2003; William Humphries 2000; William Kent 1999; Kathleen O’Sullivan 1994
- 05 Fred Humphries 2015; Brendan McLoughlin 2003; Maurice Cregan 2001; Peter Quinn 1993; Thomas Connor 1989; Florence Brain 1987
- 06 John Kelly 2020; Marley Wallace 2005; James Nolan 2001; Antonis Solka 1997; Noel Carson 1997; Cecile Adam 1991; Harriet (Nellie) Cronin 1987
- 07 John Downey 2008; Catherine Stratton 2007; Irene Walleth 2006; Keith Hopkins 2006; Teresa Marti-Moncous 2001; Kathleen Wagstaff 1996; Elizabeth Manning 1994; Ruth D’Arcy 1993; Guiseppe Crognale 1992; Piotr Zadziorski 1991
- 08 Jean-Claude Peissel 2016; Hedwig Pinther 1994; Mabel Henry 1991

***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, Marianne Balazs, Douglas Bond, Brenda Brennan, Eileen Bristoll, Christopher Browne, Clifford Browne, Ann Dagger, 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, Anne Nolan, Harry Rhodes, Eileen Shea, Nicky Smith, Elaine Steer.

PARISH FINANCIAL MATTERS

Weekly Income: 26th January	<u>ST JOHN’S</u>	<u>ST JOSEPH’S</u>
Gift Aid	£ 51.00	£ 30.00
Non-Gift Aid	£ 527.55	£ 233.79
Contactless Card	£ 172.00	£ 50.00
Standing Orders – November	£2103.00	£ 911.00

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)
	Gospel Sharing	Thursdays 6.00pm (Presbytery)
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 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 – 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

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

Your merciful love, O God,
we have received in the midst of your temple.
Your praise, O God, like your name,
reaches the ends of the earth;
your right hand is filled with saving justice.

Collect

Almighty ever-living God,
we humbly implore your majesty
that, just as your Only Begotten Son
was presented on this day in the Temple
in the substance of our flesh,
so, by your grace,
we may be presented to you with minds made pure.
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

Malachi 3:1-4

Thus says the LORD God: Behold, I send my messenger, and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his Temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24(23):7. 8. 9. 10. R8a

The LORD of hosts, he is the king of glory! R/.

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! ***R/.***

Who is this king of glory?
The LORD, the mighty, the valiant;
the LORD, the valiant in war. ***R/.***

O gates, lift high your heads;
grow higher, ancient doors.
Let him enter, the king of glory! ***R/.***

Who is this king of glory?
He, the LORD of hosts,
he is the king of glory. ***R/.***

Second reading

Hebrews 2:14-18

Since the children share in flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. For surely it is not angels that he helps, but he helps the offspring of Abraham. Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. For because he himself has suffered when tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia.
A light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.
Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 2:22-40

When the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, 'Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord') and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, 'a pair of turtle-doves, or two young pigeons'.

Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. And he came in the Spirit into the Temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

'Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;
for my eyes have seen your salvation
that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,
a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel.'

And his father and his mother marvelled at what was said about him. And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, 'Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed — and a sword will pierce through your own soul also — so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed.'

And there was a prophetess, Anna, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was advanced in years, having lived with her husband seven years from when she was a virgin, and then as a widow until she was eighty-four. She did not depart from the Temple, worshipping with fasting and prayer night and day. And coming up at that very hour she began to give thanks to God and to speak of him to all who were waiting for the redemption of Jerusalem.

And when they had performed everything according to the Law of the Lord, they returned into Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom. And the favour of God was upon him.

Prayer over the Offerings

May the offering made with exultation by your Church
be pleasing to you, O Lord, we pray,
for you willed that your Only Begotten Son
be offered to you for the life of the world
as the Lamb without blemish.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Communion Antiphon

My eyes have seen your salvation,
which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples.

Prayer after Communion

By these holy gifts which we have received, O Lord,
bring your grace to perfection within us,
and, as you fulfilled Simeon's expectation
that he would not see death
until he had been privileged to welcome the Christ,
so may we, going forth to meet the Lord,
obtain the gift of eternal life.
Through Christ our Lord.