



# CATHOLIC BANBURY

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## 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
<b>YEAR C</b>	<b>4.00pm Vigil Mass</b>		Chris Keeling RIP
<b>SUNDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	<b>8.45am Mass</b>		John Smith RIP
<b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</b>		<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Christie Bernard Noranho
	<b>11.15am Mass</b>		Luigi Cioffi RIP
<b>Violet</b>		<i>5.00pm Confessions</i> <b>5.30pm Mass</b>	People of Parish
Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> <i>Lent Feria</i>		<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Holy Souls
Tuesday 11 <sup>th</sup> <i>Lent Feria</i>	<b>9.30am Mass</b>		Mr & Mrs O'Connor Wedding Anniv
Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> <i>Lent Feria</i>		<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Holy Souls
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> <i>Lent Feria</i>	<b>9.30am Mass</b> <b>10.30am School Mass</b>		J.Mary RIP Holy Souls
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> <i>Lent Feria</i>	<b>6.45am Mass</b> <i>6.00pm Stations of the Cross &amp; Confession</i>	<b>9.30am Mass</b>	Carlos Rey Letrondo RIP Vincente James Letrondo RIP
Saturday 15 <sup>th</sup> <i>Lent Feria</i>	<b>10.00am Mass</b> <i>Confession 10.30 – 11am</i>		Holy Souls
<b>YEAR C</b>	<b>4.00pm Vigil Mass</b>		Edeltrudes Fernandes RIP
<b>SUNDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>	<b>8.45am Mass</b>		Nora & Pat Breen RIP
<b>SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT</b>		<b>10.00am Mass</b>	Geraldine Peissel RIP
	<b>11.15am Mass</b>		People of the Parish
<b>Violet</b>		<i>5.00pm Confessions</i> <b>5.30pm Mass</b>	Holy Souls

**WELCOME TO MASS ON THIS FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT.** The music at the Vigil Mass today will be led by Fr Guy Nichols of the Birmingham Oratory and the participants of the Plainchant Day.

It was great to see so many people at the Masses of Ash Wednesday to make a really good start to Lent. Of course, Lent is more 'marathon' than 'sprint' and so it takes graced determination to keep a good Lent – especially as the weeks roll on!

It has been quite interesting to hear much in the media, and from many of our leading figures, about the Muslim fast of Ramadan....but precious little about the sacred season of Lent. Sadly, the main event of interest in England on Ash Wednesday seemed to be the National Pie Competition in Melton Mowbray. More than a little ironic on that day of fasting and abstinence...but also very telling about our national culture today. As the Christian story seems to become ever more distant from our nation's consciousness, we need to be ever more insistent on it – for, in the living out of the Christian year, the gospel message can take root within our families and communities.

Fridays in Lent. 6.45am Mass at St John's. 9.30am Mass at St Joseph's. 6pm Stations of the Cross.

We are very fortunate that St John's church is open every day. Do take the opportunity this Lent to spend some time before Our Lord, present in the Blessed Sacrament in the tabernacle, or to walk the Stations of the Cross.

**CONFESSION – THE SACRAMENT OF MERCY** - This is one of the two sacraments of healing. As it has at its heart forgiveness, it is a sacrament of tremendous joy.... and yet one of the more neglected sacraments of the Church! There are many Catholics who simply 'don't go there.' Maybe because it's been so long – perhaps since Confirmation – that the thought of it is too much, not sure of what to do, or too embarrassed. Every year people come to Confession having put it off for years because of such things as this. Afterwards they rejoiced having seized the opportunity, a moment of grace where the Lord comes to them in his merciful love – and not really understanding their reluctance.

The time for us to fulfil our Easter duties (one of which is Confession – at least for those of us who are sinners) has come. Confessions at St John's are on Friday evenings, Saturday mornings, and at St Joseph's on Sunday evening.

**Mass Attendance Survey** - As we are preparing to move to just one priest in the parish, and the consequent change to schedules this will entail, we are collating views on Sunday Masses, weekday Masses and Holy Days. There will be a reduction in what is possible with just one priest, and so we will need to focus on what we need as a parish, rather on what we want. These were available last Sunday, but there will be some available today to those who missed it. If you would wish to complete them and return asap.

Thank you to the choir of Our Lady of the Angels, Nuneaton, for singing so magnificently at Mass last Saturday. It was a joy to welcome them.

**MASS WITH SACRAMENT OF THE SICK** – Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 11am. Following mass our St. Vincent de Paul group will be serving a soup lunch in the Dupuis Centre. The mass is especially for those who are sick or housebound and find it difficult to come to church. Transport can be arranged by contacting the parish office. If you would like to come to lunch afterwards there will be a sign-up sheet at the back of church or contact the parish office.

**SOUP & A SMILE" AT A WARM HUB** – Tuesdays between 12.30pm and 2.30pm, for anyone who would appreciate a warm and friendly place to spend a couple of hours. Donations welcome. Contact Nicola on 07795 681226.

**MONDAY LUNCH CLUB** – The next lunch will be held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March.

**PADRE PIO** – Will meet next on the 18<sup>th</sup> March after morning mass.

**CATHOLIC MEN** - Looking for Faith, Friendship, and Fun? The Catenians could be your perfect match! We're an international network of Catholic men who meet regularly to support each other, strengthen our faith, and – most importantly – have a great time together.

Think: Family events, social gatherings, sporting activities, and more!

We offer: Strong friendships, support for your faith and family, a chance to give back to the community

Ready to learn more? Scan the QR code below or call Jim on 07580 539114.



**CAFOD LENT APPEAL – Family Fast Day collection:** Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection and be a pilgrim of hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year. You'll be supporting communities experiencing the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope. Use the CAFOD envelope in church, donate online at [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope) or call us on 0303 303 3030. You can also text CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10.

**PRAYING FOR POPE FRANCIS** -

As the Holy Father remains in hospital we keep him close in prayer.

*Almighty and Eternal God,  
you are the everlasting health of  
those who believe in you.*

*Hear our prayers for your sick servant Francis  
for whom we implore the aid of your tender mercy,  
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

**Our Lady of Lourdes, Health of the Sick, pray for him.**

**MISSIO RED BOXES** – If you have a red box which needs emptying please bring it to the presbytery or contact Sue Hale on 07814 733170 to arrange collection.

**Next weekend's second collection is for the CAFOD LENT APPEAL.**

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

*Of your charity, pray for the repose of the souls of those who have died recently,  
Particularly Margaret Monaghan.*

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

- 09 Fergus Noone 2015; Mary Waddoups 2006; Bridget Lafferty 1990; Leslie Moreby 1987
- 10 Diana Aylward 2024; 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

***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, Gwen Ingham, 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**

<b>Weekly Income: 2<sup>nd</sup> March</b>	<b><u>ST JOHN’S</u></b>	<b><u>ST JOSEPH’S</u></b>
Gift Aid	£ 95.00	£ 124.00
Non-Gift Aid	£ 573.10	£ 302.70
Contactless Card	£ 328.00	£ 25.00
January Standing Orders	£ 3113.00	£ 921.00
Cathedral Maintenance	£ 242.79	£ 40.81

***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**

<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)
	Gospel Sharing	Thursdays 6.00pm (Presbytery)
<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> Saturday, 6.30 – 8pm for children Yr 6 & 7 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)

**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**

When he calls on me, I will answer him;  
I will deliver him and give him glory,  
I will grant him length of days.

**Collect**

Grant, almighty God,  
through the yearly observances of holy Lent,  
that we may grow in understanding  
of the riches hidden in Christ  
and by worthy conduct pursue their effects.  
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****Deuteronomy 26:4-10**

Moses spoke to the people: 'The priest shall take the basket from your hand and set it down before the altar of the LORD your God. And you shall make response before the LORD your God, "A wandering Aramean was my father. And he went down into Egypt and sojourned there, few in number, and there he became a nation, great, mighty, and populous. And the Egyptians treated us harshly and humiliated us and laid on us hard labour. Then we cried to the LORD, the God of our fathers, and the LORD heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. And the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with great deeds of terror, with signs and wonders. And he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. And behold, now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground, which you, O LORD, have given me." And you shall set it down before the LORD your God and worship before the LORD your God.'

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 91(90):1-2. 10-11. 12-13. 14-15. R cf 15b**  
**Be with me, O Lord, in my distress. R/.**

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High,  
and abides in the shade of the Almighty,  
says to the LORD, 'My refuge,  
my stronghold, my God in whom I trust!' **R/.**

Upon you no evil shall fall,  
no plague approach your tent.  
For you has he commanded his angels  
to keep you in all your ways. **R/.**

They shall bear you upon their hands,  
lest you strike your foot against a stone.  
On the lion and the viper you will tread,  
and trample the young lion and the serpent. **R/.**

Since he clings to me in love, I will free him,  
protect him, for he knows my name.  
When he calls on me, I will answer him;  
I will be with him in distress;  
I will deliver him, and give him glory. **R/.**

**Second reading****Romans 10:8-13**

Brothers and Sisters: What does Scripture say? 'The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart' (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, 'Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame.' For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same Lord is Lord of all, bestowing his riches on all who call

on him. For, 'everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

**Gospel Acclamation**

Glory and praise to you, O Christ.  
One does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.  
Glory and praise to you, O Christ.

**Gospel****Luke 4:1-13**

At that time: Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were over, he was hungry.

The devil said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread.' And Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "Man shall not live by bread alone." '

And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, 'To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours.' And Jesus answered him, 'It is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God, and him only shall you serve." '

And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, 'If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you", and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone." ' And Jesus answered him, 'It is said, "You shall not put the Lord your God to the test." '

And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

**Prayer over the Offerings**

Give us the right dispositions, O Lord, we pray,  
to make these offerings,  
for with them we celebrate the beginning  
of this venerable and sacred time.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Communion Antiphon**

Man does not live by bread alone,  
but by every word that comes forth from the mouth of God.

**Prayer after Communion**

Renewed now with heavenly bread,  
by which faith is nourished, hope increased,  
and charity strengthened,  
we pray, O Lord,  
that we may learn to hunger for Christ,  
the true and living Bread,  
and strive to live by every word  
which proceeds from your mouth.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**Prayer over the People**

May bountiful blessing, O Lord, we pray,  
come down upon your people,  
that hope may grow in tribulation,  
virtue be strengthened in temptation,  
and eternal redemption be assured.  
Through Christ our Lord.