



# HOLY FAMILY PARISH

## NEWSLETTER

MAIDENHEAD & TWYFORD



St Joseph's & St Elizabeth's edition  
Issue #10

**The Exaltation of the Cross**  
**13/14th Sep 2025**

The Cross is the Christian symbol above all others. Where a relic of the True Cross is present, it is venerated with a devotion second only to the Blessed Sacrament itself: We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you, for by your Holy Cross you have redeemed the world.

In the beginning, our first parents were deceived by the tree of the knowledge of good and evil when Satan beguiled their minds. In the fullness of time, the Son of God used the tree of the Cross to beat Satan at his own game. He turned a sign of death into a sign of life and hope.

Satan has ever pleaded with God for power: to torment Job, to sift the apostles like wheat, to crucify Christ. And God often gives Satan what he asks for, for when evil has full rein, the glory of God can shine forth more splendidly.

Here is God's wisdom and Satan's folly. The evil one cannot understand God's secret and hidden wisdom, or he would not have crucified the Lord of Glory. Wanting to nail God to an accursed thing he succeeded only in releasing a blessing on all mankind and turning an instrument of shame into a badge of honour. Satan's hatred only served to magnify an infinite Love.

*For you placed the salvation of the human race on the wood of the Cross, so that where death arose, life might again spring forth, and the evil one who conquered on a tree might likewise on a tree be conquered, through Christ our Lord.*

### Sep 2025: Mass Times & Mass Intentions

|     |      |        |                                                                                                      |
|-----|------|--------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sat | 13th | 10:00* | Carol Peres, A<br>Carmo Rodrigues, A                                                                 |
|     |      | 13:00  | <b>Baptism:</b> Carmilo                                                                              |
|     |      | 18:30  | Jackie Coulthurst, SI<br>Regina Cardoso, Fabricio & Robert Carrer, SI                                |
| Sun | 14th | 08:00  | Alda Costa, A                                                                                        |
|     |      | 11:00  | Alfie Gibbs, SI                                                                                      |
|     |      | 11:30  | <b>St Elizabeth's Mass + BBQ (Sold out)</b><br>Tina Kathleen Mary & Family, SI<br>Liam O'Mahony, RIP |
|     |      | 17:00  | Chaundy Family, SI<br>Sean De Mesa, SI                                                               |
| Mon | 15th | 10:00  | No Mass. Mother's Prayers in Church                                                                  |
| Tue | 16th | 10:00  | Neville Langford, RIP                                                                                |
| Wed | 17th | 10:00* | Vincent Ray, SI                                                                                      |
| Thu | 18th | 10:00  | Coleman Family, FM                                                                                   |
| Fri | 19th | 10:00  |                                                                                                      |
| Sat | 20th | 10:00* | Blandina Rodrigues, A                                                                                |

\*Adoration before Mass (9-10am)

A: Death Anniversary; FM: Foundation Mass; RIP: Rest in Peace, SI: Special Intentions

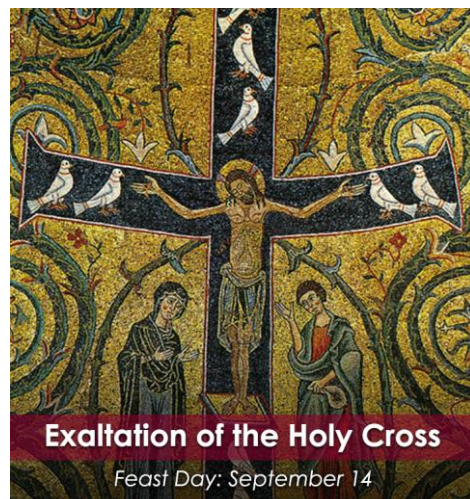
**1<sup>st</sup>: Num 21:4-9** If anyone was bitten by a serpent, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

**Ps 77 R/ Never forget the deeds of the Lord!**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Phil 2:6-11** He humbled himself, therefore God has highly exalted him.

**Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! We adore you, O Christ, and we bless you; because by your cross you have redeemed the world. Alleluia!**

**Gospel: Jn 3:13-17** The Son of Man must be lifted up.



Our deepest condolences to Rosie Akehurst, St Mary's Headteacher, on the passing of her father, William Pratley. His Requiem Funeral Mass is at Our Lady of Grace (Booker, High Wycombe) on 23<sup>rd</sup> September at 10am.

### Works of Mercy: Care for Our Common Home

Pope Leo reminded us that "the beauty of creation is a revelation of God as the source of goodness". He urged us to see creation, not as a problem to solve but, "a mystery to be contemplated with gratitude."

Rejoice in and celebrate our amazing Land and Environment by joining for Prayer and Reflection in Riverside Gardens **on 20 Sept at 11am**. At home, please be aware of the amount of water we use. When possible, spend time in the outdoors with nature. Create a space and environment that will promote wild life.

**Pray for and Protect Our Common Home**

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Website: <https://holyfamilyparish.org.uk/> Office: Carolyn 01628783988 [office@stjosephsparish.co.uk](mailto:office@stjosephsparish.co.uk)

## PARISH NEWS/ EVENTS

- **Sun 5pm Masses** Please let the office know if you would like to sign up for music or as a reader/ sacristan/ eucharistic minister!
- **27 Sep 10.45am Fire Marshal Follow up training** (SJ-specific). Topics: familiarisation with Fire Alarm Procedures & Evacuation Routes; Arrangements for the mobility impaired, duties of the Marshal. The Register of Marshals will be updated on completion of the training. A light lunch will be available for all those attending. Please email the office to confirm your attendance.
- **Oct every Wed 7pm** in St Elizabeth Room. Fr Kevin will be giving a series of talks on **Social Teaching of the Catholic Church** - how do we live out our Christian faith in a world where the clash between the values of the Kingdom and the values of the World are often in conflict? See posters. All are welcome.

## OTHER COURSES / EVENTS

- **20 Sep 10.30-1.30pm CAFOD Meeting** Hear about the difference your donations make to communities around the world. St Bedes Church Hall Basingstoke. Lunch incl- book: [jlewry@cafod.org.uk](mailto:jlewry@cafod.org.uk)
- **21 Sep St Vincent & Padre Pio Deliverance /Healing Convention** in Wales. Depart 5am from St Ethelbert's church. £45(incl lunch). Call Clara/Natty 07878414389/ 07397149269
- **27 Sep Charity Concert** SEC Church. Feat. Reading & Mevagissey Male Voice Choir. Tickets £15 incl a glass of wine/ soft drink, 12-18 year olds ½ price and under 12's free. Tickets from SEC office or [ticketsource.co.uk/readingmalevoicechoir](https://ticketsource.co.uk/readingmalevoicechoir)
- **2 Oct 6pm & 12 Nov 9.30am St Joseph's College Open events.** Book a visit here: <https://tinyurl.com/yc8k433u>
- **4 Oct 10am A Day with Mary** Our Lady of Peace (Reading) <https://tinyurl.com/57ebmc2k>
- **25 Oct from 10.45am Gregorian Chant** Learn and rehearse Gregorian Chant at St William of York, Reading, and sing at the 5.30pm Mass! Poster and info at <https://tinyurl.com/3pj65php>
- **8 Nov 7.30pm Musicals & Opera Night** 36th Annual evening by the Catenians. Clare's Court School. Tickets £30 pp or £25 'early bird' before 30 Sep. Tickets from Jonathan manorcott@outlook.com or 07740 430599. All profits to CAFOD. Watch link for previous event <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LXUWrbuRs6I>

## REGULAR EVENTS IN THE PARISH

- ❖ **Saturdays Confessions** after 10am Mass / before 6.30pm Mass
- ❖ **2nd Sundays 2.30-5pm Loss & Bereavement Group** SEC
- ❖ **3rd Sundays 3.00pm Filipino Mass** in SJ
- ❖ **Wednesdays: 5-6pm Taiji** in SJ Hall.
- ❖ **Thursdays Zoom Room: 2pm Rosary**
- ❖ **6pm Journey together through Holy scriptures** [www.tinyurl.com/2hz5axvp](http://www.tinyurl.com/2hz5axvp)
- ❖ **Thursdays 7pm Yoga** with Una in SJ Hall
- ❖ **Fridays 8.45-10:45am Baby & Toddler Group** SEC (term time)

**The Children Liturgy Team is missing their 2 ✚ crucifixes ✚. If you have borrowed them, please return ASAP!**

**AgeUK** has a series of support clubs/ events in for older people or living with dementia, stroke, etc. Do join in/ bring someone to join the events:

<https://www.ageuk.org.uk/berkshire/activities-and-events/whats-on---windsor--maidenhead/>

**MAIDENHEAD STREET ANGELS NEED YOUR HELP!** Maidenhead Street Angels are reaching out for new volunteers to join their team. For more info, please see posters on the noticeboards or email [stangelsm@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:stangelsm@hotmail.co.uk)

**CAFOD Family Fast Day Appeal this Harvest**  
Your generosity in this Jubilee Year will help build more water tanks in communities like Waré's (Ethiopia) where women walk for hours to get water. Use a CAFOD envelope, donate online [cafod.org.uk/envelope](https://cafod.org.uk/envelope), call 0303 303 3030 or text 70560 ("CAFOD") to donate £10.



## COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK \*

Gift Aid: **£328.05** Non-GA: **£899.40**

Thank you for Gift-Aiding – HMRC contributed **£82.01!**

\* Loose plate + Dona/Sumup

**SACRAMENTALS** All **forms** for below can be found here: <https://stjosephsparish.co.uk/newsletter/>

- **💧 Baptism Course 7 Oct** For parents whose child is being baptised in M'head. Contact Fr Ephraim/Norma/office.
- **🕯 First Holy Communion 2026** Your child must be at least in Year 4 in May 2026. **Closing date: 29 Sept 2025**
- **💧 Confirmation 2026** Your child must be between 13 (by end April 2026) and <18 years of age by June 2026 and have already received the sacraments of Baptism and Eucharist (First Holy Communion). If they have not, please speak to Fr Ephraim. **Closing date: 6 Oct 2025**
- **✚ OCIA 2026** (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) For anyone who wishes to explore their faith, as adults, with a view to possibly becoming a Baptised and Confirmed member of the Catholic Church next Easter. Programme runs from Oct 25- Apr 26). Talk to one of our priests or OCIA catechists. More info on Holy Family Parish Website.
- **♥ MARRIAGE:** Marriage Care will be holding a **marriage preparation day** for couples getting married in the Catholic Church in **St Joseph's parish hall on Saturday 22nd Nov**. Book: <https://www.marriagecare.org.uk/find-pt-course/>
- **🔊 Significant marriage anniversaries** We are celebrating the Sacrament of Marriage on **29 Nov 11am**. RSVP now! <https://forms.office.com/e/izp8FMaK6Y> (please RSVP again due to the change in date)

- New volunteers are needed! Enrol for the Certificate in Relationship Counselling (CRC) course with Marriage Care. See [www.marriagecare.org.uk](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk) or email [Sue.cooper@marriagecare.org](mailto:Sue.cooper@marriagecare.org). We are reaching out early to give you the opportunity to benefit from a new and additional pathway we are offering - the option to volunteer with our marriage preparation service prior to the CRC selection. To find out more and to register your interest, please visit: [www.marriagecare.org.uk](http://www.marriagecare.org.uk) or email: [volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk](mailto:volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk)