



HOLY FAMILY PARISH

NEWSLETTER

MAIDENHEAD & TWYFORD



St Joseph's & St Elizabeth's edition
Issue #9

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time
6/7th Sep 2025

In this stark gospel, Jesus calls on us to count the cost of being his disciples. This was not empty talk for the first hearers, because some of them would die as martyrs. In a very strong expression, Jesus tells us that we must hate everyone in our family. The word "hate" here does not mean becoming actively hostile—as we can see from Jesus' words about God and mammon, "hating" (or loving less) one master and "loving" (or preferring) the other. Rather, Jesus emphasises that serving him has to come first in our lives, if there is a major conflict. Jesus also says that we cannot be his disciples without hating our own lives — not meaning us always to be miserable, but to put him first. In practice, this could mean giving up our possessions in answer to his call. The exact implications of Jesus' call will differ for each person, but the meaning is clear. Jesus' call will challenge us all to be wholehearted disciples.

We ask the Holy Spirit to guide us wisely in our thinking and action.

1st: Wis 9:13-18 Who can discern what the Lord wills?

Ps 90 R/ Oh lord, you have been our refuge, from generation to generation

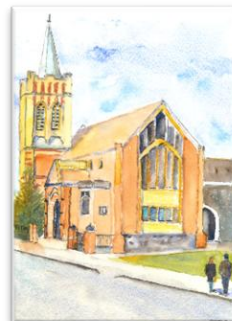
2nd: Phlm 9-10, 12-17 You have come to Mount Sion and to the city of the living God

Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! Let your face shine forth on your servant and teach me your decrees. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luke 14:25-33 Anyone who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple

Sep 2025: Mass Times & Mass Intentions

Sat	6th	10:00*	Cecilia & Don Leanage, SI Frederick Witoff, RIP
		18:30	Legion of Mary, SI Julia Richardson, FM
Sun	7th	08:00	Manueline D'Costa, SI Maria Furtado, RIP Viriato & Clara Fernandes, A
		09:15	Jace King, SI Enrique Dubois, A Denis McCrea Steele, A
		11:00	Ray Connell, SI Matthew D'Souza, SI Don & Cecilia Leanage, 55 th Anniversary 🛎 Livia Monteiro, RIP
		17:00	Mass of the Parish of Holy Family
Mon	8th	10:00	No Mass. Mother's Prayers in Church
		11:30	Funeral: William O'Mahony
Tue	9th	10:00	Margaret Sayer, SI John Coleman Jr, FM
		11:00	Funeral: Stephen Clougherty
Wed	10th	10:00*	Mother's Prayers Group, SI
Thu	11th	10:00	Suzy Fernandes, SI Katie & Sydney Bond, A
Fri	12th	10:00	Duncan Smith, A Coleman Family, FM
Sat	13th	10:00*	Carol Peres, A Carmo Rodrigues, A



St Joseph's Church by Fr Brian Oswald
Pre-order your cards now! Single cards @ £2 or pack of 3 for £5.
<https://stjosephsparish.co.uk/shop> See sample outside Parish Office (on the door).

All proceeds to support Thames Hospice. See/ Buy the original painting at an art exhibition being held at St Joseph's on the weekend of the 1st/2nd November this year.

Works of Mercy: Care for Our Common Home

Catholic Social Teaching and Works of Mercy provide a vision for a just society in which the dignity of all people is recognised. We are reminded, that God created the sun and the stars; the water and the earth; every creature and mankind in his own image. We believe that Christ is the redeemer of all creation. Our Prayers and Actions should reflect on how we relate to one another and to God's Creation. Let us make a special effort to Care for The Environment by working together to revive neglected spaces or overlooked areas for the benefit of our community and the insects and creatures that will thrive there. Please continue to support the work of our partners, Sue Brett Foundation, Salvation Army, Food Share & SVP with your generous donations. Thank you!

*Adoration before Mass (9-10am) A: Death Anniversary; FM: Foundation Mass; RIP: Rest in Peace, SI: Special Intentions

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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!
- The **Children's Liturgy Team** looks forward to welcoming you back for the new term this Sun during the 11am Mass. All children from 3 years old (and parents) are very welcome to join. **Liturgists** - Please pick up new rotas from the top drawer of the filing cabinet in the kitchen. Please contact Tricia 01628 627265 for offers of help!
- **13 Sept 11am Season of Creation** Come enjoy time in prayer and reflection, surrounded by God's Creation, in Ockwell's Park
- **14 Sep 11.30am** St Elizabeth's Mass (**no 9.15am Mass**), followed by BBQ. Get tickets from office! £5 includes a burger and squash
- **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.

OTHER COURSES / EVENTS

- **20 Sep 10.30-1.30pm CAFOD Meeting** Come and hear about the difference your donations are making to communities around the world. St Bedes Church Hall Basingstoke. A simple lunch will be provided so please book by emailing Jo on jlewy@cafod.org.uk
- **21 Sep St Vincent & Padre Pio Deliverance /Healing Convention** in Wales. Depart 5am from St Ethelbert's church and leave Pantasaph (Wales) at 5pm. £45(incl lunch). Call Clara/Natty 07878414389/ 07397149269
- **27 Sep Charity Concert** SEC Church. Feat. Reading Male Voice Choir and Mevagissey Male Voice Choir (2024 best male choir in Cornwall). Proceeds to Alexander Devine, Church maintenance & SVP. Music mix of country, pop, theatre, opera, etc. Tickets £15 incl a glass of wine or soft drink, 12-18 year olds ½ price and under 12's free. Tickets: ticketsource.co.uk/readingmalevoicechoir
- **4 Oct 10am A Day with Mary** Our Lady of Peace (Reading) <https://tinyurl.com/57ebmc2k>
- Interested in **Practical Art**? Join U3A untutored Art Group. Bring your art materials and join in the fun every first & third Tuesdays 2-4pm in SJ Hall. Contact Peter 01628 674097 for more info

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
- ❖ **Thursdays 7pm** Yoga with Una in SJ Hall
- ❖ **Fridays 8.45-10:45am Baby & Toddler Group** SEC (term time)

Postponed: CELEBRATION OF MARRIAGE
13 Sept. This will take place later in the year.

AgeUK has a series of support clubs/ events in the community 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/>

THANK YOU

Today I am sending a brief message to express my gratitude. I have just come back from South Sudan, where I saw for myself the impact of the work that CAFOD supports and how it makes a huge difference in the lives of so many people. I saw farmers excited about their floating vegetable gardens, a group of young women feeling positive about their future because they are now saving and daily food provisions given to displaced people by the local church. That's why I want to say: thank you so much for everything that you do for CAFOD. Your prayers sustain our work for a more just and compassionate world. Together, we can continue to build a better world where all people can flourish - as God intended, Thank you again, for being a part of it. Christine.

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.
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- **MARRIAGE:** Interested in training and volunteering as a Relationship Counsellor with Marriage Care? We are a Catholic organisation specialising in relationship support and are currently looking for those who would be interested in training via our Certificate in Relationship Counselling (CRC) course. 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 or email: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk
 - **GETTING MARRIED: 6 Sep Preparing Together** Church of St Peter & St John (1, Caesar's Camp Rd, Camberley, GU15 4ED). See www.marriagecare.org.uk for more info/ book. Phone queries: 0800 389 3801 (Mon-Thu 0900-1800h)