



HOLY FAMILY PARISH

NEWSLETTER



www.holyfamilyparish.org.uk

St Joseph's & St Elizabeth's edition
Issue #13

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time
4/5th Oct 2025

Faith teaches us that our lives as Christians are about being always grateful for the privilege of being one with Jesus in his work of making God's love a reality in the world. And this privilege fills us with hope and joy. It is not about power, possessions, pleasure, status or reputation.

Our tradition teaches us that an aspect of faith is an occasional sense of God's absence. This can take many forms like a search for identity, despair, difficulty in prayer or finding it impossible and even frustration or rejection with the Church. While it is hard to bear, St. Therese of Lisieux saw these times as moments when we are called to persevere in trust.

As Jesus makes clear in the Gospel, faith opens our lives and actions to the possibility of benefitting from the immense power of the Holy Spirit. While we may not move mountains, faith and trust in Jesus will reward us with unexpected and surprising miracles. Faith is a gift that lives in, and nurtured by living in a community. That is why regular celebration of the Eucharist and continual reflection on the Word is nourishing and crucial.

As important aspect of opening our lives to the power of faith is willingness to let go, that life is a journey in which dying and rising are continual realities. The Cross teaches us the way to live and to love.

While we are deeply concerned about the state of the world, we remember that Jesus shares their suffering, and, as disciples, we have a responsibility to pray and work for peace, and in that prayer to unite ourselves with those who are victims of war and violence.



Oct 2025: Mass Times & Mass Intentions

Sat	4th	10:00*	Kaya Coker, SI Teresa Wall, SI
		18:30	Kevin McGarry, RIP
Sun	5th	08:00	Larissa Sequeira, SI
		09.15	Beldom Family, SI
		11:00	Ana Silva, SI Rosemary Gaspe, RIP Piotr, RIP Carl O'Donovan, A
		17:00	Mass of the Parish of Holy Family
Mon	6th	10:00	No Mass. Mother's Prayers group in Church
Tue	7th	10:00	David Cloet, SI Fr Ephraim, SI
Wed	8th	10:00*	Thanksgiving by Carmina Noronha Bernard Carty, SI
Thu	9th	10:00	Fr Noah Monday, SI Coleman Family, FM
Fri	10th	10:00	Sherril Phillip, SI Kevin McGarry, RIP
Sat	11th	10:00*	Anthony Britto, SI Alcide Rodrigues, A

*Adoration before Mass (9-10am)

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

1st: Hab 1:2-3, 2:2-4 The righteous shall live by his faith.

Ps 95 R/ Oh that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.

2nd: 2 Tim 1:6-8, 13-14 Do not be ashamed of the testimony about our Lord.

Acclamation: Alleluia! Alleluia! The word of the Lord remains for ever and this word is the good news that was preached to you. Alleluia!

Gospel: Luk 17:5-10 If you had faith.

✠ **RIP: Kevin McGarry** ✠

Our condolences to Maureen & the family. Kevin was a key member of the Catenians and a solid pillar of our Liturgy Team. He trained & recruited many readers and led the team on Easter Triduum & Christmases. Kevin will be greatly missed.

Funeral Mass on Wed 15 Oct at 11am

St Vincent de Paul Society M'head

18 Oct 7.30pm 3rd musical Evening at SEC school hall. Proceeds to sustain and expand the support given by SVP to those in need in the community. Tickets £10 pp avail after Sunday Masses or from Siobhan 07816 445 416. Please note BYO wine, beer & glasses. Soft drinks and snacks available to buy (cash only). Please contact Peter on 07976 625 813 if you would like to take part as a singer, or play an instrument, solo /part of a group! Thank you for your support.

Join SVP! Help us broaden our reach across the local community. We befriend and have regular contact with the lonely, vulnerable, housebound, sick, etc. Meetings on first Mondays of the month. Contact Siobhan on 07816 445 416.

COLLECTIONS LAST WEEK *

Gift Aid: **£159.00** ↓ Non-GA: **£724.06** ↓

Thank you for Gift-Aid! HMRC added **£39.75!**

* Loose plate + Dona/Sumup

Works of Mercy: Visit the Imprisoned

This month, we focus on the Imprisoned - those who are in prison, are suffering from the impact of Climate Change, are affected by confinement, captivity or being constricted. They all need our support, understanding and prayers. When we support CAFOD on Harvest Fast Day and throughout the year, we extend our Helping Hand to our Imprisoned Brothers and Sisters around our World. In this Month of Mary please Pray for those in our community who visit and support prisoners. Thank you !

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HFP: Holy Family Parish; SJ: St Joseph; SEC: St Edmund Campion;
STM: St Thomas More

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!
- **4 Oct 11:30am** 🐦 Blessing of 🐟 pets 🐱 in STM 🚗 carpark 🐾
- **Oct every Wed 7pm** in St Elizabeth Room. Talk series by Fr Kevin (part of the OCIA programme) 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.
- **25 Oct 10am Jubilee Year Holy Doors** Join HFP priests at St James Church Forbury Rd, Reading RG1 3FD to celebrate going through the Holy Doors. There will be penitential service & confession, followed by Mass. There will be no 10am Mass in the Parish. All are welcome.

OTHER COURSES / EVENTS

- **Oct-Dec Douai Abbey Days of Reflection.** Please see Vision Group noticeboard for more info. Lifts available on 13 Dec by Vision Group.
- **18 Oct Rejoice: Space for Women** For women to explore what it means to rejoice. Salesian College, Chertsey KT16 8BX. Contact 07477157598 or see www.tinyurl.com/3m423e5f
- **16 -19 Oct St. Birinus Festival** A full weekend of sung liturgy in the ancient Roman Rite. Dorchester Abbey, Dorchester-on-Thames' See southwellconsort.com/stbirinusfestival
- **24-26 Oct Retreat for Men**
- **8 Nov 7.30pm Musicals & Opera Night** 36th Annual evening by the Catenians. Claire's Court School. Tickets £30 pp. Tickets from Jonathan manorcott@outlook.com. All profits to CAFOD.
- **10 Nov 4N Jubilee Tour** Westport, Knock & Co Mayo £799.00pps. Contact 01268 762 278/ 07740 175557 knockpilgrimages@gmail.com
- **15 Nov 10.30am Thanksgiving Mass** by Bishop Egan. St Joseph's in Basingstoke RG22 6TY. Register caritas@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
- **28 Nov 10am Supernatural** a day of prophetic preaching. Sign up: <https://coretlumenchristi.churchsuite.com/events/a3vpt9y>

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, online: via QR code → or cafod.org.uk/envelope or call 0303 303 3030 or text 70560 ("CAFOD") to donate £10.



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
- ❖ **Thursdays Zoom Room: 2pm Rosary 6pm Journey together through Holy scriptures** www.tinyurl.com/2hz5axvp
- ❖ **Fridays 8.45-10:45am Baby & Toddler Group** SEC (term time)

CLASSES/ EVENTS IN SJ CENTRE

- **15 Oct 7-9pm Sewing workshop** with a fashion designer! Book: 07305 186158. See www.unicornfashionstudio.co.uk Limited spaces! Price: £36 (£29 if you mention St Jo)
- **28 Nov 7pm International Dinner.** Tickets @ £25 from Annette. All proceeds to a MHM literacy project in Sindh, Pakistan
- **Tuesdays: 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.
- **Mondays 2pm Seated Exercise** in St Elizabeth Room. £8/session
- **Wednesdays: 5-6pm Taiji** in Hall.
- **Thursdays 7pm Yoga** with Una in Hall
- Pick up your free Message in a Bottle in the hallway near our library. See leaflets for more info! Thank you, Lions Club!
- **Art Exhibition at St Joseph's Parish Centre** Painting and ceramics exhibition by a group of local artists

31 Oct: 7.00 pm - 9.30 pm
1 Nov: 10.30 am - 7.30 pm
2 Nov: 9.00 am - 1.30 pm



Come see the original painting of St Joseph's by Fr Brian, enjoy refreshments and meet the artists! Limited edition Christmas cards will be available (proceeds to Thames Hospice).

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** **Information session Sun 12 Oct 10am** in St Joseph's Church, followed by Mass.
- **🔥 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.** **Induction meeting in SEC Church on Sat 11 Oct 5pm.**
- **🕊 OCIA 2026** (Order of Christian Initiation of Adults) For adults who wishing to explore their faith or considering Baptism and/or Confirmation next Easter. Programme runs from **Oct 25-Apr 26**, beginning with Fr Kevin's talk on "The Social Teaching of the Catholic Church" (see Parish News above) Talk to one of our priests or OCIA catechists.
- **♥ 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/> Thinking of getting married? Enquire via our online form! (see link above)
- **🕊 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)
- **✠ November: Month of Holy Souls** Our priests will visit and bless the graves of loved ones on Sunday **9 Nov** at **Braywick (2pm) and Cookham (3pm).** More information will be available in Oct.