

The Catholic Parish of Carpenders Park & South Oxhey  
St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drive, Watford WD19 7SW  
carpenderspark@rcdow.org.uk  
www.carpenderspark.org.uk



**5th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 5th February 2023**

Fr John Warnaby Parish Priest Tel: 0208 428 0088  
Linda Grimes Parish Administrator Tel: 0208 428 0088  
Office hours: Tuesday & Friday 9am-3pm

**MASS INTENTIONS**

Saturday 4th February	Vigil: 5th Sunday	6.00pm	John Green RIP
Sunday 5th February	5th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	People of the Parish
		10.30am	Margaret Loftus RIP
Tuesday 7th February	Feria	7.00pm	Maurice Rodrigo RIP
Wednesday 8th February	Feria	9.15am	Julie Bartle RIP
Thursday 9th February	Feria	11.00am	Requiem Mass Tommy Joyce RIP No 9.15am Mass
Friday 10th February	St Scholastica	9.15am	Mary Matthews RIP
Saturday 11th February	Vigil: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm	People of the Parish

**CONFESSIONS: Saturday 5.30pm or see Fr John**

**Mass Intentions: Please leave plenty of time if you want a special date**

**Liturgy of the Word: 5th February 2023**

**Entrance Antiphon:** O come, let us worship God  
and bow low before the God who made us,  
for he is the Lord our God.

**Responsorial Psalm:** The good man is a light in the darkness for the upright.

**Gospel Acclamation:** Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the light of the world, says the Lord,  
anyone who follows me  
will have the light of life.  
Alleluia!

**Next week's Readings:** Eccles.15:15-20, Psalm 118, 1 Corinthians 2: 6-10, Matthew 5: 20-37

“You are the light of the world – you are the salt of the earth”. These words of Jesus in our Gospel today are not addressed privately to the group of his twelve apostles. They are directed instead to all his disciples gathered to listen to him preach what we know as his Sermon on the Mount. That this is the case is underlined by the fact that in today’s liturgy the Church links this Gospel passage to the first reading from the Prophet Isaiah. There the Lord, speaking through his prophet, addressed not just a special group but the whole people of Israel. “Your light must shine like the dawn – your light must rise in the darkness.”

This means of course that as disciples of Jesus, we are meant to hear these words as being addressed directly to us, both as individuals, but also as a community of faith. We together are called to be salt for the people of our time. We are called to be present in the midst of our society as a community of faith which preserves the integrity and wholeness of our community, just as salt preserves food from decay. We are meant to be, like salt added to food, a presence which brings out the best in our society. And we are meant to be like a light shining in the darkness of our society, helping people to find their way to the fullness of life God so deeply desires for all his children.

This is a responsibility we all share as brothers and sisters in Christ. It is the task we have been given by the Lord who has called us into his Church so that together we can be a clear, living and attractive sign of the ongoing presence of Jesus in our world today.

“Continue to walk in the faith, and faithful to the mandate that has been entrusted to you, go out with solicitude and joy to all creatures and pass on to them the gift of salvation. . . . be guided by the Holy Spirit to be the leaven of new life, salt of the earth and light of the world.” Pope Benedict

### World Day of the Sick

On Saturday 11th **February 2023**, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes, and the 31st World Day of the Sick, Cardinal Vincent will celebrate Mass in the Cathedral at **2.30pm**. During this Mass anointing of the sick will be offered. This is a ticket only event, so please contact Linda in the parish office if you wish to attend.



### Friends of the Holy Land

Presents



The London Welsh Male Voice  
Choir

with Guest Soloists - The Priests

### Charity concert in support of Christians in The Holy Land

An evening of virtuoso singing at Westminster Cathedral

Thursday 16th February at 7:30pm.

The London Welsh Male Voice Choir will be performing, along with guest soloists *The Priests*.

Tickets £20-£60 are available online from [www.eventbrite.co.uk](http://www.eventbrite.co.uk) (search LWMVC)

### Society of St Gregory –Study course

SSG will be running a second year of liturgical formation, **Taking Liturgy Seriously 2**. The 2023 modular study course starts in February and will take place via Zoom. Each module will comprise three one-hour sessions.

Further details can be found on the poster at the back of church or <https://www.ssg.org.uk/taking-liturgy-seriously-2-ssg-study-course/>

### Petition to stop the introduction of abortion up to birth

In 2021, abortion campaigners brought forward an amendment to a Government Bill that would have introduced abortion on demand, for any reason, up to birth (including sex-selective abortion).

This amendment did not go to a vote and pass, but the abortion lobby is expected to make another attempt to introduce this extreme abortion law change shortly. This would be the single biggest change to abortion legislation since 1967 and would introduce one of the most extreme abortion laws in the world.

Right To Life UK is running a petition to ask the Prime Minister to do everything in his power to stop the introduction of abortion up to birth. Please add your name to the petition here:

<https://righttolife.org.uk/signthepetitionorishi>

### Retrouvaille: A Programme for Couples Struggling in their Marriages

Help Your Marriage – Do you feel alone? Are you frustrated or angry with each other? Do you argue ... or have you just stopped talking to each other? Does talking about it only make it worse? Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples who have difficulties in their marriage. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage. Tens of thousands of couples headed for divorce have successfully saved their marriages by attending and using the tools provided. The programme helps spouses uncover or re-awaken the love, trust and commitment that originally brought them together. It helps them through difficult times whether they are disillusioned or in deep misery. There is no group therapy or group work.

For confidential information about 'Retrouvaille' or to register for the next programme commencing with a Face to Face weekend in Welwyn Garden City on **24 - 26 February 2023**, or a Virtual weekend on **6 - 9 July 2023**, call or text 07887 296983 or 07973 380443 or email [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) - or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)



### Vacancies at St Michael's Catholic High School

There are vacancies for a Learning Support Assistant and a Cover Supervisor. See posters at the back of church for further details-it's on the side wall. Applications must be received by the *new* deadline of *midday on Monday 20th February*

<https://www.stmichaelscatholichighschool.co.uk/170/non-teaching-vacancies>

### School Places for September 2023 - St Joseph's School

**Nursery**-Now offering full time provision (9am-3pm). Applications for admission has opened for children born between 1 September 2019 and 31 August 2020. Apply to the school. **Deadline for applications is 24 February 2023.**

Further info can be found on the school website under *Statutory Information > Admissions*. Alternatively, call the school office on 0208 428 5371 or email [admin@stjosephs775.herts.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjosephs775.herts.sch.uk)

**Please remember all our sick parishioners in your prayers, especially**

Helen Birch, Bebe Ryan and Alice Sheppard.

### Offertory for Sunday 29th January 2023

Envelopes	£239.96
Loose	£361.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>£600.97</b>

*Many thanks*