

The Catholic Parish of Carpenters Park & South Oxhey
St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drive, Watford WD19 7SW
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 Create in me
a pure heart, O God,
and renew a
steadfast
spirit within me.
- Psalm 51:10

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 12th 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 11th February	Vigil: 6th Sunday	6.00pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 12th February	6th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	Margaret Maule
		10.30am	Parish Volunteers
Tuesday 14th February	Ss Cyril & Methodius	7.00pm	Tommy Joyce RIP
Wednesday 15th February	Feria	9.15am	Gerry Archer RIP
Thursday 16th February	Feria	9.15am	The Conlon family
Friday 17th February	Feria	9.15am	Kathleen Andrews & family
Saturday 18th February	Vigil: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time	6.00pm	Rosemary Roberts RIP

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: 12th February 2023

Entrance Antiphon:

Be my protector, O God,
a mighty stronghold to save me.
For you are my rock, my stronghold!
Lead me, guide me, for the sake of your name.

Responsorial Psalm:

They are happy who follow God's law!

Gospel Acclamation:

Alleluia, alleluia!
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:
you have the message of eternal life.
Alleluia!

Next week's Readings: Leviticus 19: 1-2, 17-18, Psalm 102, I Corinthians 3: 16-23, Matthew 5: 38-48

For the people of Israel the "law" could refer to the ten commandments or to the five Books of Moses, called the Pentateuch or Torah, which explain the commandments and ordinances of God for his people. There developed through rabbis and scribes a further number of laws or binding interpretations of how the Law must govern day to day life. Jesus criticised this scribal law as man-made: placing burdens on people which God had not intended.

Jesus taught reverence and respect for God's law - reverence for God himself, reverence for the Lord's Day, reverence or respect for parents, respect for life and for our neighbours, their property and good name. Reverence and respect for God's commandments teach us the way of love - love of God and love of each member of the human family.

Jesus said he had come not to abolish the Law of God, but to complete it. He gives the example of the commandment not to kill: we complete that Law when we succeed not only in avoiding killing, but avoid even getting angry with someone else. The desire to hurt or to kill springs from anger in the heart and God's love should be written in our hearts so that our actions conform to his will. "A pure heart create for me O God, put a steadfast spirit within me." (Psalm 51)

God gives us the grace, help, and strength to love as he loves, to forgive as he forgives and to act as he acts with mercy, loving-kindness, and goodness.

Jesus promised his disciples that he would give them the gift of the Holy Spirit who writes God's law of love and truth on our hearts. The Holy Spirit teaches us God's truth and gives us wisdom and understanding of God's ways. The Spirit helps us in our weakness, strengthens us when we are tempted and has the power to transform us, day by day, into the likeness of Jesus.

CAFOD Syria-Turkey Earthquake Appeal

CAFOD is responding with support of provision of food, water, shelter, medical assistance and winter kits for survivors. Let us join CAFOD in praying for our sisters and brothers affected by the earthquakes and the winter weather. Your support for CAFOD throughout the year allows our Catholic agency to act quickly when disasters strike. For more details visit CAFOD's Syria Turkey Emergency Appeal online at <https://cafod.org.uk/give>.

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 (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/signthepetitiontorishi>

We will shortly be ordering envelopes for offertory collections for the next financial year. We are grateful for all your financial help, though in a few cases your envelopes were rarely used and didn't even cover the cost to us of supplying them!

Please help us if you can, to meet our increasing costs-particularly in heating and lighting.

The most helpful way of supporting the parish is donating by standing order, which also reduces our volunteers' work in counting .

If you would like to switch from envelopes or cash, to standing order, please let us know asap. Alternatively, pick up a standing order form at the back of the church.



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

Please remember all our sick parishioners in your prayers, especially

Helen Birch, Bebe Ryan and Alice Sheppard.

Offertory for Sunday 5th February 2023

Envelopes	£243.67
Loose	£405.82
Total	£649.49

Standing orders for January 2023

£1,704

Many thanks