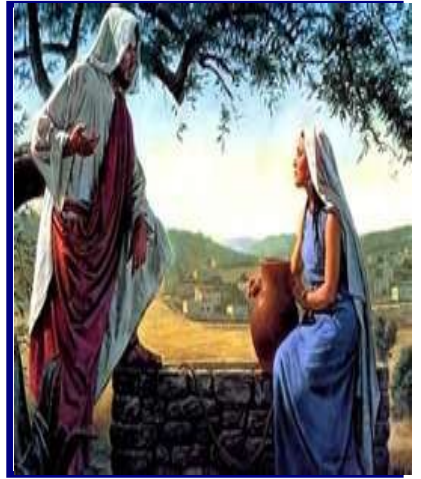


The Catholic Parish of Carpenders Park & South Oxhey
St Joseph's Church, Oxhey Drive, Watford WD19 7SW
carpenderspark@rcdow.org.uk
www.carpenderspark.org.uk



3rd Sunday of Lent (Year A) 12th March 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 March	Vigil: 3rd Sunday of Lent	6.00pm	Peter Molloy RIP
Sunday 12th March	3rd Sunday of Lent	8.30am	Donal Hanly RIP
		10.30am	People of the Parish
Tuesday 14th March	Lent feria	7.00pm	Ralph Brown RIP
Wednesday 15th March	Lent feria	9.15am	Michael Gallagher
Thursday 16th March	Lent feria	9.15am	Moyra Delves
Friday 17th March	St Patrick	9.15am	Christopher Petch RIP followed by Holy Hour
Saturday 18th March	Vigil: 4th Sunday of Lent	6.00pm	William Byrne 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 March 2023

Entrance Antiphon: My eyes are always on the Lord,
for he rescues my feet from the snare.
Turn to me and have mercy on me,
for I am alone and poor.

Responsorial Psalm: O that today you would listen to his voice:
'Harden not your hearts.'

Gospel Acclamation: Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!
Lord, you are really the saviour of the world;
give me the living water, so that I may never get thirsty.
Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God!

Next week's Readings: I Samuel 16:1, 6-7, 10-13 Psalm 22 Ephesians 5: 8-14 John 9:1-41

In our Gospel today Jesus meets a Samaritan woman who had come to draw water at a well, known to have once belonged to Jacob. The Samaritans were descendants of the northern tribes of Israel who remained in Israel and were not deported after the Kingdom collapsed. They worshipped in a Temple on Mount Gerizim rather than Jerusalem. They lived in middle region of Israel between Galilee and Judaea. Jews had no dealings with Samaritans, avoiding all social contact, even trade, and inter-marriage. If their paths crossed it would not be unusual for hostility to break out.

We learn that the woman is an adulteress and so she would have been an outcast even amongst her own people. Jesus then did something no respectable Jew would think of doing. He greeted her and spoke to her at length, thus risking ritual impurity and scorn from his fellow Jews and Samaritans alike. He did something no Rabbi would dare to do in public without loss to his reputation. No decent Jew or Samaritan would even think of being seen with such a woman, let alone having a conversation with her!

Jesus broke through the barriers of prejudice, hostility, and tradition to bring the good news of peace and reconciliation to Jews, Samaritans, and Gentiles alike. He demonstrated the universality of the gospel both in word and deed. No one is barred from the love of God and the good news of salvation.

Jesus spoke to the Samaritan woman about the living water he would give: the water that would truly quench her thirst and become in her "a spring of water welling up to eternal life." This is the water we all long for, the living water of the Holy Spirit, the water that fully satisfies our thirst.

Lent is a time for us to quench our thirst, to rediscover the meaning of our life in Christ. This is a special time to encounter Jesus like the Samaritan woman at the well, and to be transformed by our encounter with him, as she was.

PARISH SOCIAL-SATURDAY 18TH MARCH 7-9pm in Hall

We will be welcoming Bishop Paul at all Masses next weekend 18/19 March. Thank you to all those who have kindly offered to share food and drink. If you have not already done so, please add your name and contact number to the list at the back of church with details of your contribution. Finger buffet food only please. ALL WELCOME!! Feel free to bring alcohol to share-should you wish, along with a bottle opener/corkscrew if necessary!



Solemnity of St Joseph

The Solemnity of St Joseph is transferred to Monday 20th March this year (due to 19th March falling on a Sunday in Lent).

Mass will be offered **at 9.15am on Monday 20th**



Bach's St John Passion at Westminster Cathedral

As part of its Lenten devotions, Westminster Cathedral Choir will perform of J.S. Bach's St John Passion on **Thursday 16th March 2023 at 7.30pm**. Parishioners of the diocese now have the opportunity to buy their tickets at a discount of 50%. Discounted tickets are available at:

<https://www.ticketmaster.co.uk/event/1F005D88A31F16CD?did=saint50john> using offer code: **SJP50**
See poster at the back of Church.

Annual Mass of Thanksgiving for the Sacrament of Matrimony Westminster Cathedral, Saturday 13th May 2023 at 2:30pm



The Cardinal is inviting to this Mass all couples in the Diocese, who are celebrating their 5th 10th, 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th and 60th (and every year over 60) wedding anniversary of Catholic marriage in 2023. If you are celebrating an anniversary, please provide your details to Linda in the parish office by Fri 24th March : husband and wife's names, wedding date, full postal address and email (or telephone number, if no email).

The Big Lent Walk - Greg Birch

This Lent Greg Birch will be taking on the Big Lent Walk! He'll be walking 200km in 40 days to raise money for CAFOD's work around the world. If you would like to support Greg, please see <https://cafod.enthuse.com/pf/gregorybirch>. There is a poster with a qr code on the noticeboard.



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.

Invitation for all our young adults (age 16-28)

Joel's Bar is a young adults ministry which runs Catholic Charismatic events. They are passionate about seeing young people inspired and equipped to live an authentic Christian life in the power of the Holy Spirit. They are holding a retreat in Worth Abbey, Crawley from **9-14 April**. For further details check out <https://www.joelsbar.co.uk/>



Lent Retreat for Young Adults (18-30s)

Led by the Assumption Sisters on **Saturday 18th March 2023 in Kensington**. Young people are invited for a day retreat (10.30am-5pm) including talks • Mass • Stations of the Cross • Confessions • Adoration • Faith sharing and Social. Venue: Our Lady of Mount Carmel & St Simon Stock Church Hall, London W8 4BB.
Donations only. Register: tramy@assumptionreligious.org

Please remember all our sick parishioners in your prayers, especially Helen Birch, Bebe Ryan and Alice Sheppard. Prayers are also asked for Estella Bartolazo RIP whose anniversary falls about this time.

Offertory for Sunday 5th March 2023

Envelopes	£243.54
Loose	£378.99
Total	£622.53

Many thanks