

The Catholic Parish of Carpenders Park & South Oxhey
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BE HOLY AS
I AM HOLY!

7th Sunday in Ordinary Time (Year A) 19th 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 18th February	Vigil: 7th Sunday	6.00pm	Rosemary Roberts RIP
Sunday 19th February	7th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am	Paul Burke RIP
		10.30am	People of the Parish
Tuesday 21st February	Feria	7.00pm	Syria-Turkey Earthquake-deceased
Wednesday 22nd February	Ash Wednesday	9.15am	Pupils & Staff of St Joseph's School
		7.00pm	Ralph Brown RIP
Thursday 23rd February	Lent feria	9.15am	John Chaloner
Friday 24th February	Lent feria	9.15am	Hanan Pereira RIP followed by Holy Hour
Saturday 25th February	Vigil: 1st Sunday of Lent	6.00pm	Tomjoe & Betty Murphy RIP

CONFESSIONS: Saturday 5.30pm or see Fr John

Liturgy of the Word: 19th February 2023

Entrance Antiphon: O Lord, I trust in your merciful love.
My heart will rejoice in your salvation.
I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me.

Responsorial Psalm: The Lord is compassion and love.

Gospel Acclamation: Alleluia, alleluia!
If anyone loves me he will keep my word,
and my Father will love him,
and we shall come to him.
Alleluia!

Next week's Readings: Genesis 2:7-9, 3:1-7, Psalm 50, Romans 5:12, 17-19, Matthew 4: 1-11

"An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth" summarized ancient Israel's concept of reasonable retaliation for injury. It was a guideline for those administering justice that retribution should be proportionate: punishment should fit the crime but not be excessive.

Jesus has an altogether more creative response to dealing with the bad acts of others: he wants to overcome evil with good.

"Be holy, for I, the Lord, your God, am holy." This is how Moses speaks to the people of Israel in the name of God, continuing: "You shall love your neighbour as yourself."

Be holy and love. The people of God in every age belong to God, and we are called to put his love into practice by loving our neighbour.

In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus demands a higher standard from those who follow him: "love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you". We are not to make distinctions between ourselves and those who are neighbours or enemies: belonging to God, who loves us, we are to love everyone.

Jesus asks us to aim as high as possible: to seek to be perfect, just as our heavenly Father is perfect. We are the temple of God and the Spirit of God dwells in us: we are created to be perfect and holy.

As we look to the Father, responding to his love, we discover who we are. The law that has been written for us is written into our hearts by the Spirit, who allows us to share in the very life of Christ as we continue our earthly journey.

The beginning of Lent this Ash Wednesday gives us an ideal opportunity to focus our hearts on sharing in Christ's life as we prepare for the celebration of his passion and resurrection.

As God's people, called to be holy, to love and to aim for perfection in the image of the merciful God, we are asked to allow God to take up residence among us, to be the living signs of his presence in the world.

ASH WEDNESDAY -22nd February

Mass and distribution of Ashes at 9:15am and 7pm Mass. The Church asks us to abstain from meat and practise some form of fasting on this day.

HOLY HOUR

For Lent we will be starting a Holy Hour, during which there will be Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament. This will take place straight after 9.15am Mass on Fridays. All are Welcome!

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>.

Meal's Meals have also launched an emergency appeal to support children and families as they fight for survival. With their trusted local partner Dorcas, they are working around the clock to feed people in the city of Aleppo, Syria. They stand ready to expand emergency response as funds allow. Please give what you can today – no donation is too small. www.marysmeals.org.uk

SAVE THE DATE-SATURDAY 18TH MARCH

We will be welcoming Bishop Paul at all Masses on the weekend 18/19 March. As it coincides with the Feast of St Joseph, it's the perfect opportunity to have a Parish Get Together in the Hall, straight after 6pm Mass. Please contact Linda in the Parish Office if you can volunteer in any capacity.



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.

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/>

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 12th February 2023

Envelopes	£217.19
Loose	£274.71
Total	£491.90

Many thanks