



ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC CHURCH

Arkell Avenue, Carterton, Oxon, OX18 3BS

Parish Priest: Fr Paul A Whieldon STB BA(Hons)

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The Parish is part of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Birmingham (Charity No. 234216)

Eighteenth Sunday of Year A 2026

Sat 1 st	18 th Sunday of OT	5.00pm	Carterton	Jeff Dixon RIP
Sun 2 nd		9.30am	Burford	Pro Populo
		11.00am	Carterton	Pro Populo
Mon 3 rd	Feria	10.00am	Carterton	Rosary
Tues 4 th	St John Mary Vianney	10.00am	Burford	Celebrant's Intention
Wed 5 th	Feria	10.00am	Carterton	Peter Wiltshire RIP
Thur 6 th	Transfiguration of the Lord	10.00am	Burford	Celebrant's Intention
Fri 7 th	Feria	10.00am	Carterton	MA Hince RIP
Sat 8 th	St Dominic			
	19 th Sunday of OT	5.00pm	Carterton	Phil Bailey RIP
Sun 9 th		9.30am	Burford	Pro Populo
		11.00am	Carterton	Joel Nunn RIP

Welcome to the celebration of Holy Mass. If you are visiting our parish for this weekend you are most welcome, do feel free to join us for refreshments in the church hall after mass.

Please pray for the sick, housebound and those in the armed forces suffering mentally and physically from the effects of war: Susan Phillips, Deacon Bernard Curtin, Justin Family members, His Majesty King Charles, , Benje Shirlaw, Noreen Price, Rodrigo Bantug, Marilyn Enriquez .

Recently Dead.

Confessions are available during exposition at St Joseph's on Friday mornings, before weekday masses at Burford, 4.15-4.45 on Saturday evenings, and of course on request.

Safeguarding. This Parish operates in accordance with Statutory Safeguarding Guidance and the National and Archdioceses policies & procedures at all times. Our Parish Safeguarding Representative is Francesca and can be contacted at: sgstjoseph.carterton@rcaob.org.uk alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk if you have any concern.

Livestream This can be accessed via a search on YouTube or via the link on the Parish Website. Please encourage those who can't get to church to join us at Mass via the livestream.

Regular Parish Activities;

Rosary Prayer Group 9.30am every Monday morning.

Solo's Friendship Group This group meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursdays of the alternating between coffee at 11.15am and Lunch at 12.30pm each month

Church Choir Rehearsals 7-8pm on Tuesday evenings. **New members always welcome!**

Faith Sharing Group 1st Thursday of the Month

Parish Bring and Share Lunches 1st Sunday of the Month,. All welcome!.

SVP Meets 7pm St Joseph's on 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month or as announced....**JOINT**

YOUTH GROUP 2nd Sunday of the Month (For More information please contact Michelle Rose on 07484 880109)

ROUNDERS AND PARISH BBQ another date for the diary is the annual game of rounders and BBQ. This year we shall hold it on the 16th August. There is a sign up sheet for contributions to the food and drink in the porch.

PARISH CLUSTERS The Parishes of West Oxfordshire have been 'Clustered'. What this means and how it might affect us all is still to be worked out. The Clustered Parishes are Carterton, Burford, Witney, Eynsham, Kidlington (+Woodstock), and The Parish of the Assumption (Formerly Holy Trinity Chipping Norton and St Teresa's Charlbury.) The clergy of the cluster have decided to meet monthly to discuss how this notion of clustering might best work for us in our time and place. There has long been the idea that we need to be planning on how our system would function with at least half the current number of clergy as I think the average age of Diocesan clergy is about 70, and our retirement age is 75. The next 5 years will see significant changes I'm sure. One of the problems we face here are the proliferation of small churches. It's not easy to reduce masses or optimise provision when the ones you have are already mostly full, and the prospect of another 18,000 houses to be built in the next 10 years or so in St Joseph's Parish alone. It's exciting times. Keep up the prayers and as the Lord of the harvest to send labourers into his harvest! There will be feedback from the last visitation on 6th October so it will be interesting to hear what that has to say!

NEW MASS/ROSARY TIMES You may have become aware of the new 'School Streets' system that comes into operation in September, where unregistered cars cannot access Arkell and Lawton Avenues (among other streets too!) between certain times of day around school collection times. I think it's 8.15-9.15 and 2.30-3.30. To accommodate this I intend to move the morning Masses on Wednesday and Friday to 10am, the same as Burford currently is. This should keep people who wish to drive to Mass well clear of the times where they might be fined. To get people into the habit before it comes into force I propose we start the new times in August so we are en route to becoming accustomed to it by the time it comes into force.

ST JOHN VIANNEY PATRON OF PARISH PRIESTS Jean-Baptiste-Marie Vianney, known as John in English, was born May 8, 1786 in Dardilly, France and was baptized the same day. He was the fourth of six children born to Matthieu and Marie Vianney.

John was raised in a Catholic home and the family often helped the poor and housed St. Benedict Joseph Labre when he made his pilgrimage to Rome. In 1790, when the anticlerical Terror phase of the French Revolution forced priests to work in secrecy or face execution, young Vianney believed the priests were heroes. He continued to believe in the bravery of priests and received his First Communion catechism instructions in private by two nuns who lost their convents to the Revolution. At 13-years-old, John made his first communion and prepared for his confirmation in secrecy. When he was 20-years-old, John was allowed to leave the family farm to learn at a "prsbtery-school" in Écully. There he learned math, history, geography and Latin. As his education had been disrupted by the French Revolution, he struggled in his studies, particularly with Latin, but worked hard to learn.

In 1802, the Catholic Church was reestablished in France and religious freedom and peace spread throughout the country.

Unfortunately, in 1809, John was drafted into Napoleon Bonaparte's armies. He had been studying as an ecclesiastical student, which was a protected title and would normally have excepted him from military services, but Napoleon had withdrawn the exemption in some dioceses as he required more soldiers. Two days into his service, John fell ill and required hospitalization. As his troop continued, he stopped in at a church where he prayed. There he met a young man who volunteered to return him to his group, but instead led him deep into the mountains where military deserters met. John lived with them for one year and two months. He used the name Jerome Vincent and opened a school for the nearby village of Les Noes' children. John remained in Les Noes and hid when gendarmes came in search of deserters until 1810, when deserters were granted amnesty.

Now free, John returned to Écully and resumed his ecclesiastic studies. He attended a minor seminary, Abbe Balley, in 1812 and was eventually ordained a deacon in June 1815. He joined his heroes as a priest August 12, 1815 in the Couvent des Minimes de Grenoble. His first Mass was celebrated the next day and he was appointed assistant to Balley in Écully. Three years later, when Balley passed away, Fr. John Vianney was appointed parish priest of the Ars parish. With help from Catherine Lassagne and Benedicta Lerdet, *La Providence*, a home for girls, was established in Ars. When he began his priestly duties, Fr. Vianney realized many were either ignorant or indifferent to religion as a result of the French Revolution. Many danced and drank on Sundays or worked in their fields.

Fr. Vianney spent much time in confession and often delivered homilies against blasphemy and dancing. Finally, if parishioners did not give up dancing, he refused them absolution.

He spent 11 to twelve hours each day working to reconcile people with God. In the summer months, he often worked 16-hour days and refused to retire. His fame spread until people began to travel to him in 1827. Within thirty years, it is said he received up to 20,000 pilgrims each year. He was deeply devoted to St. Philomena and erected a chapel and shrine in her honor. When he later became deathly ill but miraculously recovered, he attributed his health to St. Philomena's intercession. By 1853, Fr. Vianney had attempted to run away from Ars four times, each attempt with the intention of becoming a monk but decided after the final time that it was not to be. Six years later, he passed away and left behind a legacy of faith and was viewed as the champion of the poor.

On October 3, 1873, Pope Pius IX proclaimed Fr. Vianney as "venerable" and on January 8, 1905, Pope Pius X beatified him. St. John Vianney was canonized on May 31, 1925. His feast day was declared August 9 but it was changed twice before it fell to August 4.

St. John Vianney would often say: "Private prayer is like straw scattered here and there: If you set it on fire, it makes a lot of little flames. But gather these straws into a bundle and light them, and you get a mighty fire, rising like a column into the sky; public prayer is like that."

HARVINGTON PILGRIMAGE Details on a poster in the porch Sunday 6th September, Mass at 3pm.