



# 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)

## First Sunday of Lent Yr A

Sat 21 <sup>st</sup>	First Sunday of Lent	5.00pm	Carterton	Phil Bailey RIP
Sun 22 <sup>nd</sup>		9.30am	Burford	Pro Populo
		11.00am	Carterton	Pro Populo
Mon 23 <sup>rd</sup>	Lent Feria	9.30am	Carterton	Rosary Prayer Group
Tues 24 <sup>th</sup>	Lent Feria	10.00am	Burford	Celebrant's Intention
Wed 25 <sup>th</sup>	Lent Feria	9.30am	Carterton	John Fleming RIP
Thur 26 <sup>th</sup>	Lent Feria	10.00am	Burford	Celebrant's Intention
Fri 27 <sup>th</sup>	Lent Feria	<u>12noon</u>	Carterton	Teresa Judd RIP
		5.30pm	Burford	Stations of the Cross
Sat 28 <sup>th</sup>	Lent Feria	No Mass		
	Second Sunday of Lent	5.00pm	Carterton	John & Ivy Tilling RIP
Sun 1 <sup>st</sup>		9.30am	Burford	Pro Populo
		11.00am	Carterton	Pro Populo
		4.00pm	Carterton	Stations of the Cross

**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, Celeste Giblin, Benje Shirlaw, Noreen Price, Rodrigo Bantug, Marilyn Enriquez .

**Recently Dead.** Richard Lethbridge RIP Funeral Mass at St Mary's Charlbury 12.30 on the 25<sup>th</sup> Feb.

Teresa Judd RIP, Margaret Daly RIP. Margaret will be brought into church 4pm 5/3/26 Funeral Mass 1pm 6/3/26

**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](mailto:sgstjoseph.carterton@rcaob.org.uk) alternatively the Diocesan Safeguarding team can be contacted on 0121 230 6240/ [safeguarding@rcaob.org.uk](mailto: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 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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** 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday of the Month.

**Parish Bring and Share Lunches** 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the Month. All welcome! A great chance to meet and chat informally over shared food.

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

**ARCHDIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2026** Next year's Pilgrimage is 25<sup>th</sup>-30<sup>th</sup> May 2026. I do think going to Lourdes with the Diocese is by far the best way to experience it and commend it to you! Bookings are now being taken. Phone Tangney directly specifying Birmingham Pilgrimage, plus St Joseph's Carterton staying in the Hotel Padoue.

**PARISH PATRONAL FEAST** to celebrate our patronal Festival on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March we shall have Mass at 7pm followed by a bring and share gathering in the hall afterwards. We welcome Fr Simon Baker to the parish who will be the preacher at this Mass. It will be during Lent but it being a Solemnity I would suggest even those who have given up alcohol for Lent might be allowed a glass or two celebrating our Patronal Feast!

**RAF Group 187 HCPT Easter Pilgrimage**- RAF personnel and veterans have the honour of taking serving personnel's children and young people with disabilities, additional needs, and social challenges to Lourdes - a life-changing journey of faith and transformation. For the helpers it is an opportunity to live out the Gospel call to serve others. For the RAF families it offers respite and support, they are often balancing the demands of an operational role and the care requirements of their child. All donations will cover the child's pilgrimage, zoo trip, mountain excursion and arts and craft supplies!

**SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION** is underway. Do keep our younger parishioners and their families in your prayers at this time.

**LENTEN LUNCHESES** every Friday during lent the Morning mass will switch to 12 noon followed by a soup lunch in the hall. A sign up sheet for soup making volunteers will be on the noticeboard.

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS** meditations are prayed at Burford at 5.30 on Friday evening and at Carterton at 4pm on Sunday afternoons. Do try and make it part of your Lenten Observance this year. As in previous years I will aim to use a different set of meditations each week.

**OXFORD PRO LIFE DRINKS**. Saturday 28<sup>th</sup> February 7.30pm The Royal Oak, (Woodstock Rd, OX2 6HT). Come along to relax with like-minded people and keep connected with the pro-life community in Oxford. New comers are especially welcome! Just turn up, and why not bring a friend? Visit <https://oxfordprolife.org.uk/> for more info.

**RECEPTION INTO FULL COMMUNION WITH THE CATHOLIC CHURCH** Three adults will be received into Full Communion with the Catholic Church this Easter and thus will be attending the Rite of Election at St Chad's this Sunday afternoon. Do keep Jude, Tom, and Luke in your prayers as they embark on these final weeks of prayerful discernment.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT** invites us to reflect on temptation, obedience, and God's mercy. The readings remind us of the struggles we face and the hope we find in Jesus. By looking at Jesus' example in the desert, we learn how to trust in God and resist temptation. The season of Lent is a time to grow in faith through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving.

The Gospel tells of Jesus being tempted in the desert. After fasting for forty days, he is hungry and weak, making him vulnerable to the devil's tricks. The devil tempts him three times, trying to get him to use his power for himself, to test God's protection, and to worship him for worldly gain. But each time, Jesus responds with words from Scripture, staying true to his mission and trust in God.

This shows us that temptation is part of human life. Even Jesus faced it. But his example teaches us that we can resist temptation by staying close to God and knowing his Word. Jesus did not argue or debate with the devil. He simply relied on his faith and Scripture to stand firm.

We too face temptations in our daily lives. We might be tempted to seek comfort, power, or approval in ways that pull us away from God. Today, we are reminded to follow Jesus' example. We can lean on prayer, Scripture, and faith to stay strong. This passage also shows that temptation itself is not a sin. It is how we respond that matters. Jesus shows us the way to overcome it. By trusting in God and his promises, we can resist and grow stronger in our faith.

Let us pray. Lord, help us to follow Jesus' example of faith and obedience. Give us strength to resist temptation and trust in your love. Guide us through our struggles and remind us that we are never alone. May we grow closer to you through prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. Amen

## **KENELM YOUTH TRUST**

### **JOINT YOUTH GROUP with OLSH WITNEY and St J's & St JFTM**

Children from Year 5 upwards in Carterton parish are warmly invited to join the Youth Group gatherings at Our Lady and St Hugh, where we regularly welcome between 15 and 30 young people.

The Youth Group meets **every second Sunday of each month**. We look forward to welcoming the young people of Carterton parish and thank you for your continued prayers and support."

(For More information please contact Michelle Rose on 07484 880109)