



St Joseph's Catholic Church

Arkell Avenue, Carterton, OXON OX18 3BS

## Twenty-third Sunday (B) 05.09.2021

Sat 4 Sept 6.00pm (Burford) Deacon Francis Andrews A  
St Cuthbert

Sun 5 Sept 9.00am (Bampton) Lenaghan Family GE

23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday (B) 10.15am Fred Shaw BA, Venus Sahyoun A  
Emil & Marie Sfeir A

Mon 6 Sept 9.45am Sue Stevenson A

Tue 7 Sept 6.30pm Yvette Brown A

Wed 8 Sept 12.00noon Word, Prayer & Communion  
Birthday of Mary followed by light lunch in hall

Thu 9 Sept 6.00pm

Fri 10 Sept 6.00pm (Burford) Jean Hodgkinson GE  
Blessed Agnellus of Pisa

Sat 11 Sept 6.00pm (Burford)

Sun 12 Sept 9.00am (Bampton) Raymond Fella A

24<sup>th</sup> Sunday (B) 10.15am Fr Bengt-Ove Jakobsson LD

### N.B. Live-streaming of 10.15am Sunday Mass

Details on website: [www.stjosephscarterton.uk](http://www.stjosephscarterton.uk)

**Wednesday lunchtimes** This Wednesday I am unable to celebrate Mass at 12noon owing to a funeral in Burford but there will be a service of word, prayer and communion in church followed by a simple light lunch in the hall.

### Ride and Stride Saturday 11 September

This event in aid both of local churches and the Oxfordshire Historic Churches Trust (which gave St Joseph's a grant a few years ago), is taking place again. Please contact Antoinette Broad (Tel 01993-213413) for sponsor forms and participating churches.

**CLEANING the church.** Ginny Roberts is compiling a rota. Could you be part of it please? Ring her on 01993-842895.

**Blackberries** are for parishioners: please pick!

[www.stjosephscarterton.uk](http://www.stjosephscarterton.uk)

Andrew Foster, PP Tel 01993-842463

[andrewjamesfoster1956@ntlworld.com](mailto:andrewjamesfoster1956@ntlworld.com)

RC Archdiocese of Birmingham charity

(No 234216)



**Please pray for those who have died:** Rodney Forder, Joe Lambe, Pauline Leverett, Olive Harcourt, Chris Murphy, Joan Clements, Monica Owen, Kate Gargan, Angela Overton, Marie Drew, John Robinson, John Joseph O'Neill, Michael Jackson, Rose Lane, Mary Hannah, Robert Eszenyi, David Gotelier, Sue Hand, Graham Copping, Romy Sadler-Tomkins, Marie Whelan, Isalina de Freitas, Elaine Barry, John Pollock, Zena Miles, Dominic Lackschewitz- Martin, Susan Wiffen, Barbara Gianni, Gianfranco Formigli, Philip Buckingham, Dom Michael Phillips OSB, Gerardo Pama, Ron Wilkinson, Fr Bengt-Ove Jakobsson.

**Anniversaries:** Raymond Fella, Sue Stevenson, Larry Doyle, Yvette Brown, Royston Hodges.

**Please pray for the sick, housebound and those in the armed forces suffering mentally and physically from the effects of war:** Anne Gillick, Wendy Murray, Catherine Robinson, Peter Garfoot, Phil Rice, Natalia Romanek, Pat Haddock, Mario Bugeja, Justin Family, Kathleen Fagan, Jen Thomas, Ann Heaton, Celia McCauley, Rodrigo Bantug, Cynthia Brick, John Titcombe, Pat O'Neill, Antoinette Broad, Michael D'Souza, Maureen Reynolds.

### Parish Bank details for Standing Orders.

Natwest sort code 60-24-60 and account 43009530. Thanks to all who support the parish in this way.

**Holy Communion.** Please let the parish priest know of children (7 or older) wishing to be prepared. September start.

**Andrew moving to Watlington** After more than 13 years the diocese has asked me to move. Thank you for your friendship! Please visit me: Watlington is not so far away.

**Church open** From Friday 27 August the church has been open as previously. Please drop in, light a candle and say a prayer.

**Bampton weekly from 5 September.** Canon Janice Collier has invited us back for weekly Sunday 9.00am Mass at St Mary's. Hurray for the Anglicans!

**Readings: Isaiah 35:4-7. James 2:1-5. Mark 7:31-37**  
**Twenty-third Sunday (B) 05.09.2021**

After the baptism of a child the last of the four explanatory rites (it is optional) is called the Ephphatha rite. It goes back to this healing miracle of Jesus and consists in the celebrant touching the ears and mouth of the child saying 'The Lord Jesus made the deaf hear and the dumb speak. May he soon touch your ears to receive his word, and your mouth to proclaim his faith, to the praise and glory of God the Father.'

Word and Faith. If you do not speak to a child that child will not learn how to speak. By analogy if God had never spoken to us we would not have come to understand the reason for our being. God speaks to us par excellence in Jesus, who by his teaching teaches us about love and how to love others: that is the reason why God created us. He teaches us by his example, as he does here in this healing miracle. *Be opened* (the meaning of Ephphatha) is a key to Our Lord's teaching about love. Through baptism and the other sacraments we enter into the salvation that the healing of the deaf and dumb man represented: we are opened up to God.

First we hear: we listen to the loving words of our parents as tiny children. We trust implicitly in them and that is the way we learn to trust in Our Lord Jesus too. Then we begin to speak, involving a lot of trial and error. My eldest nephew Patrick (now over 30) loved his model farm animals, but before he called them 'animals' they were his 'amials'. So parents enable their children not only to speak but how to speak: to speak above all lovingly. This is how God enables us to speak to him with love; how to pray. When he was asked to teach them to pray, Jesus taught his disciples the Our Father: that was the familiar way Jesus himself prayed, calling God Abba, equivalent to Daddy. Faith is putting into practice what we have experienced: love in return for love. It is made possible, we have the confidence to trust, because we have experienced love. One knows that coming to an active faith in Jesus is much more difficult for those who have experienced little or no love as children.

Through the power of baptism and the other sacraments, we are enabled to receive the Word that is Christ more fully into our lives, as they are shaped by the Word. We also hope that our lives proclaim the faith in how we live and in what we say, so that others can come into touch with Christ. It is Christ's touch that is of the essence: it is transformative.