



**St Joseph's Catholic Church**

Arkell Avenue, Carterton, OXON OX18 3BS

**Twenty-sixth Sunday (B) 19.09.2021**

Sat 25 Sept 6.00pm (Burford) People of the Parish

Sun 26 Sept 9.00am (Bampton) People of the Parish

26<sup>th</sup> Sunday (B) 10.15am Caline

Mon 27 Sept **No morning Mass**

St Vincent de Paul

Tue 28 Sept 6.30pm People of the Parish

Wed 29 Sept **12.00noon** + light lunch

**Ss Michael, Gabriel and Raphael**

Thu 30 Sept **No Mass**

St Jerome

Fri 1 Oct 6.00pm (Burford )

St Therese of Lisieux, Doctor of the Church

Sat 2 Oct 6.00pm (Burford)

Guardian Angels

Sun 3 Oct 9.00am (Bampton)

27<sup>th</sup> Sunday (B) 10.15am (Carterton)

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

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

**On Wednesdays there is a Noon Mass followed by a light lunch in the hall.**

**World Greenhouse Gas Emissions %**

China	27
US	11
India	6.6
EU-27	6.4
Indonesia	3.4
Russia	3.1
Brazil	2.8
Japan	2.2

**"Bottle bags"** Andrew has amassed dozens of these through the kindness of those who have given me bottles. If you would like to re-use these, they are in the hall: please help yourselves.

**CAFOD Harvest Fast Day: Friday 1 October**  
Eat and drink less on Friday and donate what you save next **Sunday 3 October in the retiring collection.**

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

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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, Prince Joseph.

**Anniversaries:** Susan Rice, Martha Blassnigg, Annette Drew

**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, Michael D'Souza, Maureen Reynolds, Joanna Agnew.

**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.

**Andrew is moving to Watlington on Thursday 30 September. Fr Paul Smith** is the new Parish Priest. He has been PP of Brewood, Staffordshire. Fr Paul's first weekend is 2/3 October. **This is my last Sunday. Join me in the hall after 10.15am Mass for a drink or coffee and nibbles.**

**Church open** as previously. Please drop in, light a candle and say a prayer.

**Newman Night Walk from Oxford to Littlemore, Friday 8 October** starts at 7.00pm at The Oratory, 25 Woodstock Road. 3 miles on foot to Bl. Dominic Barberi Church, Littlemore. 9.30pm Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament 9.50pm Benediction and Procession to The College Library and Chapel. More info at [littlemore@newmanfriends.org](mailto:littlemore@newmanfriends.org)

**If only the whole people of the Lord were prophets, and the Lord gave his Spirit to them all. Numbers 11:29**

**No one who works a miracle in my name is likely to speak evil of me. Anyone who is not against us is for us. Mark 9**

**Biblical Understanding of Vocation** (written for St Joseph's School, Lent 2021)

Becoming a prophet is part of becoming a fully-fledged Christian in baptism: sharing in 3-fold office of Christ: prophet, priest and shepherd king.

Jesus's baptism was the beginning of Jesus' calling, his vocation. John the Baptist baptised him in the River Jordan and as he came out of the water the words were heard: *you (Jesus) are my Son, the beloved*. To be both Son of God the Father and Son of a human family with parents Mary and Joseph, was Jesus' calling, his vocation. Each of us, each of you can trace your vocation back to that moment too. Why?

When we think of the religious world we see heaven up there and the earth down here below. Heaven and earth are apparently totally separate. Heaven does not change, but we in our earthly lives change all the time. Here at the baptism there is a clash and collision between heaven and earth: the voice of God from heaven says of Jesus on earth: you are my Son. When I baptise children, I often tell their parents that God says the same thing about their little baby son or daughter as he said of Jesus: *you are my son, you are my daughter*. Heaven and earth meet together in this clash of God's love and grace. Earth is no longer the same earth, because Jesus has joined us; he has united us to heaven in a new way.

We pray this in the Our Father, don't we? *Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven*. At the moment of Jesus' baptism, the kingdom of God comes to earth. The kingdom of God turns out to be a person, the person of God's Son, Jesus. So Jesus is bringing about the unity of heaven and earth in his own person. Our work as Christians, our vocation, is to do what Jesus did: to bring the kingdom of heaven and the kingdom of earth crashing together. That is what we try and do in our Catholic schools: bringing heaven and earth together. The motto or mission statement of your school, **Walking hand in hand with Jesus**, summarises it very well. Living the Gospel values is bringing the two kingdoms together, so that we put the words of the Our Father into practice. It is not easy. It can be messy and difficult. But that is what Christian vocation is about. Jesus found it hard going and when we do too, we can think of him and know he is with us in this and we with him.

I should like to turn to the recent Coronavirus situation in the world, which Pope Francis speaks about in his letter, *Fratelli Tutti, To all my Brothers and Sisters*. There is, he writes, the danger of concentrating on ourselves and turning against each other, especially the stranger and the poor. He urges us to reach out with fraternal love for everyone, extending the circle of care, not restricting and limiting it. Since without brotherly / sisterly love for each other, equality, justice and freedom are not really possible.

Christian vocation is all about becoming one human family in one common home. Our home is of course planet earth, and because we only have **one** planet earth we must look after it. But our common home in a Christian sense is also the kingdom of God. We look after each other not only because of everyone's need for food, shelter, clothing, healthcare and education, but also because of what Jesus showed us: we are loved so much by our Father in heaven, (he loved us so much that he sent his only Son to us), and he yearns so much that we should share

his love with everyone. Walking hand in hand with Jesus means we always have another hand free to include someone else. And they have a hand free to join with someone else too. Thus we form circles of love. We need to dare to extend our family circles so that all the circles meet up and heaven and earth collide in the love of Our Lord Jesus. Thus can the kingdom of God be built here among us.