The Catholic Parish of Saint Joseph
St Neots

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Sunday Cycle A, Weekday Cycle II, Psalter Week 1
Sunday 25th October 2026



Parish Priest: Fr Tibor Borovský
Parish emails: stjosephs.stneots@rcdea.org.uk
Office Hours: Monday to Friday, 10.30am – 12.30pm
Parish Address: The Catholic Presbytery, 39 East Street, St Neots, Cambridgeshire, PE19 1JU
Telephone: 01480 472587
Parish Website: www.stjosephstneots.org.uk

R.C. Diocese of East Anglia: A Registered Charity (Charity Commission No. 278742)

Liturgy of the Word

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Cf. Ps 104: 3-4

Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;
turn to the Lord and his strength;
constantly seek his face.

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
increase our faith, hope and charity,
and make us love what you command,
so that we may merit what you promise.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

FIRST READING

Exodus 22:21-27

'If you mistreat any widow or fatherless child, my wrath will burn against you.'

Commentary

These are the very primitive laws of the Old Testament, the heart of the first law-code laid down for Israel in the desert of the Exodus, before the Israelites even reached the Holy Land. 'Primitive'? Does our modern society equal them and the values they express? The principle is to help everyone who needs help, even foreigners, widows and orphans – just as God helped the Hebrews when they were slaves in Egypt. Men and women, made in the image of God, are God's representatives on earth, and must continue God's work of caring and healing. Anyone in need must not be humiliated, but must be given full human dignity, allowed to stand tall before his or her neighbours. The creditor may not enter the debtor's house to hassle him, the worker must be paid on time to get his dinner, the homeless must get back his cloak for the night. The vulnerable are not to be exploited. Jesus will put this, 'You must love your neighbour as yourself', but there too he is only quoting the Old Testament (Leviticus 19.18). HW

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 18(17):2-3a. 3b-4. 47, 51ab. R/2

R:/ I love you, Lord, my strength.

I love you, Lord, my strength;
O Lord, my rock, my fortress, my saviour.

R:/ I love you, Lord, my strength.

My God, my rock where I take refuge;
my shield, my saving strength, my stronghold.
I cry out, 'O praised be the Lord!'
and see, I am saved from my foes.

R:/ I love you, Lord, my strength.

The Lord lives, and blest be my Rock!
May the God of my salvation be exalted.
The Lord gives great victories to his king,
and shows merciful love for his anointed.

R:/ I love you, Lord, my strength.

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 1: 5c-10

'You turned away from idols to serve God and to wait for his Son.'

Commentary

At every Mass after the consecration we remind ourselves that Christ will come again, and the Thessalonians to whom Paul is writing were especially alert to this 'Second Coming' as they waited for Christ to come from heaven. Paul had taught them that Christ has conquered death, that death is no more, and they mistakenly took this to mean that Christians would not physically die. Paul will answer this difficulty later in the letter. We don't know what this 'Second Coming' of Christ will be, but for Christians history has a purpose and a direction. We do know that each of us will face Christ for our individual judgement when we die. There will be no question of Christ doling out suitable penalties to me. 'No human being can see God and live'. Faced with the stunning purity of the glory of God I know that I will be filled with longing and love, but will know that I am not fit to enter into the pure and overwhelming love

of God. Only when the dross is purged away will I be fit to enter Christ's embrace.

HW

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

John 14: 23

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, says the Lord,
and my Father will love him, and we will come to him.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 22: 34-40

'You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.'

Commentary

Familiarity with Jesus' answer to the question about the greatest commandment blunts our awareness of its startling directness. Answers could be given, singling out one of the ten commandments as the greatest, the most important basis of society. A frequent answer to the question was and is the Golden Rule, existing in many cultures: 'Do not do to another what you would not have done to you'. This is basically a selfish answer, protecting my own interests. By contrast, Jesus' answer slams home, turning away from self to God. 'Love', not 'obey' or 'adore' or 'fear' or 'reverence'. Love is not the warmth of companionship or of sex, but is the willing generosity of mother to helpless young child or daughter to helpless old parent, of wife to alcoholic husband or husband to paralysed wife, seeking no reward but the happiness of the receiver. Paul gives a useful check-list in First Corinthians 13. The First Letter of John gives a shorter check-list: 'No one who fails to love the brother or sister whom he can see, can love God whom he has not seen'. The real interests of the recipient of love may not always be easy to find, but the spirit of giving is unmistakable.

HW

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Look, we pray, O Lord,
on the offerings we make to your majesty,
that whatever is done by us in your service

may be directed above all to your glory.
Through Christ our Lord.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

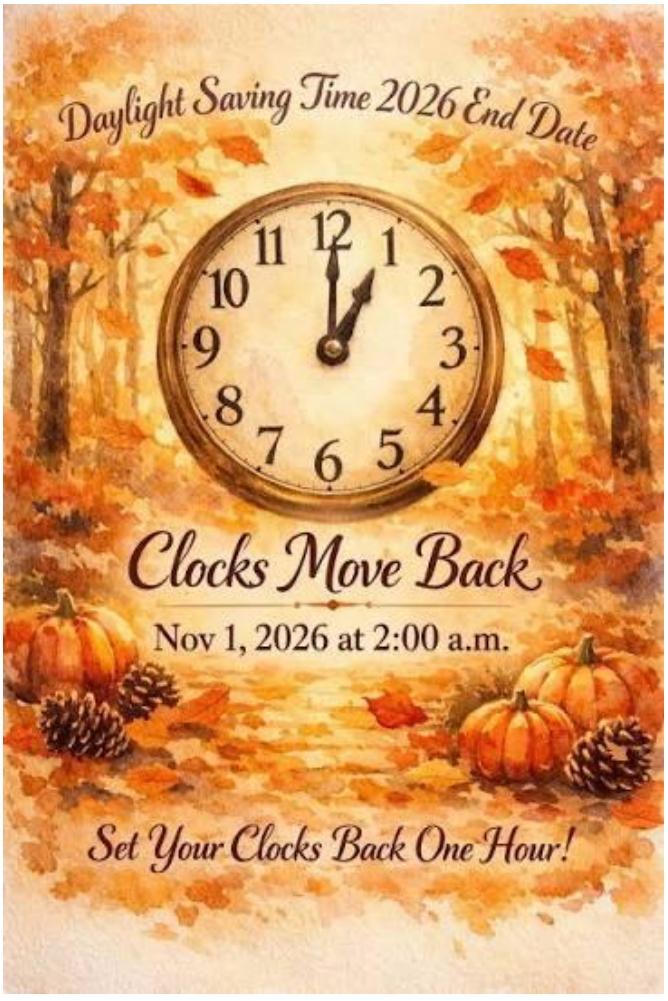
Eph 5: 2

**Christ loved us and gave himself up for us,
as a fragrant offering to God.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May your Sacraments, O Lord, we pray,
perfect in us what lies within them,
that what we now celebrate in signs
we may one day possess in truth.
Through Christ our Lord.





Parish Events & Meetings

Parish Retreat Day St. Joseph's Parish in St Neots is pleased to announce a Parish Retreat Day **on Saturday, November 21st**, led by the Capuchin friar Fr. Jinson. The program begins at 10:00 am and will include three talks, Adoration with Benediction, the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation, and a concluding Holy Mass at 5:30 pm. All details will be displayed next Sunday.
We invite you all to join us for this special day of personal sanctification—through the Word of God, Reflections, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, quiet reflection, and the celebration of the Eucharist—for the glory of God and the good of our souls and lives. Please mark this date in your calendars and set this day aside for yourselves, your souls, and your minds.

Parish Finance & Fabric Committee will meet on Tuesday 27th October at 6:30pm in the presbytery.

The Requiem Mass for Derek Evans will be at 11.30am on Wednesday 28th October. May God grant rest to his soul and consolation to his family.

First Communion preparation No class during half-term this week.

Confirmation/RCIA: - The next meeting is on Thursday 29th October at 6.30pm in the Upper Room (entry at side door of church). Anyone interested in either Confirmation (youth) or RCIA (adults) is invited to attend.

Holy Hour with adoration: Saturday 31st October at 10.00am.

November Mass for the Recently Deceased: During the 5.30pm Vigil Mass on Saturday 31st October, we will be lighting candles for those we have passed in the past year in this parish and in your families.

Prayers for the Dead in the Cemetery: We will be praying at St Neots New Cemetery for all the dead on Monday 2nd November at 5.00pm. Please bring the candle with you to light.

BAPTISM PREPARATION: The next baptism preparation session will be on **Tuesday 10th November at 7.30pm**, in the presbytery. All those planning to baptise a child in the next few months are encouraged to attend.

Children's Liturgy of the Word takes place in the Upper Room during the 10.00am Sunday Mass. It is aimed at children over the age of 4.

Coffee and tea in the presbytery after the 10.00am Sunday Mass. All welcome!

Parish Information

Weekly Collection: £342.89 plus ~£820 in standing orders/Dona donations. In addition, £270.76 was collected for Missio. Thank you for your contributions!

Please pray for the sick and housebound: Sarah Keys, Cynthia Brown, Beryl Wordsworth, John and Jean Dunn, John Fernandes, Alex and Kerry Golding, Sal Jola, Mick Ellis, Maureen Palmer, Bob Lloyd, Jenny Savage, Sandra Clayton, Kit Touhy, Carl Wordsworth, Maureen Heffer, Bernie Dobson, Joyce Perkins, Karen Sayers, Allan Palmer, Trevor Simkins, Mrs Anderson, Anne Tubridy, Nuala Robinson, Joan Jones, Sam and Mina, Margaret Rose, Anne Hawks.

Altar Servers Needed! Training for new altar servers will be held at 4.00pm on Friday 23rd October in the church. Children who have made their First communion are eligible to serve. If interested, please contact Fr Tibor or John Fernandes.

The Music Group needs you! We are looking for a keyboard player to join our Music Group for the 10.00am Sunday Mass and additional celebrations. If interested, please contact Richard: richard.tubridy@talk21.com / mob. 07955 662105.

Red Mission Boxes: This is the time when we ask you to bring your Red Box to the church for emptying. Don't worry if you've just started using your box, please bring it anyway as all offerings are welcome and, as we know from Fr Vincent's homily a few weeks ago, much appreciated by Missio in its work throughout the world. Please make sure your name is on the label. The boxes will be emptied and returned within a couple of weeks. *With many thanks for your generosity!*

Parish Offer

We are looking for .....
We are offering .....

The Upper Room (Church Hall): Our parish offers its parishioners the use of the Hall above the sacristy, equipped for family celebrations, birthday parties, carols, and interest groups. The room has 9 beautiful mahogany tables and 29 upholstered chairs. Please contact secretary Theresa with your request. If you need a larger covered open space for your family or interest activities, the Upper Room is available to you. We also offer for rent: porcelain service for 40 people - plates, cups etc.; garden furniture - plastic tables and chairs; gazebos; 2 child car seats

Deanery & Diocesan & UK & World Events, Meetings and Information

Italian Medical Charity Commission: This charity has inherited the work of the former Italian Hospital in London. After it was sold to the Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital, the proceeds are being used to help those of Italian origin who are in need of funds for medical treatment that the NHS has difficulty in providing, or for their carers. For further details, please visit the website www.italianmedicalcharity.co.uk or write to them at IMC, Kings Lodge, Kingsway, N12 0EW. For independent verification, please visit the Charity Commission website and search either using Italian Medical Charity or the Charity's number 218259.







TAIZÉ EVENING

An evening of readings, meditation and music

Sunday 15th November
4.30 pm

St Joseph's Church
East Street, St Neots

All are welcome



PARKING IN FRONT OF THE CHURCH

I would like to ask all drivers parking on Sundays in the lot behind the rectory, around the rectory, and in adjacent areas to take note of the following:

- Given the limited number of parking spaces near the rectory, I ask that you return to your cars promptly after Mass to allow those wishing to leave earlier than you to do so, and to avoid blocking others.

- Please be mindful of where you park on the street and do not block neighbours' driveways.

U8minutes to walk from that lot to the church. There is plenty of space available, and you will not be blocked in by anyone there.

- The area in front of the church may only be used for dropping off or picking up passengers - **NOT FOR PARKING**.
  For safety reasons, this area must remain clear!!!!





FOR SAFETY REASONS, PARKING
IN THIS AREA IS NOT PERMITTED.

LUMINISCENCE



LUMINISCENCE comes to London to transform Westminster Cathedral
with a dazzling 360° video projection concert
- featuring the story of London and the Cathedral
scripted by BAFTA and Olivier Award winner Tim Whitnall,
narrated by Hugh Bonneville,
and accompanied by live music from the Lux Aeterna choir.

On select Orchestral Nights, the Lux Aeterna choir is joined by a live 14-piece orchestra for a magnificent symphonic performance.

Tickets can be purchased at this link.





Have a lovely evening and invite your friends as well.

In doing so, you will also be supporting Westminster Cathedral.

Sacraments

Baptism: If you wish to have a child baptised, please take an application form from the church porch. Completed forms can be handed in to the parish priest or the parish office. **Baptism Preparation Session:** Tuesday 10 November at 7.30pm in the Presbytery.

Confession: Fr Tibor will be available for confession on weekdays from Tuesday to Friday a half hour before Mass.

Holy Communion: To prepare for Holy Communion each year, children must be registered no later than the end of July and must be 8 years old and year 4 in school at the time of admission. Application forms will be available in early summer.

Confirmation: This year, there are no plans to open a class for preparation for confirmation.

Anointing of the Sick: Anointing of the sick can be arranged at any time through the office and secretary Theresa.

Sacrament of Marriage: Please register for an interview with the Parish priest at least 6-12 months before the planned wedding date in order to have time to complete all the necessary paperwork (especially for weddings abroad and mixed marriages).



Mass Times, Intentions and Liturgical Events for the coming week

Saturday 24th October	**Weekday in Ordinary Time**	
	10.00am	*Holy hour - Exposition and Adoration*
	Vigil of Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary time	
	5.30pm	People of the Parish
Sunday 25th October	**The Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary time**	
	8.00am 10.00am	Donald Drew † Sheila Salt
Monday 26th October	**Weekday in Ordinary Time**	
		No Mass
Tuesday 27th October	**Weekday in Ordinary Time**	
	10.00am 10.30am	*Rosary Prayer group in the presbytery* Alfie McDiarmid †
Wednesday 28th October	**Ss Simone and Jude** **Apostles** ***feast***	
	11.30am	Requiem Mass for Derek Evans
Thursday 29th October	**Weekday in Ordinary Time**	
	10.00am	Evelyn McGuire †
Friday 30th October	**Weekday in Ordinary Time**	
	10.00am	Adrian Taggart †
Saturday 31st October	**Weekday in Ordinary Time**	
	10.00am	*Holy hour - Exposition and Adoration*
	Vigil of All Saints ***solemnity***	
	5.30pm	People of the Parish RIP
Sunday 1st November	**All Saints** ***solemnity***	
	8.00am 10.00am	Ann Anderson Rosemary Gunning †

SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding Representative has special responsibility for promoting good and safe practices in all activities involving children, young people and adults in risk.

Your Safeguarding Representative is:
Noreen Sinclair
Email: sinclana7@gmail.com
Find out more: www.catholicsafeguarding.org.uk
www.rcdea.org.uk/safeguarding



For safety reasons,
ALL CHILDREN MUST
be accompanied
to the restroom by a parent or adult.

Thank you for understanding.

We respectfully request
that you turn off the sound on your mobile devices
when entering the church
(or better still, turn off your mobiles completely)
and maintain this status
while you are in the church.

Thank you for understanding.



!!! PHOTOGRAPHY IN THE CHURCH !!!



Photography in the church is not permitted
without the consent of a priest or a sacristan during public gathering.

We are obliged to comply with the regulations of the Diocese of East Anglia and the GDPR regulations on the protection of minors and vulnerable persons in particular.

PLEASE **respect and protect** all members of our community, especially the young and the vulnerable to avoid any possible sanctions or criminal charges against individuals or the Parish.

THANK YOU FOR UNDERSTANDING.







Created and printed by St Joseph's Parish
Number of prints: 110
Roman Catholic Church, Parish of St Joseph's
© St Neots 2026





Everyone would be delighted and honoured
to welcome you at any of our services

Remember, O most pure spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary,
my great protector, Saint Joseph,
that no one ever had recourse to your protection,
or implored your aid without obtaining relief.
Confiding, therefore, in your goodness, I come before you.
Do not turn down my petitions, foster father of the Redeemer,
but graciously receive them.

Amen.



Saint Joseph, pray for us!

Newsletter deadline

The deadline for submitting announcements or events for the Sunday newsletter is Thursday morning by 10:00am.

