

St Joseph's Church (St J)
 9 Binford Place, Bridgwater. TA6 3NJ
bridgwater.stjoseph@cliftdioocese.com
 01278 422703
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
 Bridgwater 01278 422786

Our Lady and the English Martyrs (OLEM)
 Highbridge Road, Burnham-on-Sea TA8 1LL
burnham-on-sea.ourlady@cliftdioocese.com
 01278 497959
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
 Burnham-on-Sea 01278 784 641

Parish Priest: Fr Paul Vettikattu
Deacon Paul White (Retired)

Parish Administrator: Gosia Maynard (07897 766 033)

Safeguarding: Diocesan Safeguarding Office: 01179 540 993

Website: www.bridgwatercatholicchurch.com & <https://www.olem-church.org>

| 1 st March 2026 – 2 nd Sunday of Lent Holy Mass and Service Times | | | | |
|--|-----------------------------|--|----------------------|---|
| Sat 28th | 5:00pm 6:30pm 6.45pm | Holy Mass Polish Holy Mass Holy Mass | St J St J OLEM | People of the Parish John Cronin & Michael Healy (RIP) |
| Sun 1st | 8.00am 9.15am 11.15am | Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass | St J St J OLEM | Mave Fernandes 2 nd Birthday People of the Parish Hazel Landreth (RIP) |
| Tues 3rd | 9.30am | Adoration | St J | |
| Wed 4th | 9:30am 6:00pm | Holy Mass Holy Mass | OLEM St J | Rose Koggan (RIP) Anthony Ashton Aguias Birthday |
| Thurs 5th | 9:30am 11:00am | Holy Mass | St J St J | People of the Parish |
| Fri 6th | 9.00am 11.00am | Stations of The Cross followed by Holy Mass Stations of The Cross followed by Holy Mass | St J OLEM | People of the Parish People of the Parish |
| Sat 7th | 5:00pm 6:30pm 6.45pm | Holy Mass Polish Holy Mass Holy Mass | St J St J OLEM | People of the Parish |
| Sun 8th | 8.00am 9.15am 11.15am | Holy Mass Holy Mass Holy Mass | St J St J OLEM | People of the Parish Daniel Peter Osborne (RIP) |

Confession Times

St J: Thursdays 10:00–10:30 am | OLEM: Wednesdays 10:00–10:30 am.

As well as on appointment requests, please contact parish via phone or email.



Prayers for the Sick Please pray for Peter Brown, Alan Billings, Heather Brosnan, Tena Gosling, Mary Olsen, Joana dos Santos, Natalina Ximenes, Margaret Keohane, Frances Macauley, Joyce Dowds, Cathy Harper, Mike Newby, Deacon Paul, and Fr Paul's mother, Mary.

| | |
|---|--|
| Parish collections | 2 nd collection this week for Parish Maintenance |
| CAFOD Family Fast Day collection next Sunday → | envelopes are available in church |
| Collections last week: | Standing Orders and Gift Aid – forms are available in church. If you need help or have any questions, please speak to Yanness St J. and Gosia or John OLEM. |
| St J: Weekend collection £842 Maintenance £179 | |
| OLEM: Weekend collection £335 Maintenance £45.90 | |

| |
|---|
| Death & Funerals |
| Mr Herbert Benjamin Franklin (RIP) Funeral Mass at St Joseph on Tuesday 10th March 2026 at 11am |
| Mr Danny O'Sullivan (RIP) Funeral Mass at St Joseph on Wednesday 11 th March at 11.30am |

General News

A huge thank you to our parish community for a wonderful celebration with Bishop Bosco! We especially appreciate the children, youth, Altar servers, Confirmation candidates, and choir for their gracious welcome. **Special gratitude** goes to the volunteers who prepared, coordinated, and contributed to the "Bring and Share" lunch - including those who stayed to wash up and move chairs at the end. Your hard work behind the scenes made the day seamless. It was a joy to see so many joined in prayer and fellowship!

The World Day of Prayer 6 March 2026.

Service at St Peter's & All Hallows, West Huntspill at 10.30 for 11 am.

St Peters and All Hallows - Lenten Peace Tuesday 10th March at 6.30pm.

This takes the form of a 30-minute session which allows space i.e. no music, dark church.

PARISHES IN COMMUNION- Easter preparation retreat led by Fr Jinson OFM Capuchin. Venue: OLEM
 Date: Sunday, 29th March from 2.00pm to 7.30pm, 2.00 pm Holy Mass, 3 pm 1st talk, 4 pm break, 4.30 pm 2nd talk, reflection, 5.30pm praise and worship, discussion, 6pm 3rd talk, 7 pm: Adoration of the blessed sacrament. Pope has announced a special year of Jubilee from 10th January 2026 to 10th Jan 2027 in connection with 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi. Fr Jinson is a priest from the Franciscan order.

Sacrament of Confirmation on: 16th June 2026, please contact Richard Tully on 07854 665575.

New Diocesan requirement in Fire Regulations, is that the last person to leave the Church Building must ensure that all candles and charcoal embers are fully extinguished. The Sanctuary light to remain alight.

St. Joseph's Parish News and Events

Contactless payments: payments towards the parish collection or parish maintenance can now be made via contactless payment with your card, phone or watch in the main porch next to the statue of the Virgin Mary. Donations can also be made towards coffee and tea in the parish room. Just follow the simple instructions on the screen. For the first few months of use, we will prompt every user to add their details for Gift Aid, which will add 25% to their donation. You only have to fill in the details once - your donations will then qualify for Gift Aid every time you use the same card / device. See David Bennett if you have any questions or problems.

Car park at St Joseph Bridgwater – If you would like to use the car park regularly - outside of mass times - please contact Gosia (parish admin) to obtain an agreement. There have been many instances whereby unauthorised vehicles have been using the car park without this agreement causing parking issues.

St J.- Communion at Home – if anyone is unable to attend mass, there is the opportunity to receive a visit, Holy Communion and other Sacraments. Please let Fr Paul or Sheila Byrne know.

First Holy Communion – next class is on Saturday 7th March at 3pm

Celebrating the Feast of St. Joseph Please join us as we honour our patron, St. Joseph, with a special three-day Novena of Masses beginning on **Monday, 16th March**. The celebrations will culminate in a solemn Feast Mass on **Thursday, 19th March at 6:00pm**. Following the Mass, we invite everyone to a **Bring and Share Meal**. Your presence and a small plate of food to share would be most welcome.

OLEM Parish News and Events

Reminder - as in past occasions, we ask you to respect the privacy of the OLEM Sacristy. Traffic before and after Mass has become unacceptable, with reference to H & S and Safeguarding. Please do not enter the Sacristy 20 minutes before, and 10 minutes after Mass, unless there is a very urgent need to speak to Father. Let us allow peace for Father to prepare. Clergy, Altar Servers, Sacristans and Lead Musician only please. First Lector to be available at the door. Sacristans are available to accept important messages.

Safeguarding. Can adults please accompany their children to the toilets during mass due to the toilets being out of sight from the main body of the church and have been used on occasion by people who are not at mass. Thank you.

The next Tea and Cake Afternoon is on Tuesday 10th March 2.0 -3.30 pm

OLEM Lantern Repairs - the second phase of repairing the OLEM Lantern window seals will commence 16th March. Any contribution is welcome.