

NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST



St Joseph's Presbytery, Berkshire Drive, Tilehurst, Reading, RG31 5JJ

☎ 0118 942 8632 ✉ sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

🌐 www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk 📘 <https://www.facebook.com/stjosephstilehurst>

Registered Charity No. 246871

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Glas

**Parish Secretary:
Sheila Jones**

*Parish Office hours: Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
9 am – 12.30 pm, for telephone and email contact only*

**Safeguarding Representative:
Miriam da Cruz Fernandes**

☎ 0118 943 3524

✉ miriam@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 19TH SEPTEMBER 2021

HOME MISSION SUNDAY

Each year in the Catholic Church, on the third Sunday of September, we celebrate Home Mission Sunday. On this day the bishops invite parishes to pray for the mission of the Church in England and Wales. There is a second collection today to support the bishops' work of evangelisation. *Please be as generous as you can.*



CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – FRIDAY, 1ST OCTOBER

Our local experts are helping people all over the world adapt to climate change and to protect our common home. By donating to CAFOD this Family Fast Day, you can help communities affected by the worst impact of the climate crisis. Please donate by using the envelopes provided, online on our website www.CAFOD.org.uk/climatecrisis or by texting **CAFOD10 to 70580 to donate £10** or choose any whole amount between £1 and £20, e.g. £5 CAFOD5, more information on the CAFOD leaflet. Many thanks for your support. Many thanks, Jo Lewry, Community Participation Coordinator, CAFOD Portsmouth – 0771 009 4447. For more information visit our Facebook page (1) [CAFOD in Portsmouth](#) | Facebook | [CAFOD Portsmouth Blog](#) | Updates from CAFOD in the Portsmouth Diocese (wordpress.com) and twitter [@CAFODPortsmouth](#).

MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 19TH SEPTEMBER – SUNDAY, 26TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Sunday, 19 th September TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	5 pm (Vigil)*	Veronica & Raymond Brown RIP
	8.30 am*	Mr & Mrs Domingo Rodrigues RIP
	11 am*	Private intention
Monday, 20 th September St Andrew Kim Taegon, Priest, St Paul Chong Hasang & Companions, Martyrs	NO MASS	
Tuesday, 21 st September ST MATTHEW, Apostle, Evangelist	12 noon*	Martha Munnelly RIP
Wednesday, 22 nd September	12 noon*	Brigid Wilchusky RIP
Thursday, 23 rd September St Pio of Pietrelcina, Religious	9.30 am	St Paul's School Year 6 Leaders' Mass <i>(In church)</i>
Friday, 24 th September Our Lady of Walsingham, memorial	Private	Carmen's intentions <i>(Foundation Mass)</i>
Saturday, 25 th September Our Lady on Saturday	Private	
Sunday, 26 th September TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	5 pm (Vigil)*	Margaret Chaplin RIP
	8.30 am*	Mary Ralph's intentions
	11 am*	Patrick Ryan RIP

Masses marked * will be live-streamed: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCruCvuFlvKVpmI2vvGWdDKQ>

There will be confessions after 12 noon Mass next Wednesday, and after 5 pm Mass on Saturday. Every Saturday at 10 am, please join us online to recite the Rosary. *Further details are available on our web site.*



(KENNETH) ROY CLUTSON RIP

The parish offers condolences to the family of Roy Clutson, who died recently. Roy's Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, 28th September at 1.30 pm. Further details to follow. *Please pray for the repose of Roy's soul.*



BERNADETTE SMEESTERS RIP

The parish offers condolences to the family of Bernadette Smeesters, who died recently. Bernadette's Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday, 29th September at 10.45 am. Further details to follow. *Please pray for the repose of Bernadette's soul.*

While COVID cases remain high locally, we will continue with our existing system for attending Mass. Restrictions will be reviewed every few weeks. We ask everyone to continue to wear a face-covering. The weekend Mass invitation system, sanitizing and social distancing will all continue for the time being. We have a responsibility to keep each other safe, especially the vulnerable.

Registration for weekend Mass attendance at St Joseph's is restricted to parishioners and local residents. Please email stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk or contact the Parish Office, and Sheila will pass on your request. Registration required for attendance at weekends. No invites required mid-week.

Welcome back, Fr Peter!

COLLECTION FOR 11TH/12TH SEPTEMBER 2021

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£169.00
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£10.00
Loose Plate	£256.64
Gift Aid (via bank)	£1,258.00
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£192.41
Home Mission Sunday	£10.00
Mass Stole Fees	£40.00
TOTAL	£1,936.05

RUNNING TOTALS

TF9 ("On Fire!")	£3,874.77
Clergy Assistance Fund	£328.12
Clergy Training Fund	£289.56
Holy Places	£213.75
World Communications	£195.00
Day for Life	£392.50
Peter's Pence	£207.50
Apostleship of the Sea	£228.50
World Communications	£195.00
Home Mission Sunday	£12.50

OFFERINGS, DONATIONS & SUNDAY COLLECTIONS

Various **DONATE** buttons are available on our web site, as well as information about the easiest way to make your contributions online, for Sunday collections, donations and Mass offerings. If you wish to make any donation to St Joseph's parish, please see 'Donations' on the home page of our website, or follow this link directly: <http://www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk/upload/newsletter/DonationStJosephsTilehurst.pdf>

ST JOSEPH'S NURSERY

St Joseph's Nursery has a few spaces available. Children are funded by the Local Authority from the term following their third birthday. There are no "top up" fees payable. Children under three years old can be funded under certain circumstances. For more information, please contact: *Mrs Petersen - 0118 941 3602.*

PAINT-A-SHED

We have two sheds in the parish garden which will need a coat of wood treatment before the winter. Any volunteers? Materials can be supplied. *Please leave your name with the Parish Office.*

BABY AND TODDLER GROUP

There has been a group for pre-school children in the parish for about 40 years. The Toddler Group has an excellent stock of toys and equipment. Children can play outdoors in a secure garden area. Each week, activities are arranged and healthy snacks are provided. So, if you are a Mum, Dad, grandparent, child-minder, etc., and are looking for a friendly toddler group, give us a go: Thursdays from 8.45 am – 11.30 am in the large hall, term-time only. *All welcome.*

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The next, usual monthly CIRDIC and family collection will be on Saturday, 3rd October from 2 - 3 pm, in the church car park. ***These collections will continue on the first Saturday of each month.*** We will be collecting Food, Donations and Clothes, (particularly T-Shirts, Jeans, Hoodies & Trainers). You can also donate directly to our bank account; Account Name: Saint Vincent de Paul. Sort Code: 60-60-04. Account No: 46075070. If you are a tax payer and wish to Gift Aid your donation, SVP gets 25% extra money to spend on good causes. To Gift Aid, let me know your full name and address or include it in the envelope with your donation. Your contributions are helping the needy at an extremely crucial time. *Many thanks for your generosity.* Key contact: Jack Ewins - Mobile: 0773 449 9190. Email: jackewins9@gmail.com.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND:

Nora Colley, Pat Togher, Gerard Tomas, Charles Livingston, Barbara Turner, Stefen Griffiths, Nina Aramo, Jo Boase, Julie Thompson, Carmela Garzia, Kathleen Urban, Marek, Bridget, Maggie Tranter, Leszek & Jadwiga Wlasak, Jackie Hopper, Donald, Hilary Cameron, Tess Heenan, Sisters of St Ann (in Bamenda), Caroline Hurst, Kevin Keep, Brigid, Adrian Robson, John Cronin, Alan Allen & Veronica Williams. ***If you would like to add a name to this list, or if you have any queries, please contact Sheila in the Parish Office.***



**LONDON
JESUIT
CENTRE**

INTRODUCTION TO THE OLD TESTAMENT

(Begins 23rd September)

The Old Testament is essential to understanding the history of salvation and the course will map out the main arc of the Old Testament narrative by exploring four central themes: creation, covenant, prophecy and kingship.

GOD AND SUFFERING I - PHILOSOPHICAL QUESTIONS

(Begins 23rd September)

It has been a centuries old cry of atheists – how can there be a perfect, loving God given that the world is so full of suffering? The course will explore some of the key philosophical arguments and help participants understand the issues more deeply.

PRAYER FROM SCRATCH

(Begins 29th September)

Prayer is at the very heart of the Christian life and this course, over five Wednesdays, will help participants see prayer in a new way. There will be time for discussion and reflection, as well as periods of guided prayer.

You will find a full list of LJC events, courses and retreats here: www.londonjesuitcentre.org

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH OFFICE

Telephone and email contact only. There is still no face-to-face contact possible. Please post Mass offerings or correspondence through the Presbytery letterbox, and email/telephone Sheila in the Parish Office, if you would like Fr Peter or Fr Richard to offer a Mass, or for newsletter items.

OLDER PEOPLE'S DAY 2021 - FRIDAY, 1ST OCTOBER

You are invited to come along to Older People's Day 2021 which will take place on Friday, 1st October at Broad Street Mall. There will be stalls offering information and advice on a wide variety of services from over 30 local organisations, including Citizens Advice Reading, MacMillan Cancer Education, Compass Recovery College, Age UK Berkshire, Age UK Reading, Tuvida Carers Hub to name but a few. Royal Berkshire Hospital will also be offering free blood pressure checks on the day.

At 11 am, you can join a relaxed hour-long guided history walk around Reading Abbey Ruins, weather permitting. Places on the walk can be booked by emailing Reading Museum museum.education@reading.gov.uk.

We have all faced many challenges over the last 18 months and COVID has led to increased loneliness and isolation for older people. This year's National Older People's Day event is to demonstrate the resilience of older people in our community and the great work of voluntary organisations and community groups who have supported older people during difficult times.

To find out more about the programme of the day, which will include origami, dance, tai chi and physiotherapy exercises, and to download a copy of the flyer, please click on the links below:

[Older People's Day 2021 News page on RSG](#)

[Older People's Day 2021 flyer](#)

As a reminder, Covid guidance will be in place throughout the day to keep everyone safe – hand, space, face.

<https://www.reading.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19/>

<https://www.berkshirepublichealth.co.uk/>

Public Health and Wellbeing Team, Directorate of Adult Care and Health Services, Reading Borough Council

T: 0781 597 0354.



ST PAUL'S SCHOOL MASS FOR YEAR 6

- TIE PRESENTATION

On Thursday, 23rd September, we are hoping that our Year 6 children will be presented with their Leaders Ties at a special Mass. We regret that we are unable to accommodate parents.

Required ASAP

Teaching Assistant (Minimum qualification Level 2) and Lunch Time Controller 27.5 hours per week (Grade/Salary C-D depending upon experience) + 5 hours per week (Grade B) (Term time only). Closing Date: Friday, 17th September 2021. Interviews: Friday 24th September 2021. For an application pack, please contact the school. Application packs are also available on line at: <http://www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk>



BLESSED HUGH FARINGDON CATHOLIC SCHOOL & SIXTH FORM CENTRE - OPEN DAY

Thursday, 23rd September 2021.

Morning 9 am – 12 noon. Evening 5 pm - 7.30 pm.

Year 7 Entry 2022.

Fawley Road, Reading RG30 3EP

Website: www.hughfaringdon.org

Telephone: 0118 957 4730

Email: admin@hughfaringdon.org

Twitter @BHFCS bhfcs bhfcs

ANNUAL MASS COUNT

Over the next four weekends, starting this Sunday, 19th September, parishes across all the dioceses of England and Wales will be undertaking their annual Mass count, that is, the numbers of people in attendance at Sunday Masses.

Until 2018, the count was taken over the four weeks of October, but experts argued that a better picture of the situation could be gained from taking the last two weekends of September and the first two weekends of October instead. This is because, as many parish priests point out, the school half-term holidays have in the past disrupted the usual statistics, with many families away, and others visiting.

The numbers for 2021 are bound to be lower than usual as we are still recovering from the pandemic. In many of our parishes, parishioners are still isolating or anxious about returning, or they have simply fallen out of practice. Moreover, the Sunday Mass obligation has not yet been restored. On the other hand, the statistical data given this time will be very useful to pastors and parishes in planning ahead and working out where resources need to be focused. Thank you in advance to all our stewards and parishioners who will be facilitating this important endeavour.

25TH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

In the Gospel (Mark 9:30-37), Jesus delivers a new Passion prediction to his disciples, in which he warns them of the suffering and humiliation which he freely and lovingly undergoes for the salvation of all humanity. The fact that the disciples immediately start arguing over who among them is the greatest is a clear sign that they have not fully understood Jesus' message! Just as God made himself lowly and vulnerable in the person of Christ, so we are called to take the lowest place in imitation of Christ, and welcome the lowly in His name.

You can find the Sunday readings [here](#) and read Scott Hahn's reflection [here](#). You can register to watch our Diocesan Wednesday Webinar [here](#), or join via [Facebook live](#). If you can't join on Wednesday, you can subscribe to the podcast [here](#).

SAINT OF THE WEEK:

ST PIUS OF PIETRELCINA 23RD SEPTEMBER

Most people would struggle to identify a man named Francesco Forgione, but almost every Catholic knows Padre Pio, also known as St Pius of Pietrelcina whose Memorial we keep on Thursday. They are, of course, the same person.

Francesco was born on 25th May 1887 in Pietrelcina (a village about 190 miles southeast of Rome) to parents of peasant farmers. As a child, he was very religious, and by the age of five, reportedly, made the decision to dedicate his life to God. His family attended daily Mass, and Francesco became an altar boy as soon as he was old enough.

Francesco's family was very poor, which meant that he had to work from an early age, which meant that he was unable to attend school regularly. His job was to look after the few sheep that the family owned.

Aged ten, Francesco expressed to his parents the desire to become a friar. He was evaluated at a nearby monastery, but was told that he needed more education before he could join. Francesco's parents hired a tutor. However, in order to pay the fees, Francesco's father travelled to America to find work, and send the money home.

When he was fifteen, Francesco entered the Capuchin monastery in Morcone, a town about 25 miles from home. He took the religious name "Pio", in honour of Pope St Pius 1, whose relic he often saw in his local church.

He was ordained in 1910, but did not enjoy good health and was permitted to stay at home. Fr Pio was summoned for military service in 1915, but discharged the following year because of his poor health.

On 20th September 1916, Fr Pio was hearing confessions when he felt pains in his hands and feet. He bore the wounds of Christ's passion (known as the stigmata), which although they continued to weep, never became infected.

By 1919, word began to spread about the stigmata, and Fr Pio became very popular with those he encountered. His popularity became a source of concern for the Vatican who began to restrict his activities.

However, by 1934, the Vatican changed its attitude to Fr Pio and he was allowed to perform public duties again. Pope Pius XI actually encouraged people to visit him. One such visitor in 1947 was Fr Karol Wojtyła. Fr Pio told him that he would "rise to the highest point in the Church". In 1978, Fr Wojtyła became Pope John Paul II.

Fr Pio was internationally famous and was known for his piety, charity and quality of preaching. He would often say "pray, hope and don't worry".

He died on 23rd September 1968, and it is estimated that over 100,000 lined the funeral route. He was canonized by Pope John Paul II on 16th June 2002. *St Padre Pio - pray for us.* Mike Tomas.