

# NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST



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

☎ 0118 942 8632 ✉ [sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

🌐 [www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk](http://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*

**Safeguarding Representative:**

**Miriam da Cruz Fernandes**

☎ 0118 943 3524

✉ [miriam@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk](mailto:miriam@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk)

**CHRISTMAS & THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY (YEAR C) - 25<sup>TH</sup>/26<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021**

**THE SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS – 1<sup>ST</sup>/2<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2022**



**THANK YOU VERY MUCH! . . . . .**

to those who have prepared our Christmas celebration;  
and to those who serve the parish throughout the year, in many ways:  
the Sacristan and those who assist,  
those who clean the Church and arrange flowers,  
those who look after the Repository,  
those who form the Choir and provide the Musical Accompaniment,  
to those who read, as Ministers of the Word,  
to the Ministers of the Eucharist and to the Altar Servers,  
to those who provide Liturgies for the children,  
to those who provide the Catechetical instruction  
to the Leaders of the Youth Groups; Nursery and Toddler Group  
to the Governors and Staff of the Catholic Schools,  
to the members of the Finance Committee, Co-ordinating Team, SVP  
to those who care for families, the young, the elderly, the sick,  
to those who represent the parish at weekday Mass,  
to those who help with administration,  
to those who ensure the Safety and Maintenance of our Church Property,  
to those who administer the Church Hall lettings  
and attend to the daily cleaning and maintenance,  
to those who maintain the Church grounds, lighting & other equipment,  
to those who attend to the finances of the Parish,  
including Gift Aid, Counting, Book-keeping and Banking,  
to those who prepare the Audio-Visual slides, screen operators, IT and the website.  
Have I left anyone out? If so, I offer my sincere apologies.  
Thank you all! Please do keep up your kind service to the Glory of God.

**- Father Peter**

Friday, 24 <sup>th</sup>	4.45 pm Carols - Family Mass at 5 pm	Christmas Eve - <b>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</b>
	6.45 pm Carols - Family Mass at 7 pm	
	11.30 pm Carols before Midnight Mass	
Saturday, 25 <sup>th</sup>	9.30 am	Christmas Day - <b>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</b>

*All Christmas Masses will be live-streamed*

# A HOLY AND PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS!

**MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER – SUNDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2022**

Sunday, 26 <sup>th</sup> December <b>THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY &amp; JOSEPH (YEAR C)</b>	<b>** NO VIGIL MASS**</b> 8.30 am 10.30 am*	Litty Chacko's special intentions Betty Sogi RIP
Monday, 27 <sup>th</sup> December <b>ST JOHN, Apostle, Evangelist</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>	
Tuesday, 28 <sup>th</sup> December <b>THE HOLY INNOCENTS</b>	12 noon	David & Christalina's intentions: In thanksgiving (15 <sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary)
Wednesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> December <b>ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY</b>	12 noon	Kathleen O'Shea RIP ( <i>Foundation Mass</i> )
Thursday, 30 <sup>th</sup> December	9.30 am	Gosia & Krystyna's intentions: For good health & God's protection
Friday, 31 <sup>st</sup> December	7 pm	Aileen Brett RIP
Saturday, 1 <sup>st</sup> January <b>MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD (Solemnity)</b>	<b>12 noon</b>	May Phealan RIP
Sunday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> January <b>SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS (YEAR C)</b>	5 pm (Vigil)	Michael Lanigan RIP
	8.30 am	Brid & Gerry Brett & family's intentions
	10.30 am*	Gosia & her mother Krystyna's intentions: For good health & God's protection
Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> January	<b>NO MASS</b>	
Tuesday, 4 <sup>th</sup> January	12 noon	Mr Lucas Dias RIP
Wednesday, 5 <sup>th</sup> January	12 noon	Jim & Anne O'Carroll & family's intentions
Thursday, 6 <sup>th</sup> January <b>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (Solemnity)</b>	9.30 am	John & Vera O'Carroll & family & grandchildren's intentions
Friday, 7 <sup>th</sup> January	7 pm	P T Antony RIP
Saturday, 8 <sup>th</sup> January	10 am	Tony & Sharon O'Carroll & family's intentions
Sunday, 9 <sup>th</sup> January <b>THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD (YEAR C)</b>	5 pm (Vigil)	Peter & Jeanette Jones RIP
	8.30 am	Paul Spackman's intentions
	10.30 am	Kathleen Phealan & all the family's intentions

\* 10.30 am Sunday Mass will be live-streamed: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCruCvuFlvKVpmI2vvGWdDKQ>

There will be confessions before Mass on Saturdays from 9.30 am, followed by 10 am Mass and the Rosary.



The next, usual monthly CIRDIC and family collection will be on **Saturday, 8<sup>th</sup> January** 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 contacts: SVP President: Rita Boyce - Mobile: 0798 464 3250 Email: [ritaur@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ritaur@yahoo.co.uk). SVP Treasurer: Jack Ewins - Mobile: 0773 449 9190. Email: [jackewins9@gmail.com](mailto:jackewins9@gmail.com).

Message from SVP:

*Dear parishioners,*

*Thanks for your continuous generosity and support throughout the year. Since we started the partnership with Fareshare some 3 months ago, we have managed 35 collections of 900kgs of food that generated 2,100 meals (created by CIRDIC, New Beginnings, Readifood, St Mary's Soup Run, The Weller Centre and Whitley Community Centre). In addition, we have managed to save 2,800kgs (CO<sub>2</sub> saved), avoiding food waste and bringing happiness to those in need. Wishing you a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!*

**A HOLY AND PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS!**

# St Joseph's Tilehurst



## Volunteers Needed!

We rely on so many volunteers in many different ways to help run OUR church. Can you help?

Below is a list of areas where we are looking for new helpers. FULL support/training will be available. If you would like to know more, please contact a member of the Co-ordinating Team (see noticeboard), or send a message to the Parish Office.

*God bless you!*



If you would like to help in some other way, then please let us know.

Some activities haven't resumed yet, so there will be more ways to help in the future!

# A HOLY AND PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS!

## COLLECTION FOR 18<sup>TH</sup>/19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2021

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£154.00
Gift Aid (bank)	£1,263.00
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£45.00
Planned Giving (bank)	£172.00
Loose Plate	£233.01
Christmas Collection	£165.00
Mass Stole Fees	£20.00
Donation (Syro Malabar)	£60.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,112.01</b>
<b>Running Totals</b>	
TF9 ("On Fire!")	£2,979.53
CAFOD Family Fast Day	£285.10
Bamenda Sunday	£683.00
Christmas Collection	£537.65

### 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>

### CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

Traditionally, your offerings at Christmas are for the personal use of the priest serving the parish, and form the major part of his annual income. Parishioners should use their marked box of envelopes, or if you do not have one, please put an offering into any envelope and mark it for Fr Peter. The Christmas donate button on the web site is also available, if you would like to give a gift to support Father Peter in his vocation and mission this Christmas:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/reading-st-joseph-catholic-parish-christmas-collection-2022>

### CRIB OFFERINGS:

#### FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND (FROM FHL)

Crib offerings this Christmas will be donated to the Friends of the Holy Land. Friends of the Holy Land help the most deprived Christian families, especially those living around Bethlehem, in Gaza, Israel and Jordan. With no pilgrims or tourism since March 2020 and no government support to individuals or businesses, many families, have lost all their income and are increasingly calling on Friends of the Holy Land for help with day to day living. Further information on FHL is available on their website [www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk](http://www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk).

### BBC RADIO 4

BBC Radio 4 is coming to Reading Minister on Friday, 7<sup>th</sup> January at 8 pm. You are invited to join the live audience, but tickets are limited and are available now. Register via email: [readingminsterevents@gmail.com](mailto:readingminsterevents@gmail.com). Every blessing. *Michael Penny - Chair, Churches Together in Reading and Berkshire*

### SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Our next Confirmation programme will commence after Christmas with the Confirmation ceremony taking place the following year: Easter 2023. If you are currently in Year 7 or above, and interested in joining the programme, please send your name and contact details to the *Parish Office*.

### CAFOD DEC AFGHANISTAN CRISIS APPEAL

CAFOD is combining efforts with the DEC to launch the Afghanistan Crisis Appeal. In Afghanistan, 8 million people are on the brink of famine because of drought, collapsing economy, food shortages, conflict, and COVID. CAFOD is supporting sister Caritas agencies to reach communities most in need with food, clean water, and fuel. During Advent, when we open ourselves to the needs of others, let's do all that we can to save lives. You can donate on the CAFOD website: [cafod.org.uk/AfghanistanAppeal](http://cafod.org.uk/AfghanistanAppeal), and please pray for the people of Afghanistan.

### APF NEWS

APF collection money is now due. If you are able to empty your own box, please write a cheque for the appropriate amount, place it in an envelope marked APF, and hand it in to the *Parish Office*. Cheques should be made payable to Missio APF. If you are unable to do this, please contact me on 0770 803 2743. The autumn magazines and the 2022 calendars are available at the back of the church. *Mike Tomas - APF Secretary*.

### ST JOSEPH'S PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed from week commencing Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> December, and will re-open on Thursday, 6<sup>th</sup> January. Fr Peter will do his best to answer any urgent queries. Any non-urgent matters may be left until the Parish Office is open again. *Thank you*.

### PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2022

Our Diocese of Portsmouth Annual Pilgrimage to Lourdes will take place next year from 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Bishop Philip is now very pleased to be able to invite you once again to join him and many others from across the Diocese on this pilgrimage. We will be leaving from Bournemouth airport. Once in Lourdes, we will stay at the Hotel La Solitude, celebrate Mass daily, and take part in all that Lourdes has to offer. If you would like to know more about joining Bishop Philip either as a pilgrim or as a youth pilgrim, serving our pilgrims and helping to make our pilgrimage a success, please email [lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### VOCATIONS

Opening their treasure chests, they offered Him gifts." Are you beginning to see your life as a gift to be given to the Lord as a priest, deacon, religious sister or brother? Contact *Cn. John Cooke* [vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or call 01329 318 869.

# A HOLY AND PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS!



### **PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND:**

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



Temporary SEN Teaching Assistant required as soon as possible. 10 hours per week term, time only, for 2 terms. Grade/Salary B/C depending on experience. Please feel free to ring us and have a chat about our lovely school and children. Closing Date: Wednesday, 12<sup>th</sup> January at Midday. Interviews: Tuesday afternoon 18<sup>th</sup> January. For an application pack please contact the school. Application packs are also available on line at

<http://www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk> St. Paul's Catholic School, City Road, Tilehurst, Reading RG31 4SZ. Tel: 0118 942 2003. e-mail: [office@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:office@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk) Website: [www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk](http://www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk)

### **UNIVERSITY OF READING CHAPLAINCY LECTURE**

Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> January, 7pm: 'Spirituality and Mental Health' - the 2022 Online interview with Professor John Swinton, Professor in Practical Theology and Pastoral Care and Chair in Divinity and Religious Studies at the University of Aberdeen. Book for free here:

<https://www.reading.ac.uk/15/about/newsandevents/Events/Event862486.aspx>

John will be interviewed about spirituality and mental health, particularly drawing on his 2020 book 'Finding Jesus in the Storm: The Spiritual Lives of Christians with Mental Health Challenges'.

John is founder of the University of Aberdeen's Centre for Spirituality, Health and Disability. He has written on dementia, disability theology and pastoral care. His 2016 book Dementia won the Archbishop of Canterbury's Ramsey Prize for excellence in theological writing.

Facebook event:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/216605010655128/>

### **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.*

### **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.*

### **THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY/ST STEPHEN**

All servers are encouraged to attend 10.30 am Mass this Sunday - the Feast of the Holy Family/ St Stephen. At this Mass, all servers will renew their Guild Promise; medals are presented to new members and one server will be recognised for ten years' service. *Please try and come and support all our servers.*

### **OPPORTUNITIES FOR FORMATION IN JANUARY-FEBRUARY 2022**

For Catechists:

Essential Training for Catechists (5 Mondays, 10<sup>th</sup> January - 7<sup>th</sup> February, 7.30 - 9 pm) followed by our new course, Further Training for Catechists (5 Mondays, 21<sup>st</sup> February - 21<sup>st</sup> March, 7.30 - 9 pm) - in the first course, we will look at the fundamental principles of catechesis to discover what it is, and in the second course, we will look at specific questions: how to speak to adults, young people and children about God, Jesus, salvation, the human person and the Church. To find out more and register, check our website: <https://www.pffm.org.uk/> or register directly for the Essential Training:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcud-CgpzspGNNmzyxwCIFle2MiqfHahOnK> and for the Further

Training:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUkcuytpzMrGNTFXcThp9NMAfCmfl8GloOh> Both courses are open to

everyone - you don't have to be a catechist to sign up.

For those who care for children with Additional/Special Needs: We are offering 3 workshops on Thursday's 13<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> January, 7 - 8.30 pm for the parents, catechists and priests of young Catholics with additional needs:

Being Acceptional. Workshop 1. At Mass: Inclusion in the Liturgy; Workshop 2. In Catechesis: Sacramental preparation; Workshop 3. In the Home: The domestic Church for children with additional needs. You can register here for the workshops:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMofuqqqD4oGdX6gk02PYnXzHGGPblvzPBI>

All our initiatives are listed on our website:

<https://www.pffm.org.uk/>

Wishing you every blessing and grace with Christmas. *Sr Hyacinthe and the Formation for Mission Team*

# **A HOLY AND PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS!**