

NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST



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

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🌐 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

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 1ST AUGUST 2021

As mentioned last week, there will be no drastic changes to the current Covid procedures in operation here at St Joseph's; we remain in line with the English Martyrs parish. While COVID cases remain high locally, we will continue with our existing system. 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. We have added a few more pews, and we are hopeful that most people will be offered a place at one of the weekend Masses every week, especially as it is holiday time.

The Co-ordinating Team is reforming. The key focus points for the team initially will be to provide support for the parish while Fr Peter is away, and to gradually manage changes as a result of COVID restrictions easing on 19th July. If you have questions or suggestions for the team to discuss, please submit them to the Parish Office.

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales released new guidance recently. We have already agreed a few small changes and will continue to review other aspects. We agreed it is no longer necessary to clean the church if it will not be used again for 2 days. So, it will not be cleaned after Wednesday midday Mass, and after Sunday 11 am Mass. We will also look at offering confessions again after some Masses. Please continue to read the weekly newsletter for further updates.

Here is the link, if you would like to read the document:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/05/CBCEW-COVID-Step-4-Guidance-150721b.pdf>

We are very grateful to everyone for your patience and generosity in complying with the Covid procedures that we have in place. We are particularly grateful to the wonderful Admin Team, Cleaners and Stewards who have been doing such a great job. They have fulfilled a challenging task with kindness and sensitivity. When the time comes to make changes to our procedures, we will do so gradually so that we all have time to adjust.

COVID UPDATE: The Bishops' Conference has issued a statement <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/sunday-it-is-our-day/> expressing the hope "that it will be possible for all Catholics in England and Wales to fulfil this most important Church precept, that of the Sunday Obligation, by the First Sunday in Advent 2021", i.e. 28th November 2021.

Please keep Fr Peter in your prayers: Bishop Philip has granted Fr Peter a leave of absence in Poland until 27th August, due to his family circumstances. Thank you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND:

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

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.

Will parishioners please note that the Parish Office will be closed from Tuesday, 3rd August. It will re-open on Tuesday, 7th September. Telephone messages and emails will be monitored regularly, but please be aware that there may be a delay in responding to queries. *Thank you for your understanding.*

MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 1ST AUGUST - SUNDAY, 8TH AUGUST 2021		
Sunday, 1 st August EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	5 pm (Vigil) + Live-streamed	Babs & Don's intentions
	8.30 am + Live-streamed	Beatrice Pinto RIP
	11 am + Live-streamed	Krysztof Adamczyk RIP
Monday, 2 nd August	NO MASS	
Tuesday, 3 rd August	12 noon + Live-streamed	Mike & Della Keep's intentions (58 th Wedding Anniversary)
Wednesday, 4 th August <i>St John Vianney, Priest</i>	12 noon + Live-streamed	Breda Williams RIP
Thursday, 5 th August	Private	Kitty Connors RIP
Friday, 6 th August THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD, feast	Private	Margaret Connors RIP
Saturday, 7 th August	Private	
Sunday, 8 th August NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME	5 pm (Vigil) + Live-streamed	Rose Quinn RIP
	8.30 am + Live-streamed	Ellen Kearns' intentions
	11 am + Live-streamed	Patricia & James MacMahon 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.

ROSARY

Every Saturday at 10 am, please join us online to recite the Rosary.
Further details are available on our web site.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The next, usual monthly CIRDIC and family collection will be on Saturday, 7th August 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.*

MASSES

Registration for Mass attendance at St Joseph's is restricted to parishioners by emailing stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk. If you do not have email, please call the Parish Office, leave a message, and *Sheila* will pass on your request.

COLLECTION FOR 24TH/25TH JULY 2021

VOCATIONS

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	£195.00
Apostleship of the Sea	£228.50

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>

APF

Boxholders are asked once again to open their own boxes and write a cheque, payable to Missio APF, and place it in an envelope marked for my attention, and drop through the presbytery door. Any problems please contact me. Thank you. *Mike Tomas, APF Secretary - 0770 803 2743.*

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. Names can also be added to the waiting list for September 2021. For more information, please contact: *Mrs Petersen - 0118 941 3602.*



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. After the summer break, we will re-commence on Thursday, 2nd September from 8.45 am - 11.30 am in the large hall, term-time only. *All welcome.*

PILGRIMAGE CANCELLED

The parish Medjugorje Pilgrimage has been cancelled this year, due to COVID restrictions.

We give thanks for the Ordinations of Fr Anthony Fyk and Fr Paul Nwune to the Sacred Priesthood yesterday, and Dcn James Lewis to the Diaconate. If you want to know more about pursuing a priestly or religious vocation, contact *Cn. John Cooke* vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 0132 931 8869.

ALTON DAY OF RENEWAL (ADoRE)

ADoRE offers confidential prayer for healing by telephone on 0757 982 4523 - Monday to Friday 10 am - 4 pm. Experienced prayer ministers will pray with you confidentially for healing of physical, emotional and spiritual problems.

INVITATION TO AN IGNATIAN STAYCATION



The Portsmouth Diocese Spiritual Formation Team invite you to take an Ignatian Staycation this summer on Wednesday evenings from 4th - 25th August.

Due to travel restrictions, we may not be able to travel abroad this summer. So, the Spiritual Formation Team have planned an alternative journey which costs nothing! As this year is dedicated an 'Ignatian Year', you are invited in August to spend four sessions in reflection and imaginative contemplation, travelling as companions of St. Ignatius. No Covid tests, passports, or luggage required, just bring with you an open mind and the willingness to be surprised at the destination God will choose for you. Each Zoom meeting will be based around a scriptural meditation and will last less than one hour. Find out more [here](#).

TODAY IS 1ST AUGUST

- THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

John 6:24-35: In John's Gospel, Jesus tells us not to work 'for food that cannot last' but to work 'for food that endures to eternal life.' These mysterious words of Jesus bring together the virtue of faith and the divine gift of the Eucharist. What is the work God asks of us? And what is the work God has done for us? Here is the heart of the mystery of Faith. God has come to us, has fed us with himself in Jesus, and now asks us to respond in faith.

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](#).

'Public Consultation - Reading Borough Council - Bereavement Services including Cemeteries and Crematorium. We would like to bring to your attention details of a new public consultation on the Bereavement Services provided by the Council and would greatly appreciate your assistance in raising awareness of this within your parish community. We know this can be a difficult subject to think and talk about, but everyone's opinion is very important to us. Under the Local Authorities' Cemeteries Order 1977 (LACO) legislation, Local Authorities are required to prepare and adopt Cemetery Regulations that set out the Council's policy and procedures for the operation of the cemetery. The last time the cemetery regulations were updated and adopted by the Council was in 2011. The Regulation's apply to Henley Road Cemetery, Reading Cemetery and Caversham Cemetery only. They also apply to Reading Crematorium and Gardens of Remembrance based at Henley Road Cemetery. The Council is committed to ensuring that our bereavement services meet the needs of all our communities. In 2010, we adopted the Charter for the Bereaved, which sets out a best practice model for cemeteries operations and an inclusive service provision for people of all faiths or non-faith. We work to this Charter wherever possible. On that basis, a full review of the current burials services and cemetery operations has been carried out. The aim being, to enhance the Service and meet more of the needs of our culturally diverse community. The review includes:

1. Amendments to the Cemetery Rules and Regulations
2. The grave types and memorial options available
3. Opening hours and resources
4. Accessibility on site.

It is intended all residents of Reading Borough and their families could benefit from the draft proposals. The Consultation on the draft proposals commenced Monday, 28th June 2021, and we are seeking views from a wide range of customers and community groups, as well as existing grave owners. The consultation period will last for 45 days. Once the consultation is over, a final draft of the proposed regulations, taking account of consultation responses received, will be considered by the Councils Policy Committee in September. **The consultation can be accessed by following the attached link, using the QR code or if you prefer, paper copies of the questionnaire can be obtained from the Cemetery Office at Henley Road Cemetery. <https://consult.reading.gov.uk/css/cemetery-services-consultation>**



ST JOHN VIANNEY - 4TH AUGUST

"There is nothing so great as the Eucharist. If God had something more precious, He would have given it to us".

This is a famous quotation of St John Vianney whose memorial we keep on Wednesday.

John was born on 8th May 1786 in Dardilly near Lyons (about 290 miles southeast of Paris), and was baptized the same day. He grew up during the French Revolution when priests were forced to work in secrecy or face execution. To the young John, priests were heroes and their bravery and devotion may have inspired him to become a priest himself.

John received his First Holy Communion catechism in private from nuns who lost their convents during the Revolution.

John found his seminary studies difficult (especially Latin). Nevertheless, he persevered and was eventually ordained. After three years as an assistant priest, he was sent to a town named Ars (about 270 miles southwest of Paris) where he remained for 42 years.

When he arrived, Fr Vianney realised that many of his congregation were either ignorant or indifferent to religion as a result of the French Revolution. Despite encountering much opposition, he reformed the parish and was renowned for spending up to twelve hours a day every day in the confessional.

His fame spread far and wide and it is said that up to 20,000 pilgrims visited him each year. He was known as the Curé of Ars (Curé means parish priest).

He died on 4th August 1859 and was canonized in 1925. He is the patron saint of parish clergy. Let us pray for our priests on this day.

When our church was dedicated in 2003, a relic of St John Vianney was placed in the altar. *St John Vianney - pray for us.* Mike Tomas.

DIOCESAN ANNUAL REPORT

Available online. It is a very in-depth document, full of facts and figures about how the diocese is doing, and well worth a read:

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/annual-report>

LIVING OUR FAITH FINAL REPORT

The Living our Faith campaign has now been wound down and any outstanding monies returned to parish accounts. For the final report please go to:

<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/livingourfaith>