

NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST



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

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

🌐 www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk

Registered Charity No. 246871

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Glas

Parish Secretary: Sheila Jones

Parish Office: 0118 942 8632

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9 am – 12.30 pm

Safeguarding Representative:

Miriam da Cruz Fernandes

☎ 0118 943 3524.

✉ miriam@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk

Royal Berkshire Hospital Chaplain:

Fr John Paul Lyttle ☎ 0118 322 5111 (RBH) ☎ 0118 957 2149 (Parish) ☎ 0739 189 6559 (Mobile)

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B) – 3RD DECEMBER 2017



ADVENT: PREPARING, WAITING, LONGING, PRAYING

We begin the season of Advent today and we now enter a time of waiting, longing and praying for the coming of the Lord. We sing the haunting Advent hymns. We light the first purple candle. Our liturgical colour changes from green to purple, and the Gloria is omitted in Advent. We adopt the attitude of the Jewish people who longed and waited for the coming of the Messiah – the Saviour of the world. A well lived Advent is the perfect preparation for Christmas. Let us make every effort to give this season our best effort as we begin Advent.

Fr Peter

MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 3RD DECEMBER – SUNDAY, 10TH DECEMBER		
Sunday, 3rd December	8.30am	Mass of Thanksgiving for the generosity of John O'Shea RIP
	10.30 am	Joah Chacko RIP
Monday, 4th December <i>St John Damascene, Priest, Doctor of the Church</i>	NO MASS	
Tuesday, 5th December	12 noon	The People of our parish
Wednesday, 6th December	9.30 am	Gerard Oliver Lawrence RIP
	10.30 am	Funeral: Gino Marengi RIP
Thursday, 7th December <i>St Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church</i>	9.30 am	Martha & Patrick Munnely RIP
Friday, 8th December <i>The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary</i>	7 pm	Anne Lambkin RIP
Saturday, 9th December	10 am	Jackie Cattigan RIP
Sunday, 10th December	8.30 am	Sabino Rato RIP
	10.30 am	
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT		Saturday: 9.20 am followed by 10am Mass
ROSARY & CONFESSIONS		Saturday: Following 10am Mass
Responsorial Psalm: "God of hosts bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved."		

COLLECTIONS FOR 26TH NOVEMBER 2017

Gift Aid	£1,150.57
Planned Giving	£91.00
Loose Plate	£286.18
TF3 CAFOD	£5.00
Candles	£32.81
Divine Mercy (Card Sale)	£100.00
Mass Stole Fees	£120.00
TOTAL	£1,785.56
<u>RUNNING TOTALS</u>	
TF3 (CAFOD)	£55.00
Donations (Altar carpet)	£60.00
Teas/Coffees after Mass/Card Sale (Divine Mercy)	£610.03
TF9 ("On Fire!")	£1,089.43
Harvest Fast Day (CAFOD)	£30.00
Home Mission Sunday	£5.00
Cathedral Fund	£20.00
First Holy Communion Programme	£775.00

REMINDER

The Counters next Sunday, 10th December will be John Macbeth and Rosalind Gilbert.

The Eucharistic Minister for Oakwood Ward next Sunday, 10th December will be Anne MacDonald.

If you do swap with another Eucharistic Minister, please remember to notify the Parish Office, so that we can publicise the correct information in the newsletter. Thank you.

GOING INTO HOSPITAL?

On admission to hospital, all Catholics must inform the hospital staff that they are Roman Catholic and if they wish to receive Holy Communion or see a priest they must request this themselves as all arrangements in RBH must be 'patient led'. You can also telephone the *RBH Chaplaincy* on 0118 322 7105.

SUNDAY MASS IN HOSPITAL

Every Sunday in the RBH Chapel at 4 pm. *Patients, staff and visitors are all welcome.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND:

Nora Colley, Richard O'Brien, Terri Hadland, Marie Minien, Sheila Robinson, Ellen Knox, Pamela Humphries, Pat Togher, Richard Owens, Bernadette Smeesters, Gerard Tomas, Jackie Hopper, Robert Deady, Lya Turner, Charles Livingston, Barbara Turner, Mary O'Shea, Mary Hoban and Margaret Chaplin.

If you would like to add a name to this list or if you have any queries, please contact Sheila in the Parish Office. Thank you.

GINO MARENGHI RIP

The parish offers condolences to the family of Gino Marengi who died recently. Gino's Funeral Mass will be held next Wednesday, 6th December at 10.30 am. *All are welcome.*

****Please note change of Mass time to 9.30 am on Wednesday, 6th December to accommodate Gino Marengi's Funeral Mass.****

TEA & COFFEE

Please join us for tea & coffee which is served in the large hall after 10.30 am Mass on Sundays. *All are most welcome.*

ADVENT DISCUSSION GROUP

Advent Discussion Group at St Catherine's at 7 pm on TODAY and 10th December. *All are welcome.*

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

If you are in Year 7 or above and are interested in enrolling for the Sacrament of Confirmation, please send your name, phone number AND email address to St Joseph's Parish Office or to *Sue Collier: sue1collier@gmail.com*. Sessions will start after Christmas.

LAST CALL TO SIGN UP FOR THE POSADA!

The Posada (travelling crib) will be touring the parish again this Advent starting **TODAY**. If you would like to host the crib for a night, please sign the rota in the porch where you also find some more information about the Posada.

MARY'S MEALS BACKPACK PROJECT UPDATE

There is now be a small box in the church porch on top of the Repository counter where donations will be collected periodically. Thank you for your support. *Patrizia Chessell Youth Group Co-ordinator*
☎ 0774 054 7922 ✉ igniteyouth16@outlook.com.

PRAYER REQUESTS

There is now a Prayer Request box in the church porch in which you are invited to place any intentions that you may have, and each week during one of the Masses Fr Peter will pray especially for those intentions. Please **DO NOT PUT ANY MONEY IN THE BOX**.

Thank You

I wish to thank the parish most sincerely for arranging for me to be awarded the Papal Benemerenti Medal. This award came as a complete surprise and I can only say that I was deeply humbled by the event. God Bless Fr Peter and my dear friends in St Joseph's parish.
Tom McKeown.

THURSDAY MORNING MASS

St Peter's Class will be attending Mass on Thursday, 7th December at 9.30 am. *All parents and families are welcome to join them.*

REPOSITORY

Please note that we have a number of Christmas items for sale in the Repository including cards, Advent calendars, 2018 calendars and Advent candles. As the Repository unit is now much larger, we will not be having a separate stall in the small hall as in previous years - all Christmas items now fit into the Repository unit, and you may purchase items, with immediate effect. Please do have a look as the items are very reasonably priced. *Thank you.*

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Date	Time	Venue
Mon 11th	7.30pm	St John Bosco
Tue 12th	7.30pm	St Joseph's
Wed 13th	7.30pm	Christ the King
Thu 14th	7.30pm	St Anne's
Fri 15th	7.30pm	Our Lady of Peace
Sat 16th	11.00am	English Martyrs
Mon 18th	7.30pm	St James



NEW: ST JOSEPH'S WALKING GROUP.

Exercise, fresh air and lots of lovely people to talk to! Give it a try! Our first walk will be on Sunday, 10th December. It will be a fairly short, flat walk along the river, possibly muddy. Meet 1 pm in Purley at the Junction of New Hill/Mapledurham Drive/St Mary's Avenue. Allow 90 mins. Bring: Sensible shoes, rainwear, drink. For more information/and to check if still going ahead in bad weather, please *contact Sue Collier: 0776 892 4129 / 0118 941 2458 sue_collier@mentor.com or Ewa Farmer: 0118 941 3320 / 0793 262 7552.*

On Thursday, 7th December, the vigil of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this country. Your prayers and fasting are urgently needed, and it really does save lives. Please also pray that buffer zones around abortion centres won't be introduced. For information on the days of Prayer and Fasting see: www.GoodCounselNetwork.com

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

We are regularly requested to provide items including furniture clothing and food, and we hold a small food bank in the church hall, which has kindly been provided from your monthly donations. This has enabled us to make food available for the elderly, vulnerable and families with children in the area. The demand is continuing to grow due to cuts to Local Authority budgets and Government austerity. We would like to do more, and our greatest need is to find a suitable storage facility which is clean, dry and large enough for storage of household items, which are often offered to us, but we are unable to store. Therefore, if you have space or know someone who has a storage facility to offer, we would like to hear from you. Thank you all for your continued support to the St Joseph's SVP Conference. Please contact us or call as soon as possible, if you can help. *Jack Ewins President, SVP. Mobile No. 0773 449 9190.*

Margaret & Tony Chaplin will not be sending Christmas cards this year, but would like to wish you all a very Happy Christmas & a Happy New Year. We will donate the equivalent to CAFOD. *May our Lord watch over you all. Margaret & Tony Chaplin.*

CANDLELIT CAROL SERVICE

Carols by Candlelight at English Martyrs Church on Friday, 15th December at 7.30 pm. Bring your family and friends to sing the Christmas Story. Followed by festive refreshments for all tastes. *Everybody welcome.*

During Advent, English Martyrs Parish are supporting Aid to the Church in Need helping Iraqi Christians to return home now that ISIS have been driven out of their towns and villages. Please come and join our prayer vigil of light in support of all persecuted Christians, on Sunday, 10th December at 3 pm. Light refreshments will be available.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

Each gift comes with a Christmas gift card and you can choose to send a goat, build a business or help a refugee child. You can order gifts online at cafod.org.uk/world_gifts or call 0808 140 0014, or catalogues are available in the church porch.

RISE Theatre present their 'Rise & Shine Christmas Show' here at St Joseph's parish hall on Thursday, 14th December at 7.30 pm. An evening of fun and drama suitable for the whole family. Watch Gerry MacIntyre and Tina Graham as they work their way through a packed line up on their daily magazine show and go in search of the true spirit of Christmas. Come ready to laugh, cry and join in the fun! Tickets are £10 (adults), £5 (children & conc) and can be purchased online at www.ticketsource.co.uk/risetheatre.