

# 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: 0118 942 8632

**Safeguarding Representative:**  
**Miriam da Cruz Fernandes**

☎ 0118 943 3524

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## THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) – 31<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2021

### PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH

*Glorious Patriarch Saint Joseph, whose power makes the impossible possible, come to my aid in these times of anguish and difficulty. Take under your protection the serious and troubling situations that I commend to you, that they may have a happy outcome. My beloved father, all my trust is in you. Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain, and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary, show me that your goodness is as great as your power. Amen.*

### MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY – SUNDAY, 31<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2021

Sunday, 31 <sup>st</sup> January <b>FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>5 pm (Vigil)</b> + Live-streamed	Joan Keane RIP
	<b>10 am</b> + Live-streamed	Maureen Hanson RIP
Monday, 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Private	Rita Williams RIP
Tuesday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> February <b>THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD</b>	<b>12 noon</b>	Fr Mikie McCarthy RIP
Wednesday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> February	<b>11 am</b> + Live-streamed	Maureen Hanson RIP
Thursday, 4 <sup>th</sup> February	Private	Tony & Sharon O'Carroll & family's intentions
Friday, 5 <sup>th</sup> February <b>St Agatha, Virgin, Martyr</b>	Private	Dick O'Brien RIP
Saturday, 6 <sup>th</sup> February <b>St Paul Miki &amp; Companions, Martyrs</b>	Private	Maureen Hanson RIP
Sunday, 7 <sup>th</sup> February <b>FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>5 pm (Vigil)</b> + Live-streamed	Paddy Urban RIP
	<b>10 am</b> + Live-streamed	Mick Joyce RIP
Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup> February	Private	Rita Williams RIP

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

### ROSARY (\*\*ON-LINE ONLY\*\*)

Rosary on Saturdays at **10 am**, with Fr Peter:

<https://pepsico.zoom.us/j/69178591420?pwd=UGhtOTlaZXZsOVEvTIU0SFpqcmJ5dz09>

Or use the link on our website. To join by telephone, dial 0203 901 7895.

Meeting Code: 69178591420# Password: 957032.

**COLLECTION FOR**  
**23<sup>RD</sup>/24<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021**



**BILL MCMAHON RIP**

The parish offers condolences to the family and friends of Bill McMahon who died recently. Details of Bill's Funeral Mass to be confirmed, following which, his mortal remains will be repatriated to Ireland. *Please pray for the repose of Bill's soul.*

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CATECHISTS**

An opportunity for catechists to discuss and share ideas about preparation of children for First Holy Communion within parishes during the current COVID-19 restrictions and uncertainties. Many catechists have expressed concerns about how they should work with the children in their parishes. Maybe we can support one another. If you wish to join the discussion, please register below for either date: 3<sup>rd</sup> February & 3<sup>rd</sup> March 7.30 - 8.30 pm  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkduChrDooE9TwXMdU6bT7Q5nG30lvUHYt>

**LENTEN RETREAT**

'Finding Hope in Scripture' for everyone. Every Monday evening during Lent, for 6 weeks, we will discover aspects of the virtue of hope from 6 different Bible passages, so that we may grow in hope in these difficult times, and find ways to share our hope with others. Our reflection will be followed by a time of live-streamed adoration and Compline with the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph. Register here to participate:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtc-2grjkiGtU8vPFJea2ktvR5U0MZ1mrL>

Finally, there are still spaces for our forthcoming parish Readers Workshops on the 6<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> February and 17<sup>th</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> April:

<https://www.godwhospeaks.org/readers>

*Sr Hyacinthe Defos du Rau, OP* - Formation for Mission Team Leader - Department for Evangelisation. Tel: 0159 068 1874.

**ST JOSEPH'S PARISH OFFICE**

The Parish Office will be open on Thursdays & Fridays from 9 am - 12.30 pm, for telephone and email contact only. There is no face-to-face contact possible, due to the pandemic. Please post Mass offerings or correspondence through the Presbytery letterbox, and email/telephone *Sheila* in the *Parish Office*, if you would like *Fr Peter* to offer a Mass, or if you would like anything to be included in the newsletter.

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£419.00
Gift Aid (via bank)	£650.00
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£5.00
Planned Giving (via bank)	£35.00
Loose Plate	£94.80
Cathedral Fund	£45.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£1,248.80</b>
<b><u>RUNNING TOTALS</u></b>	
TF9 ("On Fire!")	£3,874.77
(TF10) CAFOD COVID-19 Appeal	£126.55
Home Mission Sunday	£157.25
World Mission Sunday	£186.00
CAFOD Harvest Fast Day	£873.83
Lenten Alms	£463.05
Bamenda Sunday	£700.73
Christmas Offerings	£1,247.50
First Holy Communion fees	£825.00
Cathedral Fund	£61.25

**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>

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

Nora Colley, Pat Togher, Bernadette Smeesters, Gerard Tomas, Charles Livingston, Barbara Turner, Stefen Griffiths, Nina Aramo, Jo Boase, Julie Thompson, Michael & Joy O'Connell, Carmela Garzia, Kathleen Urban, Marek, Bridget, Maggie Tranter, Jadwiga Wlasak, Ged & Maureen Murphy, Jackie Hopper, Donald, Hilary Cameron, Sisters of St Ann (in Bamenda), Fr Peter's parents, Tess Heenan, Caroline Hurst, Kevin Keep, Brigid, Adrian Robson.

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

**COFFEE & CHAT: SUNDAYS @ 11 AM**

Grab a coffee and have a catch-up with friends from St Joseph's. Use this updated link:

<https://pepsico.zoom.us/j/68506386409?pwd=WQ3VHpVTDRCK0pmLzIQdDVDTUxtZDZ09>

## FACE COVERINGS

It is a legal requirement to wear face coverings in church. They must fit securely to cover nose as well as mouth, and not leave any gaps. This protects others from YOUR germs, even if you do not feel ill. If you become unwell with any COVID-19 symptoms within 3 days of visiting St Joseph's, please contact us immediately, so that we can follow the necessary procedures.

## SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Dear Parishioners,

Many thanks for your continued generous donations of tinned food and clothing. They are much appreciated by the 72 homeless adults whom CIRDIC supports. We will continue to organize collections, on the first Saturday of every month, in the church car park, from 2 - 3 pm. The next collection will be on 6<sup>th</sup> February.

I would like to take this opportunity to report on SVP's other activities: In addition to the tinned food and clothing which you donate, SVP also spends around £2,600, annually, regularly supplying CIRDIC with fruit, vegetables, dairy and meat products. Beyond supporting CIRDIC, we also spend around £1,000 annually supporting Launch Pad, another Reading charity, supporting SVP India and SVP Sudan, our twin charities, and supporting the needs of our elderly parishioners. These are all really good, deserving causes.

We realize that these are financially difficult times for many people, and we do appreciate any donations you can provide to support what we do. You can donate cash/cheques via the collection box in the church, in sealed envelopes, put in the Parish Office letterbox, or given to us. Alternatively, you can make one-off, or ongoing donations, directly to our bank account; details are as follows:

Account Name: Saint Vincent de Paul  
Sort Code: 60-60-04  
Account Number: 46075070.

Gift Aid: If you are a tax payer, there is a benefit in having your donations gift aided. SVP gets 25% additional money, versus what you donate, to spend on good causes. Provided you are a tax payer, if you wish to Gift Aid your donation, let me know your full name and address, or include it in your sealed envelope with your donation.

All your contributions are helping the needy at an extremely crucial time. Your generosity is much appreciated. May God bless you. *Jack Ewins, Saint Vincent de Paul.* Mobile: 0773 449 9190. Email: [jackewins9@gmail.com](mailto:jackewins9@gmail.com).

## RIGHT TO LIFE UK

Ask your MP to sign a parliamentary motion calling on the Government to introduce new guidance on fetal pain. A new parliamentary motion (EDM 1340) is calling on the Government to introduce new guidance on fetal pain. The evidence that babies can feel pain in the womb, and during many abortions, highlights the humanity of the unborn child, and provides another important reason to introduce legislation to protect the unborn child from abortion.

Right To Life UK has set up an easy-to-use tool which makes it simple to contact your MP, and ask them to sign this motion, calling on the Government to introduce new guidance on fetal pain. It only takes 30 seconds using this easy-to-use tool. This tool can be accessed via [www.righttolife.org.uk/FetalPainMotion](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/FetalPainMotion). Daniel Turner, Right To Life UK - 0173 246 0911. [daniel@righttolife.org.uk](mailto:daniel@righttolife.org.uk)

## RESPOND TO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CONSULTATION TO STOP HOME ABORTIONS!

The Department of Health is holding a public consultation on whether to continue the practice of allowing abortion providers to send abortion pills to women so that they can perform their own abortion at home. We need as many pro-life people as possible to complete the Department of Health's questionnaire in order to help stop dangerous DIY abortions becoming permanent. SPUC has prepared a briefing which gives a step-by-step guide to completing the consultation questionnaire. Please go to <https://www.spuc.org.uk/Get-Involved/Campaigns/England-DIY-Abortion-Consultation>. The consultation ends on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021.



This Lent, CAFOD invites you and the whole Catholic community of England & Wales to [Join the Big Walk for Water!](#) | CAFOD virtual event on Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> February. We are asking everyone to walk in solidarity with those who have to walk to collect water each day, like Abdella from Ethiopia. You can walk 5 miles, or just around your garden, but please walk, so that we can make this an event to create awareness of water poverty, and to raise funds for those living in poverty around the world.

If you are a keen walker, could you Walk for Water as a personal Lenten challenge by walking 10,000 steps a day, every day, for 40 days to raise funds for CAFOD's Lent appeal. Find out more at <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Walk-for-Water> Please contact Jo for more information [portsmouth@cafod.org.uk](mailto:portsmouth@cafod.org.uk) Community Participation Coordinator, CAFOD Portsmouth - 0771 009 4447.



### **TEACHING ASSISTANT & LUNCHTIME CONTROLLER**

Teaching Assistant required ASAP (Minimum qualification Level 2) 27.5 hours per week (Grade/Salary C-D depending upon experience), and Lunch Time Controller + 5 hours per week (Grade B) (Term time only). Please visit our website for our virtual tour and give us a ring if you would like to have a chat, or if you need any further information.

Closing Date: Thursday, 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021.  
Interviews: Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup> February 2021. For an application pack, please contact the school. Application packs are also available on-line at <http://www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk>.

### **SCHOOL BUSINESS MANAGER**

Permanent/Part-time - 25 hours per week, term time only, with additional 3 weeks during school holidays, to be negotiated. Salary Band H (full-time equivalent).

Please visit our website for our virtual tour and give us a ring if you would like to have a chat or if you need any further information. For an application pack, please visit <http://www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk>  
Please send your completed applications to [sbm@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:sbm@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk). Closing Date: Friday, 12<sup>th</sup> February 2021 at 12 noon. Interviews: Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2021.

St Paul's Catholic School, City Road, Tilehurst, Reading RG31 4SZ. Tel: 0118 942 2003 - email: [office@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:office@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk).

### **PRAYER FOR THE PARISH**

Father, pour your Spirit on  
the people of our parish.  
Grant us a new vision of your glory,  
A new experience of your power,  
A new faithfulness to your word,  
And a new consecration to your service,  
So that your love may grow among us  
And your kingdom come.  
Amen.  
(Attributed to Pope St John XXIII)

### **NEWSLETTER DELIVERY**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we are delivering the newsletter to parishioners who cannot access it online. If you are aware of a parishioner who would be interested in receiving a paper copy of the newsletter, please contact the Parish Office and let Sheila know their name and address, and whether they would prefer a regular or a large print size. Alan Goncalves.

### **SAINT OF THE WEEK: ST BLAISE - 3RD FEBRUARY**

"Through the Intercession of St Blaise, Bishop and Martyr, may God deliver you from every disease of the throat and from every illness besides, in the Name of the Father, the Son and Holy Spirit. Amen". These, or similar words, are recited by the priest either during or after Mass on the Feast of St Blaise, when he individually blesses the throats of those present. Sadly, for obvious reasons, not this year. Two candles, blessed the previous day, Candlemas Day - the Feast of the Presentation of Our Lord, are tied together with ribbon in the form of an X. The candles are then held around the person's throat as the above prayer is recited. Devotions, such as the imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday; kissing the cross on Good Friday and the blessing of the throats on St Blaise's Day, are all part of our Catholic lineage; we know that Catholics everywhere will be doing the same as us on these days.

St Blaise died in 316 (the date of his birth is not known), and was a bishop and physician, in what is now modern-day Turkey. He was arrested for being a Christian and, as he was being marched off to jail, encountered a young boy who was choking on a fish bone. Blaise touched the boy's throat and he was cured immediately. Whilst in prison, Blaise was given the opportunity to renounce his faith, which he refused to do. Blaise's body was flayed with iron combs (usually used to card wool), and was beheaded. I don't know why, but "The Bishop Blaise" (or Blaize) was a popular pub name in the Midlands and the North. The most well-known one is in Old Trafford, just by Manchester United's ground.

St Blaise, Patron Saint of those who suffer from any illness of the throat - *pray for us*. Mike Tomas.

### **TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY MASSES SPACES AVAILABLE ON THE DAY**

Our Tuesday & Wednesday Masses often have spaces free, and we can offer these to anyone without advance booking, provided they are registered with us. If you would like to attend either of these two Masses regularly, please let us know, and we will add your name to the list. You will receive an invitation, when a place is available. Note: this is only for mid-week Masses. Weekend Masses are *strictly by invitation only*: Saturday 5 pm (Vigil) and Sunday 10 am. Please reply as soon as possible to emails inviting you to a specific Mass. Registration for Mass attendance at St Joseph's is restricted to parishioners, and to those living in Tilehurst. Please do not travel from further away, during these difficult times. Contact us to register for Mass by emailing [stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk](mailto:stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk) If you do not have email, please call the Parish Office, leave a message on the answer phone, and Sheila will pass on your request.