

# 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

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

## A HOLY AND PEACEFUL CHRISTMAS!

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B) – 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020

THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY & JOSEPH – 27<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020

SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS – 3<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2021

MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 20<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020 – SUNDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> JANUARY 2021

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Sunday, 20 <sup>th</sup> December<br><b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)</b>  | <b>5 pm (Vigil)</b><br>+ Live-streamed | Sabino Rato RIP  |
|  | <b>8.30 am</b><br>+ Live-streamed      | Breda Williams RIP   |
|  | <b>11 am</b><br>+ Live-streamed        | Tomas Ibarrondo RIP  |
| Monday, 21 <sup>st</sup> December  | <b>NO MASS</b>                         |  |
| Tuesday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> December   | <b>12 noon</b>                         | Ciara Wooller & Tim O'Leary RIP                              |
| Wednesday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> December   | <b>11 am</b><br>+ Live-streamed        | Michael Heneghan, Martin & Kathleen Gaynard & John Nevin RIP |
| Thursday, 24 <sup>th</sup> December<br><b>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</b>   | 5 pm                                   | Paddy McMahon & Stephen McKenna RIP                          |
|  | 7 pm                                   | People of the parish   |
|  | 9 pm                                   | For Priests  |
| Friday, 25 <sup>th</sup> December<br><b>THE NATIVITY OF THE LORD</b>   | 8 am                                   | People of the parish   |
|  | 10 am                                  | People of the parish   |
| Saturday, 26 <sup>th</sup> December<br><b>ST STEPHEN, the First Martyr</b>   | <b>No Morning Mass</b>                 |  |
| Sunday, 27 <sup>th</sup> December<br><b>THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS, MARY &amp; JOSEPH</b>                                | <b>5 pm (Vigil)</b><br>+ Live-streamed | Graham Ward RIP  |
|  | <b>8.30 am</b><br>+ Live-streamed      | Eileen Drake RIP   |
|  | <b>11 am</b><br>+ Live-streamed        | Michael Heneghan RIP   |
| Monday, 28 <sup>th</sup> December<br><b>THE HOLY INNOCENTS</b>   | <b>NO MASS</b>                         |  |
| Tuesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> December<br><b>ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY</b>   | <b>12 noon</b>                         | Maureen Hanson RIP   |
| Wednesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> December   | <b>11 am</b><br>+ Live-streamed        | Kathleen O'Shea RIP ( <i>Foundation Mass</i> )               |
| Thursday, 31 <sup>st</sup> December  | -                                      | Michael Joyce RIP  |
| Friday, 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2021<br><b>MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD</b>  | 12 noon<br>Live-streamed only          | Michael Lanigan RIP  |
| Saturday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> January<br><b>Ss Basil the Great &amp; Gregory Nazianzen, Bishops, Doctors of the Church</b> | 10 am                                  |  |
| Sunday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> January<br><b>SECOND SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS</b>   | <b>5 pm (Vigil)</b><br>+ Live-streamed | François Vidot RIP,<br>Marie Thérèse & Joseph Capron RIP     |
|  | <b>8.30 am</b><br>+ Live-streamed      | Mick Joyce RIP   |
|  | <b>11 am</b><br>+ Live-streamed        | Audrey Hora RIP  |

## **CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES**

Fr Peter will be celebrating 5 public Masses for Christmas; Christmas Eve: 5 pm, 7 pm & 9 pm, and Christmas Day: 8 am & 10 am. **If you are registered with us, and have requested a place at a Christmas Mass already, then you should have received an email or call this week to confirm which Mass you have a place at. Please contact us if you haven't.**

These Masses are all FULL, but they will all be live-streamed, and we encourage you to watch and pray the Mass with us online.

All Masses will be live-streamed, please see [YouTube link on our website](#).

If you live in Tilehurst and do not have a place at Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, we will give you priority for a place at Mass on Saturday, 26<sup>th</sup> (5 pm Vigil) or Sunday, 27<sup>th</sup> (8.30 am or 11 am). You can also ask to go on the waiting list for the Masses on 24<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>, in case any places do become available nearer the time. A complete list of Mass times is set out below.

Please send an email to us at: [stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk](mailto:stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk), to request a place at Mass. (Email is the best way to reach us, but 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).

### **Confession:**

- For parishioners only – please do not travel from outside Tilehurst.
- After any Mass that you attend, EXCEPT Sunday 8.30 am, to allow for cleaning.

### **Mass Times:**

|  |                     |                                  |
|--|---------------------|----------------------------------|
| Tuesday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> December                   | 12 noon Mass        |                                  |
| Wed 23 <sup>rd</sup> December                        | 11 am Mass + Rosary |                                  |
| <b>Christmas Eve</b>                                 | 5 pm                | Waiting list only – watch online |
| Thursday, 24 <sup>th</sup> December                  | 7 pm                | Waiting list only – watch online |
|  | 9 pm                | Waiting list only – watch online |
| <b>Christmas Day</b>                                 | 8 am                | Waiting list only – watch online |
| Friday, 25 <sup>th</sup> December                    | 10am                | Waiting list only – watch online |
|  | No morning Mass     |                                  |
| <b>St Stephen's Day</b>                              | 5 pm (Sunday Vigil) |                                  |
| The Holy Family<br>Sunday, 27 <sup>th</sup> December | 8.30 am             |                                  |
|  | 11 am               |                                  |
| Tuesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> December                   | 12 noon Mass        |                                  |
| Wednesday, 30 <sup>th</sup> December                 | 11am Mass + Rosary  |                                  |
| Friday, 1 <sup>st</sup> January                      | 12 noon Mass        | Live-Stream only                 |
| Saturday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> January                    | 10am                |                                  |
|  | 5pm (Sunday Vigil)  |                                  |
| Sunday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> January                      | 8.30 am             |                                  |
|  | 11 am               |                                  |

Information to send to: [stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk](mailto:stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk)

Your name, address and phone number:

Number in your group (Max 6):

Masses you can attend in order of preference:

Whether you are just registering for Christmas, or would like to remain on our register.

**COLLECTION FOR  
12<sup>TH</sup>/13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2020**

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

|                              |                  |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| Gift Aid (envelopes)         | £376.00          |
| Planned Giving (envelopes)   | £20.00           |
| Loose Plate                  | £202.91          |
| Mass Stole Fees              | £100.00          |
| Donation (SVP)               | £15.00           |
| Christmas Offerings          | £5.00            |
| Hall Hire (Nursery)          | £840.00          |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                 | <b>£1,558.91</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          | £67.50           |

**CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS, DONATIONS  
& SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

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. Please be as generous as you can. *Thank you.*

Various **DONATE** buttons are also available on our web site, as well as information about the easiest way to make your contributions online, for Sunday collections, Christmas collections, donations and Mass offerings. Alternatively, 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://st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk/upload/newsletter/DonationStjosephsTilehurst.pdf>

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

Nora Colley, Pat Togher, Bernadette Smeesters, Gerard Tomas, Lya Turner, 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, Hilary Cameron, Sisters of St Ann (in Bamenda), Fr Peter's parents, Tess Heenan, Caroline Hurst, Kevin Keep, Betty Dennehy & Brigid. If you would like to add a name to this list, or if you have any queries, please contact *Sheila* in the *Parish Office*.

Our Tuesday 12 noon and Wednesday 11 am Masses often have a few spaces free, and we can now offer these to anyone who just turns up on the day, *provided they are registered with us.*

Please do not arrive more than 10 minutes before the Mass starts, because you will be asked to wait outside until we know if we can seat you.

Just before Mass starts, we will assign any spare places to anyone who is waiting, provided their name appears on our register.

Please do understand that the stewards may not be able to offer you a place. We will continue to adhere to social distancing rules, which restricts how many places we have available. This is only for mid-week Masses. *Weekend Masses are strictly by invitation only:* Saturday 10 am & 5 pm (Vigil), Sunday 8.30 am & 11 am. Please look out for emails inviting you to a specific Mass, and reply as soon as possible.

If you would like to attend Mass on Tuesday or Wednesday regularly, then please let us know, and we will add your name to the list for one of those weekday Masses, so that a place is reserved for you every week. Note: Stewards may now give your place to someone waiting if you have not arrived 5 minutes before Mass starts.

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 or for questions about Mass attendance:

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

**LIVE-STREAMED MASSES**

The following Masses will also be live-streamed on YouTube:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCruCvuFlvKVpml2vvGWdDKQ>

Wednesday - 11 am, followed by the Rosary.  
Saturday - 10 am, followed by the Rosary and Benediction. Saturday - 5 pm Vigil. Sunday - 8.30 am & 11 am.

### 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*.

### ST JOSEPH'S PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed from week commencing Monday, 21<sup>st</sup> December, and will re-open on Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> January from 9 am – 12.30 pm. 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 (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 say a Mass, or if you would like anything to be included in the newsletter.

### 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.

### CATHOLIC UNIVERSE & CATHOLIC TIMES READERS IN THE PARISH

You can get your Catholic newspaper delivered direct to your home every week, POST-FREE by going to [www.thecatholicuniverse.com](http://www.thecatholicuniverse.com), or calling them on 0161 820 5722, and they will arrange this for you. SPECIAL OFFER: 3 months - £22, or 12 months - £80.

### COFFEE AND CHAT

On Sundays at 12 noon - Grab a coffee and have a catch-up with friends from St Joseph's.

<https://pepsico.zoom.us/j/65563666322?pwd=ZlpNYlBxbTZSUlJZR3lwSHJRSnhCUT09>, or join by phone: 0330 088 5830 Meeting ID: 655 6366 6322 Password: 085487

### BLESSED HUGH FARINGDON

### CATHOLIC SCHOOL

### YEAR 7 ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2021

Remember to submit your Supplementary Information Form (SIF) to Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School so that your application can be ranked correctly. If you have any queries, please contact Mrs Farrelly, Admissions Administrator via [admissions@hughfaringdon.org](mailto:admissions@hughfaringdon.org) or 0118 957 4730.

### SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The next collection will be on Saturday, 2<sup>nd</sup> January from 2 - 3 pm in St Joseph's Church car park. Very many thanks to all those who continue to donate by envelope to CIRDIC/SVP, and post through the Parish Office letter box.

Your donations of food and funds have been very well received. Your financial support is also enabling us to provide fresh provisions and meat for CIRDIC. We also support needy and vulnerable families in the area. I have detailed below the items most needed:

- Food:  
Tinned Goods - Ham, corned beef, chicken, soups & Big Meal soups, tuna, hot dogs, baked beans, spaghetti, ravioli, fruit salads and other tinned fruit, custard, rice pudding, packet and vacuumed items, pasta sauces, dried pasta, cereals, sugar, long life milk.

This list is a guide, but those of you who have families are much more aware of what's needed.

Donations to the SVP would also be very much appreciated. We plan to continue the collections on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each month into 2021. There will also be a collection basket for money donations available on the table as you exit the church. Thank you all for your very kind support. Keep safe & well. God Bless. *Jack Ewins, President SVP St Joseph's, Tilehurst – Mobile No. 0773 449 9190.*



### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION - 2021

Registration is now open for St Joseph's parish and St Paul's School children, who are in Year 3 and above. Please download a form and *revised* session dates from our web site, and post the completed form, copy baptism certificate and your payment of £25.00 through the letterbox of the Parish Office. The closing date is **20<sup>th</sup> December 2020**. *Please note due to the pandemic, there will be no face-to-face contact with the Parish Office.*



This Christmas, why not buy gifts that will change lives and bring happiness! CAFOD's World Gifts are a range of virtual gifts that transform the lives of those living in poverty overseas. New gifts this year include Keep Clean £6 (soap and washing powder for family), and Emergency Food £50, so please look online <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/>. Please take a World Gifts brochure from the table, as you leave church. Many thanks for your support. *Jo Lewry - Community Participation Coordinator, CAFOD Portsmouth - 0771 009 4447.*

### ALTAR SERVERS

Servers, normally at this time of year you, as a group, renew your Guild Promises. Sadly, for obvious reasons, you are unable to do it this year. Although you have not been able to exercise your ministry for much of this year, nevertheless, the parish of St Joseph's thanks you for what you do. Apart from your specific duties, your reverence in the way you serve, helps to create an atmosphere of worship for everyone at Mass. Without your help, our celebration of Holy Mass might go less smoothly, or be less solemn. Please God, it won't be too long before you are able to serve again.

As you also missed out on the annual altar servers treat, something will be arranged for you, when it is safe to do so.  
*Mike Tomas.*

### GREGORIAN CHANT

An exciting opportunity to study and sing Gregorian Chant begins Saturday, 19<sup>th</sup> December, and continues on every third Saturday of the month until 17<sup>th</sup> July 2021 in Portsmouth City Centre. Suitable for adults, students and children - all levels of experience are welcome, from complete beginners to those already skilled at singing. Join in person (for maximum benefit) or on Zoom. Details at:

[www.ChantCourse.com](http://www.ChantCourse.com). Email: [PortsmouthChantCourse@gmail.com](mailto:PortsmouthChantCourse@gmail.com) Phone: 0787 959 1432. Follow on Twitter @ChantPortsmouth.



### ST PAUL'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS - SEPTEMBER 2021

If your child is due to start school in September 2021, please complete a Council Application form and a new 2021 Supplementary Information Form. These forms need to be returned to the council and school by 15<sup>th</sup> January 2021. We are unable to offer any school tours, at this time. A short video tour of our reception classes can be found on our web site, and the School Office is happy to answer any other questions:

[www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk](http://www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk)

### MARY'S MEALS

From 2<sup>nd</sup> November until 31<sup>st</sup> January 2021, donations made to our "Double the Love Campaign" will be matched by the UK government, up to £2 million. Please consider setting a place at our Big Family Christmas dinner table, or buying a Christmas gift card on our website. More information on how to support us can be found at [www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove](http://www.marysmeals.org.uk/doublethelove).  
*Thank you.*

### **RIGHT TO LIFE UK**

Act now and ask your MP to oppose introducing assisted suicide. The assisted suicide lobby has launched a large campaign to put pressure on the Government to reconsider the legalisation of assisted suicide. It is vital that it is clear to the Government that the public want them to continue to hold strong against this pressure from assisted suicide campaigners and reject their demands. Right to Life UK has set up an easy-to-use tool, which will enable you to email your MP asking them to make it clear to the Government that it should not give in to demands from the assisted suicide lobby to reconsider the legalisation of assisted suicide. It only takes 30 seconds to email your MP by visiting the link below:

<https://righttolife.org.uk/StopAssistedSuicide>  
Daniel Turner, Right to Life UK - 0173 246 0911 - [daniel@righttolife.org.uk](mailto:daniel@righttolife.org.uk) - [www.righttolife.org.uk](http://www.righttolife.org.uk).

### **ALTON DAY OF RENEWAL 2021 PROGRAMME**

"ALIVE IN THE SPIRIT" - Pope Francis has said "I ask all of you that you organise seminars . . . to share Baptism in the Spirit." In response, the ADoRE programme will follow the stages of a classic "Life in the Spirit" seminar series, exploring how the Holy Spirit inspires and empowers us to be missionary disciples. Programme and booking details are available their website [www.altonrenewal.com](http://www.altonrenewal.com).

ADoRE offers confidential prayer for healing, by telephone - Monday to Friday from 10 am to 4 pm, and on Thursdays and Fridays 4 - 8pm. This includes Christmas and New Year. Telephone 0757 982 4523, and leave a message. Experienced Prayer Ministers will pray with you for your needs. Thank you and may God bless you abundantly in the coming year. *Alastair Emblem - On behalf of Alton Day of Renewal.*

### **SURVEY OF PARISHIONERS & PEOPLE OF THE DIOCESE**

Bishop Philip invites you to complete this survey. The link is on the homepage of the diocesan website [www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk). There have been nearly 500 responses so far. Chris Smith can provide paper copies for those unable to access the digital version on 0239 421 6496.

### **SAINT OF THE WEEK:**

#### **ST STEPHEN - 26<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

The day after Christmas, in this country, is known as Boxing Day, but in many countries, Ireland for example, it is known as St Stephen's Day.

St Stephen was the first martyr, the first to knowingly shed his blood for Christ. He is first mentioned in the Acts of the Apostles as one of the seven deacons appointed by the Apostles to distribute food and charitable aid to the poorest members of the Church. He was the eldest, so was given the title, Archdeacon.

He was a fearless preacher who was denounced by the Jewish authorities as a blasphemer. He was eventually stoned to death, but prayed for those who killed him.

Present at his martyrdom was Saul of Tarsus, who approved of the killing who later became the Apostle of the Gentiles, St Paul.

St Stephen is the patron saint of deacons, bricklayers, stonemasons and altar servers.  
*St Stephen - pray for us.*

#### **THE HOLY INNOCENTS - 28<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER**

On this feast day, in the past, known as Childermas, we remember the young boys, aged two and under, who were killed, at the order of Herod, to make sure that a rival leader, namely Jesus, would not live. The Wise Men told Herod about their mission, so he would stop at nothing to make sure he maintained his authority.

The number of those killed is unknown but, in all probability, no more than thirty. They are honoured as the first, though unwittingly, to shed their blood for Christ.

It is a day when pro-life activists ask us to pray for an end to abortion in this country - every child killed by abortion is a holy innocent.

There are a few Catholic churches and schools in this country named in honour of the Holy Innocents. I wonder how many passers-by wonder how these places got their names? *All you Holy Innocents - pray for us.*  
Mike Tomas.