NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST



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

© 0118 942 8632 Sitilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk Attps://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

PENTECOST SUNDAY - 23RD MAY 2021

SPECIAL PRAYERS FOR OUR CONFIRMATION CANDIDATES

On the great feast of Pentecost this weekend, please pray for our 22 candidates who are going to receive the Sacrament of Confirmation. This is always a wonderful moment in the life of a young person and also a wonderful moment in the life of the Diocese. Last year, we had to postpone the usual arrangements for Confirmation and this year, things will be a bit different. Instead of inviting candidates to the cathedral, Bishop Philip has decided to delegate all parish priests across the Diocese to confer the Sacrament in a Mass or non-Eucharistic liturgy at 3 pm on Pentecost Sunday. This will be simultaneously with the Bishop at the Cathedral conferring the sacrament on candidates from the Cathedral parish and Portsmouth Pastoral Area. We hope and pray we can return to a more normal situation next year, but for now, please say a special prayer for all those preparing, and the catechists and clergy supporting them:

Jake Archer
Sophia Armstrong
Emma Bisoffi
Josephina Chandler
Evie Grayling
Sofia Hopkins
Skyla Naughton-Roberts

Luke Archer
Maria Armstrong
Ella Cathrew
Monica Drake
Marc Guernion
Jessna Jery
Isabella O'Sullivan
Grace Sweeney

Gabriel Armstrong
Elena Bisoffi
Lara Cathrew
Bevyn Fernandes
Olivia Holeckova
Noah Keevill
Tiana Ross

POPE'S CALL FOR THE ROSARY IN MAY

The Holy Father has called the Church to pray for an end to the pandemic. Pope Francis has specifically called for the praying of the Rosary during the month of May. Here at St Joseph's, the Rosary is recited with Fr Peter online at 10 am on Saturdays. *Further details are available on our web site.*

IMPORTANT DATES

*	Sunday, 23rd May	Solemnity of Pentecost, with parish Confirmations at 3 pm
*	Thursday, 27th May	Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest - feast
*	Sunday, 30th May	The Most Holy Trinity, solemnity
*	Monday, 31st May	The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary – feast
*	Sunday, 6th June	Transferred Solemnity of the Body & Blood of Our Lord Jesus - Corpus Christi
*	Friday, 11 th June	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, solemnity
*	Saturday, 26 th June	First Holy Communion Masses at 10.30 am & 1 pm
*	Tuesday, 29th June	Solemnity of Ss Peter & Paul
*	Sunday, 11 th July	Annual Sea Sunday Mass – Apostleship of the Sea

ANNUAL APPEAL



earlier in the year to the weekend of 29/30th May 2021. In March 2020, the government introduced 'home abortion' under cover of emergency coronavirus

regulations. This allows women to take abortion pills at home without medical supervision, and is leading to more innocent babies being killed. There are serious dangers for the mothers too in that the drugs can lead to serious medical complications. Moving abortion from a clinic into the home also makes women much more vulnerable to coercion from abusive partners and family members. Moreover, the home becomes a place of loss. Despite the obstacles put in our way by Covid-19 regulations, we are continuing to spread the truth about abortion, and about the wonder of human life. You can help us in our current campaign by signing a postcard which asks the Prime Minister not to make home abortion permanent. The postcards are available on the exit table in church, to take away and fill in. You can return them to the collection basket, duly signed, when you next come to church, or stamp and post them. The annual collection for SPUC will take place after Masses on 29/30th May. Donations can also be made online at www.spuc.org.uk/donate.

I will not be making the appeal in person this year, and we'll have to make do without the white flower stickers. But please pray for SPUC's work and that of all pro-life groups, and for all expectant mothers and their babies. Christine Wall.

PRO-LIFE CHAIN: SATURDAY, 29TH MAY FROM 10 AM - 12 NOON ON KINGS ROAD, READING

SPUC invites you to mark the 53rd anniversary of the Abortion Act coming into force in 1968, by joining our Pro-Life Chain for an hour or two. This is a peaceful, silent roadside vigil in solidarity with unborn children, their mothers and anyone suffering from the effects of abortion. We will be following Government guidance on Covid-secure requirements. The meeting point will be at Cemetery Junction from 9.50 am, before lining up down the road at 10 am. For more information, contact *Martin* at *spucreading@gmail.com*

RIGHT TO LIFE NEWS

You may remember us announcing the launch of our new digital news platform, Right To Life News, in December last year. Right to Life News was launched so that we can reach a far wider audience of people with the latest pro-life news that will keep people informed and help change even more hearts and minds on life issues. Our website is already the most viewed pro-life website in Europe and the fourth most viewed pro-life website in the world - and this digital news platform has been built to enable us to reach even more people: www.righttolife.org.uk/news Daniel Turner - Right To Life UK - 0173 246 0911 - daniel@righttolife.org.uk.

ACT NOW AND STOP DISABILITY ABORTION UP TO BIRTH IN NORTHERN IRELAND

Earlier this year, the Northern Ireland Assembly voted on the Severe Fetal Impairment Abortion (Amendment) Bill, and it passed Second Stage by 48 votes to 12. The Northern Ireland Health Committee is now undertaking a consultation on the Bill and is seeking submissions from the public. It is important that as many people as possible submit to the consultation in support of the Bill to clearly show that there is widespread support for this important change. Right to Life UK has set up an easy-to-use tool on their website that makes it simple to complete your submission. You can do so by following the link below. It only takes 30 seconds! www.righttolife.org.uk/nidisabilityconsultation

YEAR OF THE EUCHARIST

Bishop Philip invites us all to participate in celebrating the Year of the Eucharist starting on the Feast of Corpus Christi, 6th June 2021, to help us realise our diocesan ambition of Bringing People Closer to Jesus Christ through His Church. This will follow on from the Year of the Word, a unique opportunity for the Diocese as a whole, for parishes and schools, clergy and faithful, families and individuals to rekindle our love for Jesus Christ really and truly present and active in the Holy Eucharist. There is also a booklet, which you can download https://mailchi.mp/portsmouthdiocese/issue320

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The next, usual monthly CIRDIC and family collection will be on Saturday, 5th June 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.

MASS INTENTIONS:	SUNDAY, 23 RD MAY	– SUNDAY, 30 TH MAY 2021	
Sunday, 23 rd May	5 pm (Vigil)	Henry & Mary Hoban RIP	
PENTECOST SUNDAY	+ Live-streamed		
	8.30 am	Ralph Lamden RIP	
	+ Live-streamed		
	11 am	Patricia MacMahon RIP	
	+ Live-streamed		
	3 pm	Mass of Election for Confirmation candidates	
	+ Live-streamed		
Monday, 24 th May	NO MASS		
ORDINARY TIME RESUMES			
Tuesday, 25 th May	12 noon	Mikey Canavan's intentions	
St Bede the Venerable, Religious,	+ Live-streamed		
Doctor of the Church			
Wednesday, 26th May	12 noon	Mary Ward RIP	
St Philip Neri, Priest, Founder	+ Live-streamed		
Thursday, 27th May	Private	Keep family's intentions	
OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, the			
ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST, feast			
Friday, 28th May	Private	Terry Bressler's intentions	
Saturday, 29 th May	Private	Dominic Clark's intentions – Foundation Mass	
Sunday, 30th May	5 pm (Vigil)	Josie Martin RIP	
THE MOST HOLY TRINITY, solemnity	+ Live-streamed		
	8.30 am	Ged Murphy RIP	
	+ Live-streamed		
	11 am	Breda Williams RIP	
	+ Live-streamed		

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

COLLECTION FOR 15TH/16TH MAY 2021

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£166.00
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£15.00
Loose Plate	£197.60
World Communications	£77.00
Repository	£18.00
Mass Stole fees	£60.00
TOTAL	£533.60
RUNNING TOTALS	
TF9 ("On Fire!")	£3,874.77
CAFOD (Overall Total)	£1,554.78
Clergy Assistance Fund	£328.12
Clergy Training Fund	£262.06
Easter offerings	£1,871.00
Holy Places	£188.75
World Communications	£95.00

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

COFFEE & CHAT

After both Sunday Masses. Please follow the link on the website.

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 O'Connell, 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.

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



IOY O'CONNELL RIP

The parish offers condolences to the family of Joy O'Connell, who died recently. Joy's Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Thursday, 3rd June at 1.30 pm followed by committal at West Berkshire Crematorium, *by invitation only*. Please remember Joy and her family in your prayers.

The family ask that you please do not send Mass cards or cards of condolences to Michael. His Alzheimer's Disease is worsening, and each time he receives a card or messages of sympathy, he is re-living the sad news of Joy's death again and again. Thank you for your understanding. *Please pray for the repose of Joy's soul.*



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. Beginning on 21st May until 16th July, we will meet in the large hall on **Friday** mornings. We're open between 8.45 am - 11.30 am, during term time.

CAFOD CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY APPEAL

As coronavirus brings devastation across India, CAFOD is working with Caritas India, to provide vital support to poor and marginalised communities. Donations to CAFOD's Coronavirus Appeal will help Caritas India. You can donate online here: www.cafod.org.uk/give Please keep praying for the people of India, and all those affected by the pandemic.

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH OFFICE

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 for newsletter items.

NEWSLETTER DELIVERY

During the 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 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*.

SAFE SPACES

Safe Spaces is a free, national support service independently run by Victim Support. It provides a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused through their relationship with either the Church of England or the Catholic Church of England and Wales. Telephone No. 0300 303 1056. Web site: www.safespacesenglandandwales.org.uk/

IN CORDE IESU

VACANCY - FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

At Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School. Closing Date for applications: 7th June 2021. A vacancy for Foundation Governor on the governing

body has arisen and expressions of interests are being sought from practising committed Catholics for the ministry. The term of office is for four years from the date of appointment. Foundation Governors are personally appointed by Bishop Philip, Bishop of Portsmouth to diocesan schools to represent his interests and those of the Catholic community as a whole. The governors of a Catholic school work as a team, in close co-operation with the headteacher and all the staff. Foundation governors share the responsibilities of all governors:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

In addition to this, foundation governors are appointed specifically to ensure:

- that the religious character of the school is preserved
- that the school is conducted in accordance with its trust deed
- that the religious education curriculum is in accordance with the Bishop's policy for this Diocese.

The school would benefit from people with skills or experience in one or more of the following: accountancy, legal, contracts, project/facilities management, quantity surveying. Anyone interested in the mission of foundation governor should not be put off by a lack of experience. Appropriate training is available during the period of service. Nomination Forms are available from the school:

http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/schools/governance.php. Please e-mail s.cook@hughfaringdon.org.
The School website:

https://www.hughfaringdon.org/information/governing-body, or

Catholic and Academies Schools Office, Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, St. Swithun Wells House, 22 Edinburgh Road, Portsmouth, PO1 1DH. Or email: governors@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

VOCATIONS

"When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth." Will you let the Holy Spirit lead you to your true vocation in the Risen Lord ... perhaps as a priest or consecrated religious? Contact *Fr John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk* or call *01329 318 869.*

SAINT OF THE WEEK: <u>ST BEDE - 25TH MAY (673 - 735)</u>

Doctor of the Church is a title bestowed by the Pope to saints recognised as having made a significant contribution to doctrine or theology through their research, writing or study. At present, there are thirty-six Doctors and of these, only one is English - St Bede - whose feast we celebrate on Tuesday.

Lockdown would not have affected St Bede if he lived today. A monk, he was born and died in Jarrow (in present-day Tyne and Wear), and rarely left the town's monastery.

Bede spent all his life devoting himself to the study of Scripture and was considered one of the most learned men of his time. He wrote many books; his most famous was "Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Anglorum"- an Ecclesiastical History of the English Church and People which he completed in 731.

To recognise his wisdom, Bede was called "the Venerable", a title that was formally recognised at the Council of Aachen in 853. He is also credited with helping to popularise dating events Anno Domini [A.D.] and was one of the first, if not the first, to do so.

Bede died on 25th May 735 and his tomb is in the Galilee Chapel at the west end of Durham Cathedral.

In 1899, Pope Leo XIII declared Bede a Doctor of the Church.

There are many famous quotations attributed to St Bede, one of which is: "Unfurl the sails, and let God steer us where He will".

In Basingstoke, there is a Catholic Church dedicated to St Bede - let us pray for the priests and parishioners as they celebrate their feast day. *St Bede, Priest and Doctor of the Church - pray for us.* Mike Tomas.

TO OUR CATHOLIC UNIVERSE AND CATHOLIC TIMES READERS IN THE PARISH

You can now get your newspaper delivered direct to your home every week post-free - It's quick and it's simple) just go to www.thecatholicuniverse.com or call us on 0161 820 5722 and we will arrange delivery for you:

Special offer	3 months	£25.00
Special offer	12 months	£99.00
Digital copy	12 months	£55.00
	OR	

Digital copy/and hard copy £115.00 All papers are Covid-safe and packed in a sterile component.

THE LONDON JESUIT CENTRE OFFERS:

An opportunity for prayer, Saturday Retreats: 2 - 4.30 pm. The next one is 19th June. Retreats in Daily Life in June and July. Brian Purfield's Introduction to the Bible begins on 21st June. He is offering morning or evening classes. Booking open. We are also delighted to announce that following the easing of lockdown restrictions, the Heythrop Library, one of the largest specialist theology and philosophy libraries in Europe, is now open Mondays - Thursdays. For those engaged in spiritual direction, retreat leading, and pastoral ministry, we offer: Continuing Professional Development for Spiritual Directors – a course for spiritual directors with Dr Kate Stogdon RC, and Ruth Holgate. Booking open. Our new Manresa Days:

- Healthy Spiritual Direction and Understanding Spiritual Abuse with Dr Lisa Oakley on 21st May.
- Psychological Issues in Spiritual Direction with Dr Roger Dawson SJ on 8th June.
- Consolation and desolation with Fr Paul Nicholson SJ on 19th June.
- Scripture passages for use in spiritual direction and retreats with Brian Purfield on 8th July.

You can book online for each event via our website: www.londonjesuitcentre.org. Fr Adrian Porter SJ – Director.



Join the Divine Renovation Team on Wednesday, 2nd June at 11 am Central, 12 pm Eastern, 5 pm British Summer Time: https://www.tfaforms.com/4900815

There is a lot of uncertainty swirling around what to expect of the post-pandemic Church. There is one certainty to give us hope and confidence and that is the role of the Holy Spirit in the renewal of the Church. From the moment Jesus breathed the Holy Spirit upon the apostles to this exact moment in time, the Spirit desires renewal, and that renewal starts in our own hearts first.

Join Matt Regitz and the DR team as they host Father Mike Schmitz, host of The Bible In A Year, one of the most popular podcasts in the world, for this timely conversation. We'll take some time to pray for the Spirit to move in us so we can be inspired to go out again on mission to renewal.



CAFÉ THEOLOGIQUE MARS, THEOLOGY AND ASTROBIOLOGY

Interview with the Revd Dr Andrew Davison on Monday, 14th June from 7.30 – 9 pm on Zoom. Shortcut: http://u.nu/cafetheo (full details: https://zoom.us/j/99410788443?pwd=U09sMUV Wb0tzYzRpRGxScUk3aVR1QT09 Meeting ID: 994 1078 8443. Passcode: 511541). Dr Davison is the Starbridge Senior Lecturer in Theology and Natural Sciences at the University of Cambridge, and Canon Philosopher of St Albans Cathedral. He has doctorates in both Natural Science and Theology. His forthcoming monograph will explore the significance of exobiology on Christian faith.

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

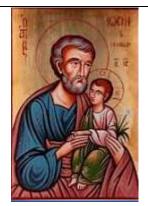
The pandemic has brought in a number of uncertainties about our 2021 diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes. Here, Fr PJ Smith, our Pilgrimage Director, has some news: It is with sadness I must announce that today we have had to cancel this year's diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes. The decision has been difficult to reach, but it has been taken in light of the announcement by the government last Friday regarding the status of France in the forthcoming travel corridors. The pilgrimage team will be contacting all our pilgrims over the next few days about this cancellation. However, we are also in the process now of exploring the feasibility of holding an alternative pilgrimage in the UK, and I hope to share details about this with you in the next e-News. In the meantime, I call upon all pilgrims, past and present, to join in the Rosary Marathon that Pope Francis has declared for the month of May.

DON BOSCO BOYS CAMP: 25TH - 31ST JULY <u>- FR MARK HOGAN</u>

We are delighted that the camp will be going ahead this summer for boys of secondary school age at St. Cassian's, Kintbury. There will be plenty of sport, outings, competitions, fun and games to ensure that boys will have a fantastic few days. This will continue to take place within the context of the celebration of the Catholic Faith, including daily Mass and morning prayer. The cost is £210 (partbursaries may be available on application). To find out more or to reserve a place, please email <code>dbcamps@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</code>

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.



THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

This year has been promulgated by Pope Francis as the Year of St Joseph. For information about the Year of St Joseph, including prayers and indulgences, please go to: www.yearofstjoseph.org

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.

MASSES

Weekend Masses are *strictly by invitation only*. Please reply as soon as possible to Mass invitations. 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.



Coordinator of Spiritual Life Closing date: 28 May 2021

The Oratory School is seeking to appoint for September 2021 a lay man or woman who is in full communion with the Catholic Church and fully in sympathy with our Oratorian ethos to the exciting new post of Coordinator of Spiritual Life. The school is an equal opportunities employer and welcomes a diverse pool of candidates.

For further details please contact the Human Resources department: E-mail: recruitment@oratory.co.uk

Alternatively, please visit our website for an application form <u>www.oratory.co.uk</u>

The Cratory Schools Association Registered Charity No. 309112 is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Applicants must be willing to undergo checks with past employers and the Disclosure and Barring Service.