

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*

**Safeguarding Representative:
Miriam da Cruz Fernandes**

☎ 0118 943 3524

✉ miriam@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C) – 5TH DECEMBER 2021



We are in a time of waiting, longing and praying for the coming of the Lord. We light the second Advent candle. Our liturgical colour is now purple. The Gloria is omitted during 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 undertake to give this season our best efforts.

ADVENT CONFESSIONS

Fr Peter, Fr Michael, Fr Richard and Fr Anthony will be available to hear confessions here at St Joseph's, following the 7 pm Mass on Friday, 17th December. Please spare some time for prayer and reflection this Advent. Start planning now to keep a sense of true perspective during this holy season. *All are welcome.*

MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 5TH DECEMBER – SUNDAY, 12TH DECEMBER 2021

Sunday, 5 th December SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR C)	5 pm (Vigil)	Dalia's 7 th birthday intentions
	8.30 am	Vidot François, Marie Thérèse & Joseph Louis Capron RIP
	10.30 am*	Jozef Kamysz RIP
Monday, 6 th December	NO MASS	
Tuesday, 7 th December St Ambrose , Bishop, Doctor of the Church	12 noon	Martha & Patrick Munnelly RIP
Wednesday, 8 th December THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	12 noon	Maura McNeill's intentions
Thursday, 9 th December	9.30 am	Richie & Wynne O'Connor's intentions
Friday, 10 th December	7 pm	Sharon & family's intentions
Saturday, 11 th December	10 am	Brian & Maeve O'Brien's intentions
Sunday, 12 th December THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 'Gaudete' (YEAR C)	5 pm (Vigil)	Jackie Cattigan RIP
	8.30 am	Jadwiga Wlasak RIP
	10.30 am*	Kasia & Paul's intentions

* 10.30 am Sunday Mass will be live-streamed: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCruCvuFlvKVpmI2vvGWdDKQ>

There will be confessions before Mass on Saturdays from 9.30 am, followed by 10 am Mass and the Rosary.

CONGRATULATIONS CARMEN!

We wish Carmen a very blessed and Happy 40th Anniversary of her first profession to the Servite Secular Institute on Wednesday, 8th December:
The LORD bless you and keep you: The LORD make His face shine on you, and be gracious to you.
Numbers 6:24-25.

St Joseph's Tilehurst



Volunteers Needed!

We rely on so many volunteers in many different ways to help run OUR church. Can you help?

Below is a list of areas where we are looking for new helpers. FULL support/training will be available. If you would like to know more, please contact a member of the Co-ordinating Team (see noticeboard), or send a message to the Parish Office.

God bless you!



If you would like to help in some other way, then please let us know.

Some activities haven't resumed yet, so there will be more ways to help in the future!

COLLECTION FOR 27TH/28TH NOVEMBER 2021

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£167.23
Gift Aid (via bank)	£630.00
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£19.00
Planned Giving (via bank)	£35.00
Loose Plate	£224.03
Bamenda Sunday	£10.00
Hall Hire	£136.00
Repository	£225.00
Mass Stole Fees	£30.00
TOTAL	£1,476.26
<u>Running Totals</u>	
TF9 ("On Fire!")	£3,091.07
CAFOD Family Fast Day	£285.10
Home Mission Sunday	£212.75
World Mission Sunday	£333.70
Bamenda Sunday	£426.75

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>

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Our next Confirmation programme will commence after Christmas with the Confirmation ceremony taking place the following year: Easter 2023. If you are currently in Year 7 or above, and interested in joining the programme, please send your name and contact details to the *Parish Office*.

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: Thursdays from 8.45 am – 11.30 am in the large hall, term-time only. *All welcome.*

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. For more information, please contact: *Mrs Petersen - 0118 941 3602.*

VOCATIONS

Is the Holy Spirit asking you to be "a shepherd who feeds his flock" in the priesthood, diaconate or consecrated life? Contact *Cn. John Cooke* vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869.

AFTERNOON SOCIAL DANCE

On the second Thursday of every month (9th December, 13th January, 10th February, 10th March) - Country & Irish Music by FINBARR & PAUL. Admission £5 from 1 pm. Music from 1.30 pm - 4.30 pm. FREE tea & coffee. Light refreshments at a nominal charge. For more information, call *Paul* on 0777 301 6589. Our Lady of Peace & Bl Dominic Barberi RC Main Hall (Thomas Lane Hall) Reading RG6 7DA (Sat Nav RG6 7DB).

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The next, usual monthly CIRDIC and family collection will be on Saturday, 4th December 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.*

ASK YOUR MP TO END 'DIY' ABORTION

The abortion lobby are now running a large campaign in the media to put pressure on the Government to make temporary 'DIY' abortion schemes permanent before the end of the year. It is therefore vital that as many MPs as possible write to the Health Secretary, Sajid Javid, asking the Government to end these dangerous 'DIY' abortion schemes. Right To Life UK has launched an easy-to-use tool on its website which makes it easy for you to send an email to your MP asking them to write to Sajid Javid. Please visit www.righttolife.org.uk/endDIY to contact your MP now. It only takes 30 seconds.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND:

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



As we rejoice in once again celebrating Christmas with our loved ones; let us spread our joy around the world by having a CAFOD World Gift under the tree. From energy saving stoves to weatherproof crops to emergency shelters, CAFOD's virtual charity gifts help transform the lives of families living in poverty. Buy online at <https://worldgifts.cafod.org.uk/collections>, or pick up a catalogue from the back of church.

Like many women around the world, Garmah in Liberia had no legal rights to her home when her husband died. CAFOD worked with local experts to help her, and now Garmah and her children live rightfully and happily together in their family home. "I feel safe, my children have a place to rest their head and I can make a garden to feed them and myself. God sent redeemers to fight for my land rights. I am overfilled with joy." *Thank you for your support which enables hundreds of women like Garmah remain in their homes during times of struggle.*

APF NEWS

APF collection money is now due. If you are able to empty your own box, please write a cheque for the appropriate amount, place it in an envelope marked APF, and hand it in to the *Parish Office*. Cheques should be made payable to Missio APF. If you are unable to do this, please contact me on 0770 803 2743. The autumn magazines and the 2022 calendars are available at the back of the church. *Mike Tomas - APF Secretary.*

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN WEST BERKSHIRE, TILEHURST & SOUTHCOTE

In December:

- Carols in the Square, Coronation Square, Southcote on Saturday, 11th December at 5 pm.
- Carols at Tilehurst Triangle with the Rotary Club, Thursday, 23rd December at 12 noon & 4 pm.

In January:

- Service for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, at St Matthew's Church, Southcote, Sunday, 23rd January at 6 pm. The service will draw on material from Christians in the Lebanon, and the preacher will be the Rev Dr. Andreas Andreopoulos, Reader in Orthodox Christianity at the University of Winchester and Visiting Professor of Theology at the Agora University Alexandria.

CHURCHES TOGETHER IN READING

We will again be joining the Salvation Army Band in Broad Street to sing carols. This will be outside Marks and Spencer on Saturday, 11th December. The band plays from 11 am – 3 pm, with a break on the hour when the New Hope Gospel Choir will sing carols. As for the community carols, we shall sing with the band for 15 minutes each hour, from about 11.30 - 11.45 am, 12.30 - 12.45 pm, 1.30 - 1.45 pm, 2.30 - 2.45 pm. Please join us for one of these singing sessions. There will also be a nativity scene where people can bring their children and have their photo taken with Mary, Joseph and the Baby Jesus. For further information please phone 0149 167 1357. Let's make this a great Christmas. Every blessing in Christ Jesus our Saviour. *Michael Penny, Chair, Churches Together in Reading and Berkshire.*

SAINT OF THE WEEK:

ST AMBROSE

BISHOP & DOCTOR OF THE CHURCH

7TH DECEMBER

Ambrose was born in Trier in what is now modern-day Germany, in about 340. As a baby, a swarm of bees landed on his face, depositing some honey near his lips. His father saw this as a sign that Ambrose would grow up to be an eloquent speaker. Ambrose trained as a lawyer, and in 370 was appointed Governor of the Liguria Aemilia region of Italy, and was based in Milan. He was appointed Bishop of Milan even before he was baptised, (he was a catechumen preparing for Baptism). Ambrose was overseeing the election for the next bishop, and was surprisingly chosen as a compromise candidate, to avoid a disputed election. He was baptized and ordained in just eight days. His date of ordination was 7th December 374. He proved to be an outstanding bishop, and was not afraid to question and challenge the actions of the emperor of the time. He gave his land and money to the poor. To Ambrose, giving to the poor was a just payment of God's resources which were intended for everyone, equally. Ambrose's teachings and writings have led him to be numbered as one of the Doctors of the Church. One of his converts whom he baptized was St Augustine. Ambrose told Augustine to follow local, liturgical customs. "Follow the custom of the church where you are", he said. It is where we get the expression "when in Rome do as the Romans do". He died in the year 397, and is buried in the Basilica di Sant' Ambrogio, in the centre of Milan. Ambrose is the patron saint of beekeepers, beggars and, of course, the city of Milan.

CARITAS - NEW WEBSITE

CARITAS Portsmouth has developed a new website and this has now gone live. There is a lot of information about CARITAS projects, news and events and information about how people can get involved; <https://caritasportsmouth.org.uk/>

Rev Robert Barthram - Churches Together in West Berkshire, Tilehurst & Southcote.