

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 📌 St Joseph's Church, Tilehurst, Reading

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 7105 (RBH) ☎ 0118 957 2149 (Parish) ☎ 0739 189 6559 (Mobile)

2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A) – 8TH DECEMBER 2019



2ND SUNDAY OF *Advent*

ADVENT: PREPARING, WAITING, LONGING, PRAYING

We are now in a time of waiting, longing and praying for the coming of the Lord. We sing the haunting Advent hymns. We light the second Advent candle. Our liturgical colour is now purple, and 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 make every effort to give this season our best effort as we begin Advent. **Fr Peter.**

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICES

Monday, 9 th	7.30 pm	St John Bosco
Tuesday, 10 th	7.30 pm	St Joseph's
Wednesday, 11 th	7.30 pm	Christ the King
Thursday, 12 th	7.30 pm	St Anne's
Friday, 13 th	7.30 pm	Our Lady of Peace
Saturday, 14 th	11 am	English Martyrs
Monday, 16 th	7.30 pm	St James

MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 8TH – 15TH DECEMBER 2019

Sunday, 8 th December <i>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i>	8.30 am	Steven McCreight RIP
	10.30 am	Return to health – Bressler family, Pennsylvania
Monday, 9 th December <i>THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY</i>	NO MASS	
Tuesday, 10 th December	12 noon	Evlyn Novell RIP
Wednesday, 11 th December	12 noon	Chris O'Malley RIP
Thursday, 12 th December	9.30 am	Tessie Joyce RIP
Friday, 13 th December <i>St Lucy, Virgin, Martyr</i>	7 pm	John Murray RIP
Saturday, 14 th December <i>St John of the Cross, Religious, Doctor of the Church</i>	10 am	Sr Mary O'Sullivan RIP
Sunday, 15 th December <i>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ('GAUDETE')</i>	8.30 am	Steven McCreight RIP
	10.30 am	Jackie Cattigan RIP
	6.30 pm	Syro Malabar

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Saturday at 9.20 am followed by 10 am Mass

ROSARY & CONFESSIONS - Saturday following 10 am Mass

Responsorial Psalm: "In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails."

COLLECTION FOR 1ST DECEMBER 2019

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£357.45
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£62.50
Loose Plate	£418.07
Candle Money	£52.56
Mass Stole Fees	£70.00
TF3 (CAFOD)	£13.00
TOTAL	£973.58
RUNNING TOTALS	
TF3 (CAFOD)	£389.25
TF9 ("On Fire!")	£3072.01
Divine Mercy Centre	£288.69
Harvest Fast Day (CAFOD)	£916.52
Bamenda Sunday	£1135.35

PRAYER REQUESTS

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

GOING INTO HOSPITAL?

On admission, all Catholics should inform the hospital staff that they are Roman Catholic and if they wish to have Holy Communion or see a priest. All arrangements in RBH are 'patient led'. Royal Berkshire Hospital Chaplain: *Fr JP Lyttle.*

Mobile: 0739 189 6559. RBH: 0118 322 7105. Sunday Mass 4 pm. Patients, staff & visitors welcome.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER GROUP

The next prayer group will take place on Wednesday, 11th December at 9.30 am at St Joseph's. *All are welcome.*

TEA/COFFEE

Tea/Coffee will be served after 10.30 am Mass. *All are welcome.*

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Next programme starts in Lent 2020. Open to all young people in year 7 or above. *Registration forms available from Parish Office.*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Nora Colley, Dick O'Brien, Sheila Robinson, Ellen Knox, Pat Togher, Bernadette Smeesters, Gerard Tomas, Lya Turner, Charles Livingston, Barbara Turner, Mary Hoban, Rita Boyce, Mary O'Shea, Jean Trott, Stefen Griffiths, Nina Aramo, Jo Boase, Julie Thompson, Michael & Joy O'Connell, Carmela Garzia, Aldona Glowa, Kathleen Urban, Helen, Natasha, Marek & Bridget.

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

The family of Graham Ward would like to thank Fr Peter and St Joseph's parishioners for their kindness, Masses and prayers on the recent death of Graham. The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass will be offered for your intentions on Wednesday, 12th February 2020.

WELCOME

We welcome Liam and Luke Mmaduakolam who are to be baptised here at St Joseph's today.

APF

It's time to empty the red boxes again. Could I have all contributions by 29th December please? Any money received after this date cannot be included in the 2019 accounts. *Thank you – MikeTomas, APF Secretary.*

CONGRATULATIONS CARMEN!

Carmen made her final vows for the Order of Servites 35 years ago **TODAY** here in St Joseph's Church. *Congratulations Carmen!*

REMINDER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 15TH DECEMBER

- **Counters:**
E & R Hopkins.
- **Mass readers**:**
8.30 am.
1st Reading – C Ogbuagu.
2nd Reading – M Tomas.
10.30 am
1st Reading – M Jones.
2nd Reading – A Goncalves.
Eucharistic Ministers:**
8.30 am
D Cathrew, Carmen & J Fernandes.
10.30 am
E Hopkins, M Forestiero & C Parkes.
- **Eucharistic Minister - Oakwood Ward:**
A MacDonald.

***Eucharistic Ministers & Readers: Will you kindly note that due to constant swapping around of dates, the accuracy of the above names cannot be guaranteed. Thank you**.*

FAMILY CONCERT – READING IRISH CENTRE

TODAY from 2 – 4.30 pm – There will be Irish Dancers, Singing and Refreshments – Everybody welcome. *Ann Morris – 0788 899 7293.*

CAFOD – WORLD GIFTS CATALOGUE

Please take a copy of the CAFOD World Gifts catalogue – the true spirit of Christmas giving - *available in the church porch.*

NEW CHRISTMAS TRADITION (A LITTLE LATE - SORRY!)

Beginning December 1st, read one chapter of The Book of Luke in the Bible each evening. There are 24 chapters. On Christmas Eve, you will have read an entire account of Jesus' life and wake up Christmas morning knowing who and why we celebrate!!

CHRISTMAS SING-A-LONG

TODAY from 3 – 5 pm. Please join us in the large hall for an afternoon of Christmas music. Sing along with well-known seasonal tunes. Then refresh those vocal chords with hot drinks and mulled wine.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

On Friday, 13th December at 7 pm at English Martyrs Church. You are warmly invited to an enjoyable evening of Christmas Carol Singing. This is a great opportunity for YOU to invite your family, friends and neighbours to sing the Christmas Story with our community. Followed by mince pies and mulled wine, with child friendly alternatives. *Donations for 'a Bed for the Night' gladly welcome.*

BAPTISM COURSE

The next Baptism course at St Joseph's will be on Wednesdays, 15th & 22nd January 2020 from 8 - 9.30 pm in the large Church hall. We will be using a programme called: Baptism - Helping your child get the most out of life. Godparents are also welcome to join us for discussion and to watch a DVD. The courses only run every few months, so if you are new or expectant parents, it might be better to attend this course if you wish your child to be baptised fairly soon.

If you are considering Baptism for your child, whatever their age, please register for the course by contacting *Mary Philip* on 961 5905 email: mphilip@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

DROP-IN CENTRE AND PARISH SVP

Thank you very much to everyone for your most generous donations to the December 2019 collection for the Drop-in Centre and the parish SVP. Your donations were very much appreciated by those who received them. The next collection will be, as always, on the first Sunday of the month, which will be on Sunday, 5th January 2020. Thank you very much for your continued support with this collection. *Margaret Bailie*.

SIMBANG GABI (CHRISTMAS MASS)

On Tuesday, 17th December led by Fr Jimmy Lindero here at St Joseph's at 6.30 pm. The Reading Filipino Community invites everyone to their Traditional Christmas Mass. Hog roast in the hall after Mass. *All welcome*.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PRESENT APPEAL

Thank you to all for your amazing response to the Children's Christmas present appeal. We received a large number of presents and we are most grateful for your generosity.

LIFE

LIFE Coffee Morning on Wednesday, 11th December after 9.30 am Mass at the English Martyrs Church - Christmas sale, cakes and a raffle. *All are welcome*.

ROTAS - COUNTERS/OAKWOOD

The rotas for 2020 for the above are now ready for collection from the church porch. If you are on either team, please collect your copy.

ANNUAL NOVENA PILGRIMAGE TO KNOCK SHRINE

Led by Fr Michael Dennehy from Friday, 15th August to Tuesday, 18th August 2020. £699 per person. Single rooms may be available at a supplement. Price includes Full Board, at the Knock House Hotel. All entertainment, all excursions and guided tours included. Please see poster on the noticeboard and/or ask for a copy of the itinerary from *English Martyrs Parish Office (0118 957 2149)*.

Are you called to be "A herald's voice in the desert" preparing the way of the Lord in the hearts of His people? To explore further, contact *Fr John Cooke*. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 0132 931 8869.

ST PAUL'S SCHOOL

Caretaker required for January 2020, or sooner - 20 hours per week (plus some overtime). Grade/Salary C. *See poster in church porch*.



Please note that there is a designated wheelchair area in our church, situated beside the choir.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

Many people like to book their holidays well in advance; if you would like to consider travelling to Medjugorje as a parish, please add your name and telephone number to Fr Peter's list. *Provisional* details are set out below:

16th - 25th September 2020 - 9 nights. Accommodation is based on bed, breakfast and evening meal. All rooms are en-suite and air conditioned. Tariff: Single occupancy: 35 Euros per night = 315 Euros per person. Shared occupancy: 25 Euros per night = 225 Euros per person. (Note: any possible increase on these rates in due course will be very minimal). Also, there will be an additional total return payment of 40 Euros per person for coach transfers between the airport and Medjugorje.

Flight details:

Outbound: BA0842 LHR - SPLIT (Terminal 5) departing at 13.35 - 16th September 2020.

Return: BA0843 SPLIT - LHR (Terminal 5) departing at 14.20 - 25th September 2020.

YOUTH SVP GROUP

Commissioning Ceremony on Sunday, 15th December during 10.30 am Mass. Could we ask all those being commissioned to arrive at church for 10.15 am; a member of the team will be in the church porch to meet you. The commissioning itself will take place during the homily by Fr Peter, and two SVP Officers from Central Office. Refreshments for families, friends and all parishioners to follow in the small hall afterwards.

CHRISTMAS PARTY ON SUNDAY, 15TH DECEMBER 12 NOON - 1.30 PM

Our Christmas Party will follow shortly after the Commissioning Ceremony in the main hall. Please join us for some festive fun, delicious food, music, Secret Santa and a huge cake in celebration of the newly commissioned Young Vincentians! Don't miss out - bring your friends - All welcome! For more information, please contact *Patrizia Chessell* on 0774 054 7922 or a member of the team. May we also take this opportunity of wishing all our members and their families a blessed Christmas and a very happy, healthy New Year!

Can you help? I have lived in my present flat for 25 years and the council has happily paid the £700 rent, and is happy to continue. The owner is selling the house and I have searched since August and am on Sheltered Housing list. I need a ground floor, 1 bedroom unfurnished flat. Landlords refuse Council tenants. I have very good reference. Do you know anyone who has accommodation? Payment every 2 weeks from Council DIRECT to landlord. *A desperate parishioner*. Please contact St Joseph's Parish Office if you can help.

YEAR OF GOD'S WORD

Last Sunday was the official opening of the Year of God's Word. Various events are being planned throughout the diocese including Diocesan Readers' Workshops. These comprise of two workshops, three hours each, providing liturgical, biblical and practical formation for all readers. The workshops enable readers to gain a recognition signed by the bishop and the parish priest. Dates for the workshops for the north of the diocese have yet to be confirmed. I will inform you as soon as I have the details. *Mike Tomas*.