

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: 0118 942 8632

Safeguarding Representative:
Miriam da Cruz Fernandes

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THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) – SUNDAY, 17TH JANUARY 2021

MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 17TH JANUARY – SUNDAY, 24TH JANUARY 2021

Sunday, 17 th January SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	5 pm (Vigil) + Live-streamed	Joan Keane RIP
	9 am + Live-streamed	Gerald MacMahon & Julie Glancy's intentions
Monday, 18 th January Beginning of the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity	Private	Rita Williams RIP
Tuesday, 19 th January	12 noon	Rita Williams RIP
Wednesday, 20 th January	11 am + Live-streamed	Patrick Deloughery & Vincent Chute RIP
Thursday, 21 st January St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr	Private	Rita Williams RIP
Friday, 22 nd January	Private	Maureen Hanson RIP
Saturday, 23 rd January Our Lady on Saturday	Private	Patricia MacMahon RIP
Sunday, 24 th January THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	5 pm (Vigil) + Live-streamed	Sr Clare O'Brien RIP
	10 am + Live-streamed	Rita Williams RIP
Monday, 25 th January THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL	Private	Arthur & Francisca Pinto RIP

Masses marked + will be live-streamed: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCruCvuFlvKVpml2vvGWdDKQ>

TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY MASSES - SPACES AVAILABLE ON THE DAY

Our Tuesday & Wednesday 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 understand that the stewards may not be able to offer you a place, once the church is full. 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. You will then receive an invitation, when a place is available, and can be reserved for you. Note: this is only for mid-week Masses.

Weekend Masses are strictly by invitation only: Saturday 5 pm (Vigil), this Sunday 9 am, (****time changing to 10 am starting from 24th January****). Please look out for emails inviting you to a specific Mass, and reply as soon as possible. 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 on stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk. 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.

**COLLECTION FOR
9TH/10TH JANUARY 2021**

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£167.00
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£5.00
Loose Plate	£67.33
Mass Stole Fees	£10.00
Christmas Offerings	£115.00
TOTAL	£364.33
<u>RUNNING TOTALS</u>	
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	£1,097.50
First Holy Communion fees	£825.00

**OFFERINGS, DONATIONS
& SUNDAY COLLECTIONS**

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, 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://www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk/upload/newsletter/DonationStJosephsTilehurst.pdf>

**CATHEDRAL FUND
- SUNDAY, 24TH JANUARY**

Next weekend, we have the annual second collection in support of our Cathedral in Portsmouth. Appeal envelopes will be available at all Masses, for those who do not have gift aided planned giving envelopes for second collections. This collection is the only support our Cathedral receives from the wider Diocesan family.

Due to the lockdown and restrictions being imposed on many people travelling, a 'Give as you Live' page has also been created to enable you to donate online at:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/cathedral-annual-appeal>

Understandably, we all are aware that these are difficult times for us all, but please give generously to support your cathedral, gift aiding your donation wherever possible.

**** COFFEE & CHAT: NEW TIME ****

On Sundays, at a new time of **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=WWQ3VHpvTDRCK0pmLzlQdDVDTUxtdz09>

THANK YOU

Thank you to everyone who supported, and gave so generously to our Clergy Christmas Collection, through our online giving pages, or by traditional means.

Over £28,600 was raised for the collection through the online fundraising pages, set up for each parish.

Your kind contributions and support were very gratefully received and were a real testimony to the appreciation and care for our Parish Priests, working across our Diocese, bringing people Closer to Jesus Christ through his Church.

Thank you again for your continued and ongoing support.

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*.

ROSARY (ON-LINE ONLY**)**

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

<https://pepsico.zoom.us/j/69178591420?pwd=UGhtOTlaZXZsOVEvTU0SFpqcmJ5dz09>

Or use the link on our website. To join by telephone, dial 0203 901 7895. Meeting Code: 69178591420# Password: 957032.

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 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.

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Dear Parishioners,

Many, 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 6th 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.

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.

RIGHT TO LIFE UK

Act now and ask your MP to oppose introducing assisted suicide. 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 - www.righttolife.org.uk.

HELPING HAND

- MAKING EVERY CONTACT COUNT - FOR BEFRIENDERS AND VOLUNTEERS

Starts 27th January from 12 noon – 1 pm via Zoom - 4 Week Course. Delegates will receive a MECC trained Certificate, on completion. Bookings: Mauricha.White@reading.gov.uk. The course is aimed at those who support older or vulnerable adults, in person or by telephone, who may be experiencing health related issues since COVID-19. The course is a 4-week, interactive, 1-hour session. We will work through effective conversation skills, to help the volunteers overcome barriers, and support the individual to identify their own health and wellbeing goals, ahead of the reopening of society.

FORMATION FOR READERS

During the 2020 lockdown we have been able to form about 100 readers over two sets of online workshops in October and November, offering a reading practice to each one with a Diocesan Listener. We will continue offering these workshops in 2021, Year of the Word in Portsmouth Diocese. The 2021 workshops will take place in February (6th & 13th), and in April (17th & 24th). Participants need to have attended both workshop 1 & workshop 2, and completed a reading practice to receive a Diocesan Recognitio. Sign up for the workshops here:

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

CAFÉ THÉOLOGIQUE:

"HAVE WE FOUND JESUS' HOUSE?"

The Archaeology of Nazareth and interview with Prof. Ken Dark. Monday, 25th January 19.30 –21.00 on Zoom (shortcut to Zoom link: u.nu/cafetheo). Full link:

<https://zoom.us/j/99410788443?pwd=U09sMUVVb0tzYzRpRGxScUk3aVR1QT09>.

All welcome, no booking. Ken Dark has been conducting archaeological research in Nazareth and the Galilee since 2006. He will be discussing his recent discovery of the remains of a first-century house in Nazareth and his knowledge of the wider region. He is a University of Reading-based archaeologist whose other studies include Early Christian sites in Britain and Roman survivals at Hagia Sophia in Istanbul.



COVID-19 - a very challenging time for many marriages. So much uncertainty around, health, income, employment, vulnerable family members, children, housing. Different ways of seeing things, coping with change, managing fears can be a source of conflict and stress. It can be difficult to talk, to listen to support and comfort when there is so much uncertainty. Being together all the time, brings even more challenges. You just can't cope, would be better apart, you wonder.

Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage, and you don't need to leave home, it comes to you!

For confidential information about Retrouvaille', or to register for the next programme, a virtual weekend commencing on 25th - 28th February, call or text 0788 729 6983 or 0797 338 0443. ✉ retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com or ✉ www.retrouvaille.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 26th February 2021.

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, or calling them on 0161 820 5722, and they will arrange this for you. SPECIAL OFFER: 3 months - £22, or 12 months - £80.

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 AGNES 21ST JANUARY

St Agnes was only twelve when she died in 304, and is one of the first women to be venerated by the Catholic Church. She came from a noble Roman family. Agnes was very beautiful and had many admirers who wanted to marry her. There was one young man in particular, the son of a Roman official, who wanted to marry her. Agnes refused declaring herself committed to Christ. This was at a time when Christianity was still an underground religion. Her refusal led to her death; she was stabbed in the throat. She is buried in a catacomb on the Via Nomentana (an ancient Roman road leading north-east out of the city), on land which it is believed her parents owned. Her grave became a great pilgrimage site for many years after her death.

In art, she is often depicted carrying a lamb. A lamb is the symbol of purity and also a play on her name, Agnus being the Latin for lamb. The first Eucharistic Prayer, also known as the Roman Canon, includes Agnes's name. St Agnes - pray for us. *Mike Tomas*.

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. Chris Smith can provide paper copies for those unable to access the digital version on 0239 421 6496.