

NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST



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

☎ 0118 942 8632 ✉ sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

🌐 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

Tuesday, Thursday & Friday: 9 am – 12.30 pm

Safeguarding Representative:

Miriam da Cruz Fernandes

☎ 0118 943 3524

✉ miriam@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (YEAR B) – 5TH/6TH DECEMBER 2020



2ND SUNDAY OF *Advent*

ADVENT: PREPARING, WAITING, LONGING, PRAYING

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 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 undertake to give this season our best effort, as we continue our Advent journey. *Fr Peter.*

PUBLIC MASSES

Public Masses will be celebrated at the following times:

Saturday 10 am & 5 pm (Vigil), Sunday 8.30 am & 11 am, Tuesday 12 noon, Wednesday 11 am. Please look out for emails inviting you to a specific Mass, and reply as soon as possible.



JEAN TROTT RIP

The parish offers condolences to the family of Jean Trott who died recently. Jean's Funeral Mass will be celebrated at Our Lady & St Peter's Church, Aldeburgh, Suffolk, on Wednesday, 9th December at 12 noon, and will also be live-streamed on YouTube at the following link: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-GsEOvS0m19a_jvjpgLRDw/videos. The family would have had the funeral here at St Joseph's, as Jean had been a parishioner here since 2008, but because of the limited numbers, they have decided to go to Suffolk. Jean will be buried with family members in Aldeburgh Cemetery. Please pray for the repose of Jean's soul. *May she rest in peace.*

MAUREEN HANSON RIP

John Hanson and family would like to thank all those who have sent messages of love and support both during Maureen's illness and since her death. It is lovely to know how much she was thought of by so many.

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, Helen, Sisters of St Ann (in Bamenda), Fr Peter's parents, Tess Heenan, Caroline Hurst, Kevin Keep & Betty Dennehy. If you would like to add a name to this list, or if you have any queries, please contact *Sheila* in the *Parish Office*.



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. Restrictions will still be followed as carefully as always, so numbers at each mass will be limited.

Priority has been given to those who were registered with us as of 1st November, so these Masses are already filling up rapidly. We hope to be able to offer everyone a place at ONE of the masses over the Christmas period – see full details and list below. Your 'bubble' will be allocated one pew, which can seat a maximum of 6 people. If we are unable to offer you a Mass for Christmas Eve/Day, you will have priority for attending Mass for the Feast of the Holy Family on Sunday, 27th December when Mass times will be Saturday, 26th December at 5p m (Vigil Mass), and Sunday, 27th December at 8.30 am & 11 am.

All Masses will be live-streamed, so please also pray the Mass with us online as often as you like! See link on our website.

If you are already registered to attend Mass at St Joseph's, then you should have received an email or phone call to ask for your preferences for Mass attendance at Christmas. Please contact us now if you haven't heard from us yet: stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk. If any Mass is oversubscribed, you may be allocated your second or third choice.

If you are not already registered to attend Mass at St Joseph's, but would like to attend Mass over the Christmas period, please continue reading.

If you are a parishioner, or live in Tilehurst, we hope to be able to offer you a place at one of the Masses during the Christmas period. Please see a full list of Mass times below.

Please let us know ALL the Masses that you could attend, in order of preference, to give us the best chance of allocating you a place. Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Masses are likely to fill up very quickly, so please include one of the other Masses on 26th/27th in your list of preferences. Please send an email to us at: stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk to request a place at a Mass. *(Email is the best way to reach us, but if you do not have email, please ring the Parish Office on Thursdays or Fridays, and Sheila will pass on your request)*

Tuesday, 22 nd December	12 noon Mass	
Wed 23 rd December	11 am Mass + Rosary	
Christmas Eve	5 pm	(Filling up fast)
Thursday, 24 th December	7 pm	(Filling up fast)
	9 pm	(Already over-subscribed)
Christmas Day	8 am	
Friday, 25 th December	10am	(Filling up fast)
St Stephen's Day	5 pm (Sunday Vigil)	
Saturday, 26 th December	No morning Mass	
Holy Family Sunday, 27 th December	8.30 am	
	11 am	
Tuesday, 29 th December	12 noon Mass	
Wednesday, 30 th December	11am Mass + Rosary	
Friday, 1 st January	12pm Mass: Live Stream only	
Saturday, 2 nd January	10am	
	5pm (Sunday Vigil)	
Sunday, 3 rd January	8.30 am	
	11 am	

Information to send to: stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk

Your Name and 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.

MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 6TH DECEMBER – SUNDAY, 13TH DECEMBER 2020		
Sunday, 6 th December SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B)	5 pm (Vigil) + Live-streamed	Sean Murphy RIP
	8.30 am + Live-streamed	Michael Joyce RIP
	11 am + Live-streamed	Patricia MacMahon RIP
Monday, 7 th December St Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor of the Church	NO MASS	
Tuesday, 8 th December THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY	12 noon	Martha & Patrick Munnelly RIP
Wednesday, 9 th December	11 am + Live-streamed	Breda Williams RIP
Thursday, 10 th December	Private Mass	Breda Williams RIP
Friday, 11 th December	Private Mass	Caroline Heaney RIP
Saturday, 12 th December	10 am followed by Rosary & Benediction + Live-streamed	Sister Mary O’Sullivan RIP
Sunday, 13 th December THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (B) [‘Gaudete’]	5 pm (Vigil) + Live-streamed	Breda Williams RIP
	8.30 am + Live-streamed	Eileen Drake RIP
	11 am + Live-streamed	Jackie Cattigan RIP

LIVE-STREAMED MASSES

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

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCruCvuFlvKVpmI2vvGWdDKQ>

- 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

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.

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS AND DONATIONS

To make any donation to St Joseph's, 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>

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

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION – 2021

Registration is now open for St Joseph's parish children and St Paul's School children who are in Year 3 and above. Please download a form and *revised* session dates, attached to the electronic copy of this newsletter, or 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. *Please note due to the pandemic, there will be no face-to-face contact with the Parish Office.* The closing date is **20th December 2020.**

**COLLECTION FOR
5TH/6TH NOVEMBER 2020**

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£155.00
Gift Aid Direct Debit	£650.00
Loose Plate	£62.00
Planned Giving	£35.00
Mass Stole Fees	£60.00
TOTAL	£962.00
RUNNING TOTALS	
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	£695.73

TEMPORARY OPENING HOURS

St Joseph's Parish Office is open for telephone and email contact only. There is no face-to-face contact, *until further notice*. Temporary office hours are Thursdays & Fridays from 9 am -12.30 pm. 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.

APF

Many thanks to all box holders who have emptied their own boxes, and posted a cheque through the presbytery letter box. There is still time to have your contributions included in the 2020 accounts, if you empty your box and submit a cheque by 10th December. Cheques should be made payable to Missio. Any enquiries to me please - *Mike Tomas*, APF Secretary - 0770 803 2743.

**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 or 0118 957 4730.

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 VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

The next collection will be on Saturday, 5th December from 2 - 3 pm in St Joseph's Church car park. Very many thanks to all those who were able to donate to the SVP on Saturday, 7th November, and to those who continue to donate by envelope to CIRDIC/SVP, and post through the Parish Office letter box.

Your donations of food, clothes and funds have been very well received. CIRDIC is very grateful for the clothing and food. 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.

- Clothes/Footwear:
Winter jackets, anoraks, waterproof jackets, jeans, warm winter trousers, trainers, gloves and warm socks, knitted hats.

These items are mainly for men - approx. 60. However, women's warm clothing would be appreciated - approx. 15 women.

Donations to the SVP would also be very much appreciated. We plan to continue the collections on the 1st 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.



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/>. Many thanks for your support. *Jo Lewry* - Community Participation Coordinator, CAFOD Portsmouth - 0771 009 4447.



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 15th 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

TEMPORARY TEACHING ASSISTANT
(MINIMUM QUALIFICATION LEVEL 2)

Required A.S.A.P., to work with a named child - 27.5 hours per week, term time only until 21st July 2021, (with a possibility of further extension). Grade/Salary C.

Please feel free to ring us and have a chat about our lovely school and children – Telephone No. 0118 942 2003. Closing Date: Wednesday, 9th December – Midday. Interviews: Friday, 11th December. For an application pack, please contact the school. Application packs are also available on line at www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk. E-mail: office@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk.

COMPASS IN ADVENT
PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS

Our lives are being turned upside down at the moment due to Covid-19. Join us to reflect on some of the characters in the Christmas story whose lives were also radically changed. How is God speaking to us through these stories today? Each Friday, we will focus on one set of characters. The meeting will also include a sharing of a contemporary story of vocation/call. There will be time for sharing, questions and discussion. Who? – Young adults 18 - 35. When? Fridays – 4th, 11th, 18th December. Time? 7 pm, for one hour. Zoom link: Email us on CompassInAdvent@gmail.com for the link, and for any other information. Facebook event: <https://bit.ly/CompassInAdvent>. Compass is a project of CVP (Catholic Vocations Project). CVP is supported by a group of religious women and men in the UK who are interested in promoting a culture of vocation in our Church. *FCJ Young Adult Network*
www.fcjsisters.org
Blog: <http://fcjsisters.wordpress.com/>

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 baptised 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.
St Ambrose - pray for us
Mike Tomas.

GREGORIAN CHANT

An exciting opportunity to study and sing Gregorian Chant begins Saturday, 19th December, and continues on every third Saturday of the month until 17th 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. Email: PortsmouthChantCourse@gmail.com Phone: 0787 959 1432. Follow on Twitter @ChantPortsmouth.

MARY'S MEALS

From 2nd November until 31st 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. Thank you.