

# NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST



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

☎ 0118 942 8632 ✉ [sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

🌐 [www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk](http://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, for telephone and email contact only*

**Safeguarding Representative:  
Miriam da Cruz Fernandes**

☎ 0118 943 3524  
✉ [miriam@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk](mailto:miriam@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk)

## SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021

There will be no drastic changes to the current Covid procedures in operation here at St Joseph's; we remain in line with the English Martyrs parish. While COVID cases remain high locally, we will continue with our existing system. Restrictions will be reviewed every few weeks.

We ask everyone to continue to wear a face-covering. The weekend Mass invitation system, sanitizing and social distancing will all continue for the time being. We have a responsibility to keep each other safe, especially the vulnerable. We have added a few more pews, and we are hopeful that most people will be offered a place at one of the weekend Masses every week, especially as it is holiday time.

The Co-ordinating Team is reforming. The key focus points for the team initially will be to provide support for the parish while Fr Peter is away, and to gradually manage changes as a result of COVID restrictions easing on 19<sup>th</sup> July. If you have questions or suggestions for the team to discuss, please submit them to the Parish Office.

The Catholic Bishops of England and Wales released new guidance last week. We have already agreed a few small changes and will continue to review other aspects. We agreed it is no longer necessary to clean the church if it will not be used again for 2 days. So, it will not be cleaned after Wednesday midday Mass, and after Sunday 11 am Mass. We will also look at offering confessions again after some Masses. Please continue to read the weekly newsletter for further updates.

Here is the link if you would like to read the document:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2021/05/CBCEW-COVID-Step-4-Guidance-150721b.pdf>

We are very grateful to everyone for your patience and generosity in complying with the Covid procedures that we have in place. We are particularly grateful to the wonderful Admin Team, Cleaners and Stewards who have been doing such a great job. They have fulfilled a challenging task with kindness and sensitivity. When the time comes to make changes to our procedures, we will do so gradually so that we all have time to adjust.

*Fr Peter*

### MASSES

Registration for Mass attendance at St Joseph's is restricted to parishioners by emailing [stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk](mailto: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.

### ST JOSEPH'S PARISH OFFICE

Telephone and email contact only. There is still no face-to-face contact possible. Please post Mass offerings or correspondence through the Presbytery letterbox, and email/telephone *Sheila* in the Parish Office, if you would like *Fr Peter* or *Fr Richard* to offer a Mass, or for newsletter items.

-----  
Will parishioners please note that the Parish Office will be closed from Tuesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August. It will re-open on Tuesday, 7<sup>th</sup> September. Telephone messages and emails will be monitored regularly, but please be aware that there may be a delay in responding to queries. *Thank you for your understanding.*

**MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY - SUNDAY, 1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2021**

Sunday, 25 <sup>th</sup> July <b>SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>5 pm (Vigil)</b> + Live-streamed	Pierce MacMahon & Nicola Perkins' intentions
	<b>8.30 am</b> + Live-streamed	Living members of the MacMahon family
	<b>11 am</b> + Live-streamed	Kevin Spellman RIP
Monday, 26 <sup>th</sup> July <i>Ss Joachim &amp; Anne, Parents of Our Lady</i>	<b>NO MASS</b>	
Tuesday, 27 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>12 noon</b> + Live-streamed	Gerald Glancy RIP
Wednesday, 28 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>12 noon</b> + Live-streamed	Joe Morton RIP
Thursday, 29 <sup>th</sup> July <i>St Martha</i>	<b>Private</b>	Raymond Parrot RIP
Friday, 30 <sup>th</sup> July	<b>Private</b>	Theresa Howe RIP
Saturday, 31 <sup>st</sup> July <i>St Ignatius of Loyola, Founder</i>	<b>Private</b>	
Sunday, 1 <sup>st</sup> August <b>EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>5 pm (Vigil)</b> + Live-streamed	Babs & Don's intentions
	<b>8.30 am</b> + Live-streamed	Beatrice Pinto RIP
	<b>11 am</b> + Live-streamed	Krzysztof Adamczyk RIP

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

**There will be confessions after 12 noon Mass next Wednesday, and after 5 pm Mass on Saturday.**

**ROSARY**

Every Saturday at 10 am, please join us online to recite the Rosary.  
*Further details are available on our web site.*

**!!ATTENTION!!**

Medjugorje Pilgrimage has been cancelled this year, due to COVID restrictions.

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

**SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

The next, usual monthly CIRDIC and family collection will be on Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> August 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](mailto:jackewins9@gmail.com).

**“Life passes, riches fly away, popularity is fickle, the senses decay, the world changes.  
One alone is true to us; One alone can be all things to us; One alone can supply our need”.**  
*(St John Henry Newman)*

## COLLECTION FOR 17<sup>TH</sup>/18<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£313.70
Gift Aid (via bank)	£1,673.00
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£15.00
Planned Giving (via bank)	£192.41
Loose Plate	£119.70
Donation	£30.00
Peter's Pence	£5.00
Hall Hire (Nursery)	£1,540.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£3,888.81</b>
<b>RUNNING TOTALS</b>	
TF9 ("On Fire!")	£3,874.77
Clergy Assistance Fund	£328.12
Clergy Training Fund	£289.56
Holy Places	£213.75
World Communications	£195.00
Day for Life	£392.50
Peter's Pence	£195.00
Apostleship of the Sea	£228.50

### 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>

### WORLD DAY FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY

The Holy Father has designated 25th July as the first World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. The Vatican Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life have produced a selection of resources for the Day, so as to ensure that "its joyous message reaches every grandparent and elderly person effectively, even the most isolated." You can access the [message of Pope Francis here](#) and also some pastoral guidelines and [ideas for the day here](#)

The Vatican suggests that it "would be especially meaningful if, as the Day approaches, the message could be delivered by every grandchild to their own grandparents, and by young people to the lonely elderly members of their communities". To mark the day and to encourage acts of charity, the Holy Father has established a special Plenary Indulgence for those who on that day devote adequate time to actually or virtually visiting their elderly brothers and sisters in need or in difficulty (such as the sick, the abandoned, the disabled and other similar cases).

### APF

Boxholders are asked once again to open their own boxes and write a cheque, payable to Missio APF, and place it in an envelope marked for my attention, and drop through the presbytery door. Any problems please contact me. Thank you. *Mike Tomas, APF Secretary - 0770 803 2743.*

### 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.*



### 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. After the summer break, we will re-commence on Thursday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September from 8.45 am - 11.30 am in the large hall, term-time only. *All welcome.*

### TODAY - 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF THE YEAR

In the Gospel (John 6:1-15), we hear how Jesus has fed the people who have come to him with his words of preaching, and he now desires to feed them with bread. From the little that the small boy offers, Jesus miraculously gives more than enough to each person. Here, the Gospel hints at the celebration of the Mass. First, the people have come to listen to Jesus. They are thirsty for the Word of God. This is the Liturgy of the Word. Then, Jesus is anxious to feed their body also. They are now hungry for physical food. Faced with the great number of people, the apostles feel helpless. Can Jesus feed every single person? Through the sign of the multiplication of the loaves, Jesus manifests his power to feed every single person who turns to him, every human heart, made for him. He is the one who continues to feed us with himself in the Sacrament of the Eucharist.

You can find the Sunday readings [here](#) and read Scott Hahn's reflection [here](#). You can register to watch our Diocesan Wednesday Webinar [here](#), or join via [Facebook live](#). If you can't join on Wednesday, you can subscribe to the podcast [here](#).

### VOCATIONS

We'd like to invite you to the Ordination Mass for our Diocese next Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> July at 11 am at St John's Cathedral (you can follow online <https://www.portsmouthcatholiccathedral.org.uk/live-mass.php>). The annual Ordination Mass is a wonderful celebration of grace. If you feel that God may be calling you to the priesthood and want to know more, contact Cn. *John Cooke* [vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or call 0132 931 8869.

## NEWS FROM BAMENDA

Jo Overton, Acting Chair of our Bamenda-Portsmouth Committee shares the latest news from our twin diocese . . .

Let us not forget that all the time we are pre-occupied with the ups and downs of our daily lives here, our brothers and sisters in our twin diocese of Bamenda continue to be faced with not only the pandemic but also the on-going socio-political crisis which is rooted in the marginalisation of the English-speaking minority by the Francophone majority over many decades in Cameroon.

Rebecca Tinsley, who is joint chair of the Global Campaign for Peace and Justice in Cameroon (Non-Governmental Organisation) is regularly submitting information to the press raising awareness of the impact the crisis. In two recent articles accessible via the following links she draws particular attention to [images depicting the trauma experienced by children](#) (contains images some readers may find upsetting, Ed.), [as well as women, priests and missionaries](#) and she gives voice to those calling for greater involvement by the Vatican. Rebecca is speaking to all of us when she says: "We have a moral duty to get the international community to see what is happening, because it requires the international community to put pressure on the government of Cameroon to enter peace talks."

You can help by praying, raising awareness in yourself/others, and continuing to lobby your MP. For more information, see the latest news at [www.bamendaandportsmouth.com](http://www.bamendaandportsmouth.com)

### ALTON DAY OF RENEWAL (ADoRE)

ADoRE offers confidential prayer for healing by telephone on 0757 982 4523 - Monday to Friday 10 am - 4 pm. Experienced prayer ministers will pray with you confidentially for healing of physical, emotional and spiritual problems.



### COMMUNITY PICNIC

Sunday, 25<sup>th</sup> July from 3 - 6 pm at King's Meadow Park, Napier Road (near Tesco). Do come and join us! Please bring your own food, drink, hand - sanitiser and any games you would like to share. This event is free and for everyone. King's Meadow is a short walk from Reading Station. There's a pay and display car park and plenty of other public car parks close by. The site is reasonably level and easy to access. There is a children's play area. Children will need to be supervised by a responsible adult. Public toilets and hand-washing facilities are available in the pavilion.

## SAINT OF THE WEEK: SS JOACHIM AND ANNE - 26<sup>TH</sup> JULY

Tomorrow is the Feast of Saint Joachim and Anne, parents of Our Lady, and therefore the grandparents of our Blessed Lord. Unfortunately, there is no mention of them in sacred Scripture, and we only know their names because of what has been handed down by Tradition, and that source is based on legend.

Whatever their names or facts about their lives is irrelevant. What we do know is that it was the parents of Mary who nurtured her; who taught her; who brought her up to be the worthy Mother of God. It was surely their teaching that led Mary to respond with faith: "Let it be done to Me according to Thy Word". Our devotion to them is an extension of our love of Mary and her Divine Son.

There are very few churches dedicated to Ss Joachim and Anne. One possible reason is that before the revision of the General Roman Calendar in 1969, Joachim and Anne had separate feast days, namely August 16<sup>th</sup> and July 26<sup>th</sup> respectively. The only church I could find dedicated to them both is in Swansea.

Pope Francis has designated today and every fourth Sunday in July as the World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly. Please pray for your grandparents, alive or dead, either today or tomorrow.

St Anne was (or still is) the go-to saint for single women looking for a future husband. There is actually a Novena to her for this specific purpose. However, many young women preferred the much shorter prayer: "O Good St Anne, please send me a man". *Ss Joachim and Anne - pray for us.* Mike Tomas.

### Invitation to an Ignatian Staycation



The Portsmouth Diocese Spiritual Formation Team invite you to take an Ignatian Staycation this summer on Wednesday evenings from 4<sup>th</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> August.

Due to travel restrictions, we may not be able to travel abroad this summer. So, the Spiritual Formation Team have planned an alternative journey which costs nothing! As this year is dedicated an 'Ignatian Year', you are invited in August to spend four sessions in reflection and imaginative contemplation, travelling as companions of St. Ignatius. No Covid tests, passports, or luggage required, just bring with you an open mind and the willingness to be surprised at the destination God will choose for you. Each Zoom meeting will be based around a scriptural meditation and will last less than one hour. Find out more [here](#).