

# 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*

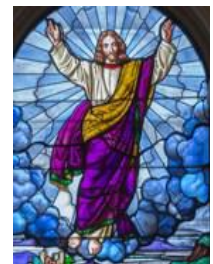
**Safeguarding Representative:  
Miriam da Cruz Fernandes**

☎ 0118 943 3524

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

## SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER – 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2021

**THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD:** A Holy Day of Obligation - will be celebrated next Thursday, 13<sup>th</sup> May. This Feast Day is now restored to its traditional position, forty days after the Resurrection. Fr Peter will celebrate Mass at 9.30 am at St Paul's School, followed by two public Masses here, *by invitation only*; both of which will be livestreamed, at 12 noon and 7 pm. Please join us online if you did not manage to secure a place here in church.



**GLOBAL ROSARY FOR AN END TO THE PANDEMIC:** The month of May is traditionally dedicated to Our Lady. The Holy Father has selected Shrines across the world to participate in his special initiative to pray the Rosary for the end of the pandemic. He initiated this on 1<sup>st</sup> May, and will end it on 31<sup>st</sup> May. **Please join Fr Peter online, every Saturday at 10 am, to recite the Rosary and Litany of the Blessed Virgin Mary.** *Follow the link on the website.*

### MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> MAY – SUNDAY, 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2021

Sunday, 9 <sup>th</sup> May <b>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	<b>5 pm (Vigil)</b> + Live-streamed	John Cronin's intentions
	<b>8.30 am</b> + Live-streamed	Gerry Brady RIP
	<b>11 am</b> + Live-streamed	Philip Marston RIP
Monday, 10 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>NO MASS</b>	
Tuesday, 11 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>12 noon</b> + Live-streamed	The Kerrigan family's intentions
Wednesday, 12 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>12 noon</b> + Live-streamed	John & Mary English RIP
Thursday, 13 <sup>th</sup> May <b>THE ASCENSION OF THE LORD</b>	<b>9.30 am</b>	St Paul's School Mass ( <i>at school</i> )
	<b>12 noon</b> + Live-streamed	Gerald MacMahon's intentions
	<b>7 pm</b> + Live-streamed	People of the parish
Friday, 14 <sup>th</sup> May <b>ST MATTHIAS, Apostle</b>	<b>Private</b>	Joan Keane RIP
Saturday, 15 <sup>th</sup> May	<b>Private</b>	
Sunday, 16 <sup>th</sup> May <b>SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>	<b>5 pm (Vigil)</b> + Live-streamed	Vidot François, Marie Thérèse & Joseph Louis Capron RIP
	<b>8.30 am</b> + Live-streamed	Jack & Theresa Kerrigan RIP
	<b>11 am</b> + Live-streamed	Gerald MacMahon's intentions

Masses marked + will be live-streamed: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRuCvuFlvKVpmI2vvGWdDKQ>

## IMPORTANT DATES

* Sunday, 16 <sup>th</sup> May	Fr Peter's 31 <sup>st</sup> Anniversary of Ordination to the Priesthood
* Sunday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> May	Solemnity of Pentecost, with parish Confirmations at 3 pm
* Thursday, 27 <sup>th</sup> May	Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest - feast
* Sunday, 30 <sup>th</sup> May	The Most Holy Trinity, solemnity
* Monday, 31 <sup>st</sup> May	The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary – feast
* Sunday, 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Transferred Solemnity of the Body & Blood of Our Lord Jesus – Corpus Christi
* Friday, 11 <sup>th</sup> June	The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus, solemnity
* Saturday, 26 <sup>th</sup> June	First Holy Communion Masses at 10.30 am & 1 pm
* Tuesday, 29 <sup>th</sup> June	Solemnity of Ss Peter & Paul
* Sunday, 11 <sup>th</sup> July	Annual Sea Sunday Mass – Apostleship of the Sea

### COLLECTION FOR 1<sup>ST</sup>/2<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2021

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£194.50
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£50.00
Loose Plate	£126.05
Clergy Training Fund	£89.65
First Holy Communion subs	£25.00
Mass Stole Fees	£30.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£515.20</b>
<b><u>RUNNING TOTALS</u></b>	
TF9 ("On Fire!")	£3,874.77
CAFOD (Overall Total)	£1,554.78
Clergy Assistance Fund	£328.12
Clergy Training Fund	£235.81
Easter offerings	£1,871.00
Holy Places	£188.75

### 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>

### CAFOD CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY APPEAL

As coronavirus brings devastation across India, CAFOD is working with experienced local Church agency, Caritas India, to provide vital support to poor and marginalised communities. Donations to CAFOD's Coronavirus Appeal will help Caritas India distribute PPE kits to frontline health workers, promote COVID and vaccine awareness campaigns, and set up safely run isolation and quarantine centres. You can donate online here: [cafod.org.uk/give](http://cafod.org.uk/give) Please keep praying for the people of India and all those affected by the pandemic. For more information visit our Facebook page (1) *CAFOD in Portsmouth* | Facebook. *CAFOD Portsmouth Blog* | Updates from *CAFOD in the Portsmouth Diocese* ([wordpress.com](http://wordpress.com)) and twitter @CAFODPortsmouth.

Thank you - Jo Lewry, Community Participation Coordinator, CAFOD Portsmouth - 0771 009 4447.

#### COFFEE & CHAT

After both Sunday Masses.  
Please follow the link on the website.

### 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, Michael & Joy O'Connell, 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.

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

### NEXT WEEKEND (16<sup>TH</sup> MAY): COLLECTION FOR CATHOLIC COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK

It is important that the voice of the Catholic church be heard in the UK, in the press, radio, TV, and on social media. This collection funds the small team who work to ensure this happens through press releases and the availability of spokespersons on Catholic issues. *Please be as generous as you can.*



### 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. Beginning on 21<sup>st</sup> May until 16<sup>th</sup> July, we will meet in the large hall on **Friday** mornings. We're open between 8.45 am - 11.30 am, during term time.

### YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

For information about the Year of St Joseph, including prayers and indulgences, please go to: [www.yearofstjoseph.org](http://www.yearofstjoseph.org).

## MASSES

Weekend Masses are *strictly by invitation only*. Please reply as soon as possible to Mass invitations. 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 NURSERY

St Joseph's Nursery has a few spaces available from April 2021. 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*.

## SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

SVP spends £2,600, annually, supplying CIRDIC with fruit, vegetables, dairy and meat products. To support this initiative, you can put your donation in the collection box in church, or using an envelope post it to the Parish Office, or give it to an SVP member. 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)*.

## CAFÉ THEOLOGIQUE: A HISTORY OF THE BIBLE

Interview with Emeritus Prof John Barton on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> May from 7.30 pm – 9 pm on Zoom. Shortcut: <https://u.nu/cafetheo> (full details: <https://zoom.us/j/99410788443?pwd=U09sMUVWb0tzYzRpRGxScUk3aVR1OT09> Meeting ID: 994 1078 8443. Passcode: 511541). Prof Barton is the Oriol & Laing Emeritus Professor of the Interpretation of Holy Scripture at the University of Oxford. A History of the Bible was featured on Radio 4's Book of the Week, read by Hugh Bonneville. "Scholarship and cerebral entertainment of the highest class" (Dominic Sandbrook, Sunday Times, Books of the Year).

## MARS, THEOLOGY AND ASTROBIOLOGY

Interview with the Revd Dr Andrew Davison on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> June from 7.30 – 9 pm on Zoom. Shortcut: <https://u.nu/cafetheo> (full details: <https://zoom.us/j/99410788443?pwd=U09sMUVWb0tzYzRpRGxScUk3aVR1OT09> Meeting ID: 994 1078 8443. Passcode: 511541). Dr Davison is the Starbridge Senior Lecturer in Theology and Natural Sciences at the University of Cambridge, and Canon Philosopher of St Albans Cathedral. He has doctorates in both Natural Science and Theology. His forthcoming monograph will explore the significance of exobiology on Christian faith.

## VACANCY – FOUNDATION GOVERNOR

At Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School. Closing Date for applications: 7<sup>th</sup> June 2021. A vacancy for Foundation Governor on the governing body has arisen and expressions of interests are being sought from practising committed Catholics for the ministry. The term of office is for four years from the date of appointment. Foundation Governors are personally appointed by Bishop Philip, Bishop of Portsmouth to diocesan schools to represent his interests and those of the Catholic community as a whole. The governors of a Catholic school work as a team, in close co-operation with the headteacher and all the staff. Foundation governors share the responsibilities of all governors:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding the headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent.

In addition to this, foundation governors are appointed specifically to ensure:

- that the religious character of the school is preserved
- that the school is conducted in accordance with its trust deed
- that the religious education curriculum is in accordance with the Bishop's policy for this Diocese.

The school would benefit from people with skills or experience in one or more of the following: accountancy, legal, contracts, project/facilities management, quantity surveying. Anyone interested in the mission of foundation governor should not be put off by a lack of experience. Appropriate training is available during the period of service. Nomination Forms are available from the school:

<http://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/schools/governance.php>.

Please e-mail [s.cook@hughfaringdon.org](mailto:s.cook@hughfaringdon.org).

The School website:

<https://www.hughfaringdon.org/information/governing-body>, or

Catholic and Academies Schools Office, Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, St. Swithun Wells House, 22 Edinburgh Road, Portsmouth, PO1 1DH. Or email: [governors@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:governors@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## CHRISTIAN AID WEEK 2021

Christian Aid Week begins this Sunday and does not officially end until Sunday, 16<sup>th</sup> May. With house-to-house collections ruled out by continuing lockdown restrictions, fundraising has become much more streamlined. Richard Canning, our local Christian Aid organiser has published our online giving page at: <https://giving.tapsimple.org/online/christian-aid/caw21-st-joseph-s-church-tilehurst>. To view St Catherine's Christian Aid service - the recording will be uploaded to Facebook, and will be watchable *from 10 am on Sunday* at [www.facebook.com/St.Catherines.Tilehurst](http://www.facebook.com/St.Catherines.Tilehurst) It will also be available on YouTube after the "live" broadcast on Sunday.



**SAINT OF THE WEEK:  
ST MATTHIAS - 14<sup>TH</sup> MAY**

We have all come across unlucky losers, whether it be individuals or teams. However, spare a thought for a man named Joseph, known as Barsabbas [not to be confused with Barabbas], because he must have been the unluckiest loser of all time. Why? Because he was the one that lost the contest with Matthias (whose feast we celebrate on Friday), to be the Apostle to replace Judas. Peter addressed about one hundred and twenty people to propose the way that they were to decide how to choose the new apostle. There was just one criterion: the new man had to be someone who had been a disciple from the beginning; someone who had witnessed the Crucifixion and the Ascension, and who believed everything that Jesus taught. Two men fitted the description, namely Matthias and Barsabbas. After much prayer, the group cast lots to discern God's will. As we read in the Acts of the Apostles "they then drew lots for them, and as the lot fell to Matthias, he was listed as one of the twelve apostles." (Acts 1:26). This is the first and only time Matthias is mentioned in Scripture and very little is known about him. He went on to preach in Judea, Cappadocia and Ethiopia. Matthias was martyred, possibly by an axe. However, details of how and when he died are uncertain. *St Matthias - pray for us.* Mike Tomas

**ST JOSEPH'S PARISH OFFICE**

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 offer a Mass, or for newsletter items.

**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.

**PRO-LIFE CHAIN: SATURDAY, 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY  
FROM 10 AM - 12 NOON ON KINGS ROAD.**

SPUC invites you to mark the 53rd anniversary of the Abortion Act coming into force in 1968, by joining our Pro-Life Chain for an hour or two. This is a peaceful, silent roadside vigil in solidarity with unborn children, their mothers and anyone suffering from the effects of abortion. We will be following Government guidance on Covid-secure requirements. The meeting point will be at Cemetery Junction from 9:50 am, before lining up down the road at 10 am. For more information, contact *Martin* at [spucreading@gmail.com](mailto:spucreading@gmail.com)

**NEWSLETTER DELIVERY**

During the 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.*

**THE LONDON JESUIT CENTRE OFFERS:**

An opportunity for prayer, Saturday Retreats: 2 - 4.30 pm. The next one is 19<sup>th</sup> June. Retreats in Daily Life in June and July. Brian Purfield's Introduction to the Bible begins on 21<sup>st</sup> June. He is offering morning or evening classes. Booking open. We are also delighted to announce that following the easing of lockdown restrictions, the Heythrop Library, one of the largest specialist theology and philosophy libraries in Europe, is now open Mondays - Thursdays. For those engaged in spiritual direction, retreat leading, and pastoral ministry, we offer: Continuing Professional Development for Spiritual Directors – a course for spiritual directors with Dr Kate Stogdon RC, and Ruth Holgate. Booking open. Our new Manresa Days:

- Healthy Spiritual Direction and Understanding Spiritual Abuse with Dr Lisa Oakley on 21<sup>st</sup> May.
- Psychological Issues in Spiritual Direction with Dr Roger Dawson SJ on 8<sup>th</sup> June.
- Consolation and desolation with Fr Paul Nicholson SJ on 19<sup>th</sup> June.
- Scripture passages for use in spiritual direction and retreats with Brian Purfield on 8<sup>th</sup> July.

You can book online for each event via our website: [www.londonjesuitcentre.org](http://www.londonjesuitcentre.org). *Fr Adrian Porter SJ - Director.*

**ACT NOW AND STOP DISABILITY ABORTION  
UP TO BIRTH IN NORTHERN IRELAND**

Earlier this year, the Northern Ireland Assembly voted on the Severe Fetal Impairment Abortion (Amendment) Bill, and it passed Second Stage by 48 votes to 12. The Northern Ireland Health Committee is now undertaking a consultation on the Bill and is seeking submissions from the public. It is important that as many people as possible submit to the consultation in support of the Bill to clearly show that there is widespread support for this important change. Right to Life UK has set up an easy-to-use tool on their website that makes it simple to complete your submission. You can do so by following the link below. It only takes 30 seconds! [www.righttolife.org.uk/nidisabilityconsultation](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/nidisabilityconsultation)

**PAX CHRISTI**

During the week 15<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> May, Pax Christi, the Catholic Peace organisation, will be trying to raise funds to make up for lost income due to Covid19. Fausta is having a dance-a-thon, Bruce is delivering a peace message to foreign embassies in London, Matt is cycling 50 miles visiting peace sites, Pat is going on a walk from Victoria to the Peace Pagoda in Battersea Park, Rachel will be cycling for 75 miles, to celebrate Pax Christi's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. More fundraisers are joining the fun. Please go to their website [www.paxchristi.org.uk/register-you-interest/](http://www.paxchristi.org.uk/register-you-interest/) for details on how you can sponsor them.