

# St Joseph's Newsletter

Sunday 2 August 2020

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday OT: Year A



## Scam emails/hoaxes

Please read the section on 'Cybercrime'

## Office Re-opening

St Joseph's Parish office will be open for telephone and email contact **only** from next Tuesday, 4th August. There will be no face-to-face contact initially. This will be reviewed in September.

Office hours will be Tuesdays & Fridays from 9am - 12.30pm.

Please ring: 0118 942 8632 or email: [sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk), or drop Mass offerings/correspondence through the presbytery letterbox.

Fr Peter is away for a few weeks with his parents who are both quite poorly.

Welcome to Fr Richard who has kindly offered to cover while Fr Peter is away.

## **GDPR statement**

*Thank you for registering to join the email group at St Joseph's Parish Tilehurst. Your privacy is important to us, and we want to communicate with you in a way which has your consent and is in line with data protection law.*

*Your name and contact details are stored in a private document and are only visible to the admin team. We will use your details only for the purpose of communicating with information about St Joseph's Parish Tilehurst. You may withdraw this consent at any time by emailing [stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk](mailto:stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk) or any member of the admin team. The admin team consists of Sue and Geoff Collier, Ann Epps and Anne Dennehy. St Joseph's office is currently closed. We will inform you of any changes to this. Please contact the admin team if you have any questions.*

Please ring or email if you have anything to include in the newsletter.

Parish office: 0118 9428632 [sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Parish website: <http://www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk>

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/stjosephstilehurst>

# Reflection for Today

**Gospel:** Matthew 14:13-21

Jesus feeds the five thousand with a little bread and some fish; there is even food left over once everyone has shared what they have.

Today's Gospel is a very familiar story. Jesus demonstrates God's hospitality and generosity through the blessing and sharing of food. He shows us that all are welcome and we are invited to the great banquet spread for all to share.

Each person is given a fair share, enough for his or her needs, and there is even some left over. We don't hear of anyone taking too much and leaving the next person with nothing. Nobody has to pass a test to get in, to pay for a ticket, or to show their invitation card. Everyone is simply asked to sit down together. Today's readings from the prophet Isaiah and from Matthew's Gospel emphasise that to go to one of God's parties you don't have to buy a ticket; and the invitation is open to everyone. There are no closed lists. It's not exclusive – there are no red carpets and crush barriers, just an open door.

Jesus takes pity on the crowds. His heart is full of compassion and love. His open-hearted generosity and kindness flow through the story. Nobody is left out. Nobody is staring in from the outside. At first his disciples don't know what to do – they can't imagine how it's going to be possible to share so little food among so many – but they are told to share out what is freely given. Food and drink are gifts from God, to be freely shared among all who are in need.

Jesus' generosity, hospitality and welcome show us how we are called to act. Everything we have is a gift from God and we are called to share it generously with others, especially with those who don't have enough. Since Jesus invites all to come to the feast, without money, without tickets, without worry or fear, then our role in life is to invite others, to open our hearts to all and to welcome them into our lives. We can feel threatened by such an idea, afraid of being so open, anxious about making ourselves vulnerable. Our lives can be dominated by fear, by holding on tight to all we have, but this is not God's way. God is infinite love and compassion, infinite gift.

What is our response to that gift? Isaiah calls on us to attend to the spiritual, not just the material; to set our hearts on God, not on goods. Jesus spent time in prayer as well as in doing, and in practical action as well as in contemplation. The two are both to be part of our response to God's generosity. We too are asked to "take pity on the crowd"; that is, to respond in compassion to the needs of others.

And we are asked not to judge. A common temptation is to divide up the "deserving" and the "undeserving", to make our own invitation list and keep the others outside the locked gates, to choose who "deserves" our generosity. Let us try instead to give honestly, freely and openly of our time, ourselves and all that we have. Let's respond to God's gifts by freeing ourselves to love.

# Cybercrime

Coronavirus COVID-19 has had a dramatic effect on the way we live and work, resulting in us spending more time online in our own homes than ever before. Sadly, cyber criminals are exploiting this by perpetrating online scams such as pretending to be your parish priest or fraudulently selling PPE and hand sanitiser, claiming to be from the government or banks offering COVID-19 'relief payments', and seeking donations for charities or the NHS.

Please view this factsheet from the diocese for some guidance and helpful hints!  
[https://mcusercontent.com/9f45e1d9464cfcb22c391f016/files/ad950c3a-72b8-47bb-9256-19c4f56ced5b/CORONAVIRUS\\_AND\\_CYBER\\_CRIME.pdf](https://mcusercontent.com/9f45e1d9464cfcb22c391f016/files/ad950c3a-72b8-47bb-9256-19c4f56ced5b/CORONAVIRUS_AND_CYBER_CRIME.pdf)

Some people have received an email, pretending to be from a parish priest. In the email, the scammer asks for you to purchase a google play card. Another email says you have registered for a PDFCOMPLETE account. Please do not respond or click any links if you receive these emails.

Spam emails may use an almost identical address. If you receive an email from Fr Peter or the office, check that it does come from exactly the right email address or email the office to confirm: [sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Don't be tricked by clever spam emails. Verify the address. Verify, if necessary with the person that you think has sent the email.

If you are unsure, get in touch with the person who sent you the email.

If the email includes a link don't click it unless you are sure it's ok

If you are not expecting the email, be cautious

If the English is bad, it could well be a scam

If the wording is general rather than personal, again it could be suspicious

Example: *"look at this image, it's a good idea isn't it"* with a link for you to click  
Look carefully at the email address - is it exactly right? or slightly different?

If the email requests money or personal details... most likely it is a scam.

Some clever scammers use words that get you excited and you click the link before remembering to do your basic checks. Eg: *"this is so funny, I couldn't stop laughing"*

DO check with the sender. DO NOT use 'reply' in case you are replying to the scammer! Instead start a new email to the sender if you know their address.

Many spam emails show up if you put the message in a google search.

If you do have concerns, please check with someone you trust

The police have a website too <https://www.actionfraud.police.uk/cybercrime>

# Saint of the Week / Events

**Saint of the Week:** St Dominic 8th August

Many saints feast days are celebrated on the day that they died.. Dominic's feast day is on the day that he was born, that is 8th August [he was born in 1170]. He died on 6th August 1221. Since the 15th century that date has been the feast of the Transfiguration so St Dominic couldn't have that date because it was "already booked".

He was born in Caleruega, Spain. He founded the Order of Preachers (Dominicans) to combat false teaching in southern France and then to preach and teach everywhere. His friars had to set an example of life lived truly in accordance with the Gospel. If you see the letters "OP" after a priest's name you know he is a Dominican. It stands for "Ordinis Praedicatorum" - Order of Preachers“.

Dominicans are known as "Blackfriars" because of the black cappa (cloak) that they wear over their white habits.

Their motto is "Laudare, Benedicere, Praedicare" - praise, bless, preach.

St Dominic, pray for us

*Mike*

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## Live events for parishioners

### Sundays: 12pm Coffee and Chat

Grab a coffee and have a catch-up with friends from St Josephs.

<https://pepsico.zoom.us/j/65563666322?pwd=ZlpNYlBxbTZSUIJZR3lwSHJRSnhCUT09>

Or join by phone: 0330 088 5830 Meeting ID: 655 6366 6322 Password: 085487

### Saturday 10am Rosary

**PLEASE NOTE THERE WILL BE NO ROSARY ON SATURDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST**

Join **online:** <https://meet.jit.si/StjoTilehurstOnlineMeetingPlace>

Or join by **phone:** 0121 468 3154 Access code 2225 6148 96#

*Don't forget the 'hash' or 'pound' character (#) at the end*

Check your phone contract does include 01 numbers for free

Please ring Geoff on 0118 9412458 if you need any help joining these calls

If none of the planned events are suitable for you, please let us know.

All suggestions will be considered.

# Public Mass

## Live Streaming

We are live streaming masses from St Josephs at these times:

Sat 5pm (Sunday Vigil) / Sun 10am / Wed 11am

Here is the YouTube link for live mass from St Joseph's Tilehurst

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

**MASKS:** We have always insisted that masks must be worn in church.  
Note that the Government is now making this a legal requirement.

## Public Mass

During holiday time, we are short of **cleaners** and **stewards**. If you can help, even occasionally, please send an email to [stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk](mailto:stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk)

Attendance at Mass is by **INVITATION ONLY** and anyone wanting a place at mass **MUST REGISTER** first. Please be flexible and avoid asking for specific days unless you have a special date, such as a Mass intention or anniversary. In which case we'll do our best to meet your request.

Invites for Wednesday 11am are sent on Mondays; please reply by midday Tuesday. Invites for Saturday 5pm and Sunday 10am masses are sent on Thursdays; please respond by midday on Friday.

Please check your email regularly, including your JUNK folder. If we have cancellations we might invite you to more than one mass in the week. If we don't hear from you, we will reallocate your place.

It takes a lot of admin to allocate places as fairly as possible. Please help by responding to emails quickly AND let us know if you can't attend so we can give your seat(s) to someone else. Please also let us know if you going away and we won't send an invitation for that time.

If you haven't yet registered, send us an email: [stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk](mailto:stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk)

**Vulnerable?** The rules changed for the vulnerable on 1<sup>st</sup> August to advise that it's ok now to go out. However, the guidance still recommends to keep your distance. Please be safe. If you do want to come, consider putting Wednesday mass as your preference when fewer families are attending.

**Remember!!** there is still NO obligation to attend mass

Email communication is preferred if possible: [stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk](mailto:stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk)

OR ring this number: Anne Dennehy: 07765 146234 (ONLY to register for mass)

# Prayers Please

## Chris Quinn RIP

Nuala, Kieren and the family of the late Chris Quinn would like to thank the parishioners and friends for their prayers, mass offerings, kindness and support. Dad would really have been very moved by the love and kindness. God bless. Nuala x

## Mass Intentions

Please send an email to the office if you would like Fr Peter to say a mass:

[sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

Suggested donation £10 – pay online or with envelope through the door

## Your Prayers please:

For Chris Quinn RIP, Sheila Robinson RIP, Mary Murray RIP, Catherine MacMahon RIP.

For Jackie Hopper, Hilary Cameron, and for Maureen Hanson

For Dick O'Brien who is ill and receiving treatment

For the Divine Mercy sisters in Bamenda

For Fr Peter's parents who are both undergoing treatment at the moment.

For the sick and housebound: Nora Colley, Pat Togher, Bernadette Smeesters, Gerard Tomas, Lya Turner, Charles Livingston, Barbara Turner, Mary Hoban, Jean Trott, Stefen Griffiths, Nina Aramo, Jo Boase, Julie Thompson, Michael & Joy O'Connell, Carmela Garzia, Kathleen Urban, Helen, Natasha, Marek, Bridget, Iga, Maggie Tranter, Jadwiga Wlasak, Anne Rees, Ged & Maureen Murphy.

<b>St Alphonsus Liguori,</b> Founder, Bishop, Doctor of the Church		
Saturday, 1 <sup>st</sup> August		
Sunday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> August	5 pm (Vigil)	Sean Murphy RIP
<b>EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	10 am	Beatrice Pinto RIP
Monday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> August		
<b>St John Vianney, Priest</b>		
Tuesday, 4 <sup>th</sup> August		
Wednesday, 5 <sup>th</sup> August	11 am	Patricia MacMahon RIP
Thursday, 6 <sup>th</sup> August		
<b>THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD</b>		
Friday, 7 <sup>th</sup> August		
Saturday, 8 <sup>th</sup> August		
<b>St Dominic, Founder</b>		
Sunday, 9 <sup>th</sup> August	5 pm (Vigil)	Domingo Rodrigues RIP
<b>NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	10 am	Patricia MacMahon RIP