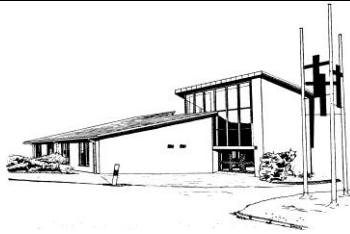


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST



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

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

🌐 www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk 📌 St Joseph's Church, Tilehurst, Reading

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

Royal Berkshire Hospital Chaplain:

Fr John Paul Lyttle ☎ 0118 322 7105 (RBH) ☎ 0118 957 2149 (Parish) ☎ 0739 189 6559 (Mobile)

GAUDETE SUNDAY - REJOICE! - 3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT (A) - 15TH DECEMBER 2019

**** LAST CHANCE TO ATTEND AN ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE:
MONDAY, 16TH DECEMBER, 7.30 PM AT ST JAMES' CHURCH ****

CHRISTMAS MASSES:

Tuesday, 24th December at 5.45 pm - Carols before Christmas Family Mass at 6 pm.

Tuesday, 24th December at 11.30 pm - Carols before Midnight Mass.

Wednesday, 25th December - Christmas Day Mass at 9.30 am**.

**** Please note that there is only one Mass on Christmas Day morning ****

Thursday, 26th December - Feast of St Stephen - Mass at 12 noon.

Medals to be presented to the Altar Servers during this Mass.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Nora Colley, Dick O'Brien, Sheila Robinson, Ellen Knox, Pat Togher, Bernadette Smeesters, Gerard Tomas, Lya Turner, Charles Livingston, Barbara Turner, Mary Hoban, Rita Boyce, Mary O'Shea, Jean Trott, Stefan Griffiths, Nina Aramo, Jo Boase, Julie Thompson, Michael & Joy O'Connell, Carmela Garzia, Aldona Glowa, Kathleen Urban, Helen, Natasha, Marek & Bridget. If you would like to add a name to this list, or if you have any queries, please contact *Sheila* in the *Parish Office*.

MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 15TH - SUNDAY, 22ND DECEMBER 2019

Sunday, 15 th December <i>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ('GAUDETE')</i>	8.30 am	Steven McCreight RIP
	10.30 am	Jackie Cattigan RIP
	6.30 pm	Syro Malabar
Monday, 16 th December	7 pm	St Paul's School Advent Service
Tuesday, 17 th December	12 noon	Tessie Joyce RIP
	6.30 pm	Simbang Gabi (Christmas Mass)
Wednesday, 18 th December	12 noon	Martin Patten RIP
Thursday, 19 th December	9.30 am	Tessie Joyce RIP
Friday, 20 th December	7 pm	Eileen Drake RIP
Saturday, 21 st December	10 am	Trevor's Intentions
Sunday, 22 nd December <i>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT</i>	8.30 am	Tessie Joyce RIP
	10.30 am	Michael Heneghan, Martin & Kathleen Gaynard & John Nevin RIP

EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT - Saturday at 9.20 am followed by 10 am Mass

ROSARY & CONFESSIONS - Saturday following 10 am Mass

Responsorial Psalm: "Come, Lord, and save us."

COLLECTION FOR 8TH DECEMBER 2019

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£279.10
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£36.35
Loose Plate	£320.86
Candle Money	£53.13
Hall Hire	£162.00
Funeral Expenses	£766.00
Mass Stole Fees	£40.00
Postage	£28.06
TF3 (CAFOD)	£5.00
TOTAL	£1,690.50
<u>RUNNING TOTALS</u>	
TF3 (CAFOD)	£394.25
TF9 ("On Fire!")	£2,986.31
Divine Mercy Centre	£288.69
Harvest Fast Day (CAFOD)	£916.52
Bamenda Sunday	£1,135.35

PRAYER REQUESTS

There is a Prayer Request box in the church porch into which you are invited to place any intentions that you may have. Each week during one of the Masses, Fr Peter will pray especially for those intentions. *PLEASE DO NOT PUT ANY MONEY IN THE BOX.*

GOING INTO HOSPITAL?

On admission, all Catholics should inform the hospital staff that they are Roman Catholic and if they wish to have Holy Communion or see a priest. All arrangements in RBH are 'patient led'. Royal Berkshire Hospital Chaplain: *Fr JP Lyttle. Mobile: 0739 189 6559. RBH: 0118 322 7105.* Sunday Mass 4 pm. Patients, staff & visitors welcome.

WEDNESDAY PRAYER GROUP

The next prayer group will take place on Wednesday, 18th December at 9.30 am at St Catherine's. *All are welcome.*

TEA/COFFEE

Tea/Coffee will be served after 10.30 am Mass. *All are welcome.*

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

Next programme starts in Lent 2020. Open to all young people in year 7 or above. *Registration forms available from Parish Office.*

"I send my messenger ahead of you to prepare your way before you." Are you called to be sent by Jesus as a priest, deacon, sister or brother? To explore further, contact *Fr. John Cooke*.
vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call *0132 931 8869*.

APF

It's time to empty the red boxes again. Could I have all contributions by 29th December please? Any money received after this date cannot be included in the 2019 accounts. *Thank you - MikeTomas, APF Secretary.*

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH OFFICE

The Parish Office will be closed from week commencing Monday, 23rd December, and will re-open on Tuesday, 31st December. Fr Peter will do his best to answer any urgent queries. Any non-urgent matters may be left until the Parish Office is open again. *Thank you.*

REMINDER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 22ND DECEMBER

- **Counters:**
P & C Chesworth.
- **Mass readers**:**
8.30 am.
1st Reading – N Bricker.
2nd Reading – E Millichap.
10.30 am
1st Reading – R Hopkins.
2nd Reading – C Wall.
- **Eucharistic Ministers**:**
8.30 am
E Wooller, T Parnell & J Scarpa.
10.30 am
C Dias, M Nevin & M Fernandes.
- **Eucharistic Minister - Oakwood Ward:**
C Fearn.

****Eucharistic Ministers & Readers: Will you kindly note that due to constant swapping around of dates, the accuracy of the above names cannot be guaranteed. Thank you**.**

BAPTISM COURSE

The next Baptism course at St Joseph's will be on Wednesdays, 15th & 22nd January 2020 from 8 - 9.30 pm in the large Church hall. We will be using a programme called: Baptism – Helping your child get the most out of life. Godparents are also welcome to join us for discussion and to watch a DVD. The courses only run every few months, so if you are new or expectant parents, it might be better to attend this course if you wish your child to be baptised fairly soon.

If you are considering Baptism for your child, whatever their age, please register for the course by contacting *Mary Philip* on *961 5905* email: *mphilip@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk*.

SIMBANG GABI (CHRISTMAS MASS)

On Tuesday, 17th December led by Fr Jimmy Lindero here at St Joseph's at 6.30 pm. The Reading Filipino Community invites everyone to their Traditional Christmas Mass. Hog roast in the hall after Mass. *All welcome.*

ROTAS – COUNTERS/OAKWOOD

The rotas for 2020 for the above are now ready for collection from the church porch. If you are on either team, please collect your copy.

CHRISTMAS OFFERINGS

Traditionally, your offerings at Christmas are for the personal use of the priest serving the parish and form the major part of his annual income. *Please be as generous as you can. Thank you.*

CRIB OFFERINGS

This year, we will be donating crib offerings to the Friends of the Holy Land.

CHRISTMAS EVE CHURCH CLEAN

A special Christmas church clean will be held on Monday, 24th December at 10 am. *Many hands make light work! Please do come and join us.*

**ANNUAL NOVENA PILGRIMAGE
TO KNOCK SHRINE**

Led by Fr Michael Dennehy from Friday, 15th August to Tuesday, 18th August 2020. £699 per person. Single rooms may be available at a supplement. Price includes Full Board, at the Knock House Hotel. All entertainment, all excursions and guided tours included. Please see poster on the noticeboard and/or ask for a copy of the itinerary from *English Martyrs Parish Office (0118 957 2149)*.

ST PAUL'S SCHOOL

Caretaker required for January 2020, or sooner - 20 hours per week (plus some overtime). Grade/Salary C. See poster in church porch.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDIUGORJE

Many people like to book their holidays well in advance; if you would like to consider travelling to Medjugorje as a parish, please add your name and telephone number to Fr Peter's list. *Provisional* details are set out below:

16th - 25th September 2020 - 9 nights. Accommodation is based on bed, breakfast and evening meal. All rooms are en-suite and air conditioned. Tariff: Single occupancy: 35 Euros per night = 315 Euros per person. Shared occupancy: 25 Euros per night = 225 Euros per person. (Note: any possible increase on these rates in due course will be very minimal). Also, there will be an additional total return payment of 40 Euros per person for coach transfers between the airport and Medjugorje.

Flight details:

Outbound: BA0842 LHR - SPLIT (Terminal 5) departing at 13.35 - 16th September 2020.

Return: BA0843 SPLIT - LHR (Terminal 5) departing at 14.20 - 25th September 2020.

YOUTH SVP GROUP

Commissioning Ceremony TODAY during 10.30 am Mass. The commissioning itself will take place during the homily by Fr Peter, and two SVP Officers from Central Office. Refreshments for families, friends and all parishioners to follow in the small hall afterwards.

CHRISTMAS PARTY TODAY 12 NOON - 1.30 PM

Our Christmas Party will follow shortly after the Commissioning Ceremony in the main hall. Please join us for some festive fun, delicious food, music, Secret Santa and a huge cake in celebration of the newly commissioned Young Vincentians! Don't miss out - bring your friends - All welcome! *Patrizia Chessell - 0774 054 7922*. May we also take this opportunity of wishing all our members and their families a blessed Christmas and a very happy, healthy New Year!

THANK YOU

The family of the late Christine Fisher would like to thank Fr Peter and St Joseph's parishioners for their support and prayers at this very difficult time. *Rebecca and Helen (Fisher)*.

Can you help? I have lived in my present flat for 25 years and the council has happily paid the £700 rent, and is happy to continue. The owner is selling the house and I have searched since August and am on Sheltered Housing list. I need a ground floor, 1 bedroom unfurnished flat. Landlords refuse Council tenants. I have very good reference. Do you know anyone who has accommodation? Payment every 2 weeks from Council DIRECT to landlord. *A desperate parishioner*. Please contact St Joseph's Parish Office if you can help.

PARKING AT THE 6 PM CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS

Would you kindly consider walking to Mass or parking your car considerably further away from Berkshire Drive in order to avoid traffic congestion. Park Lane Orthodontics practice at 65 Park Lane has kindly offered their six car parking spaces as an overflow for our use.

THANK YOU

The Senior Citizens' Christmas lunch last Saturday was a great success. The parish wishes to thank the organisers and all those who worked so hard to ensure that the event was a happy one. *Many thanks to you all!*

**BLESSED HUGH FARINGDON CATHOLIC SCHOOL
YEAR 7 ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2020**

REMINDER: The deadline to submit a Supplementary Information Form (SIF) to Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School so that your application can be ranked correctly is 31st December. If you have any queries, please contact *Mrs Farrelly, Admissions Administrator* via *admissions@hughfaringdon.org* or *0118 957 4730*.

Over the past few years St John Fisher parish, Reading's Latin 'Extraordinary Form' Parish, has welcomed in the New Year, on 31st December, with a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration from 11 pm - Midnight, followed by a sung Midnight Mass, at St William of York Church, Upper Redlands Road, Reading. We are going to be doing the same again this year, with a little celebration in the church annexe afterwards. All are very welcome! Clearly, a full Holy Hour followed by a Sung Mass would feel quite a liturgical marathon for many, and so folk are welcome to pick and choose which elements they wish to attend. Wishing you all a blessed Advent, *Fr Matthew Goddard, Parish Priest, St John Fisher Parish. Tel: 0118 966 5284*.

UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS

A booking has been made for a Christmas meal at the Fox & Hounds, City Road, on Wednesday, 18th December. Those who are coming should arrive at 12.20 pm for 12.30 pm lunch. *Marian Telepneff*.



Please note that there is a designated wheelchair area in our church, situated beside the choir.