

# NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST



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

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

**Safeguarding Representative:**  
**Miriam da Cruz Fernandes**

☎ 0118 943 3524

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

## THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) – 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021

### ASH WEDNESDAY – 17<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY

It is a day of fasting and abstinence, mandatory on both Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, when God calls us to repent with prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Due to the pandemic, ashes cannot be distributed in the usual way; instead, Fr Peter will sprinkle the ashes on the top of parishioners' heads. There will not be the usual visible sign on the forehead.

There will be two Masses celebrated at 11 am & 7 pm; both will be live streamed. The weekday 'walk-in' rule will NOT apply for Ash Wednesday. Please only attend if you have an invitation for the Mass. Spaces at the 11 am Mass have already been allocated to the parishioners who normally attend Mass on Wednesdays. Seats at the 7 pm Mass will be allocated on a first-come-first-served basis, to those who are registered. We understand that we do not have the capacity to fit everyone in who would like to come, and we are sorry that some of you will be disappointed. However, the Masses will both be livestreamed on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCruCvuFlvKVpmI2vvGWdDKQ>. Thank-you for your understanding.

### MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 14<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY – SUNDAY, 21<sup>ST</sup> FEBRUARY 2021

Sunday, 14 <sup>th</sup> February <b>SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>5 pm (Vigil)</b> + Live-streamed	Maureen Hanson RIP
	<b>10 am</b> + Live-streamed	Terry Melia RIP
Monday, 15 <sup>th</sup> February	Private	Rita Williams RIP
Tuesday, 16 <sup>th</sup> February	<b>12 noon</b> + Live-streamed	Thomas Donohue RIP
17 <sup>th</sup> February <b>BEGINNING OF THE SEASON OF LENT</b> <b>ASH WEDNESDAY,</b> <b>Day of Fasting &amp; Abstinence</b>	<b>11 am</b> + Live-streamed	People of the Parish
	<b>7 pm</b> + Live-streamed	Caroline McCann's intentions
Thursday, 18 <sup>th</sup> February	Private	Eileen Brett & family & grandchildren's intentions
Friday, 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Private	Vidot François, Marie Thérèse & Joseph Louis Capron RIP
Saturday, 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Private	
Sunday, 21 <sup>st</sup> February <b>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	<b>5 pm (Vigil)</b> + Live-streamed	Maureen Hanson RIP
	<b>8.30 am*</b> + Live-streamed	Helen Gallagher RIP
	<b>11 am*</b>	Jean Trott RIP

Masses marked + will be live-streamed: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCruCvuFlvKVpmI2vvGWdDKQ>

\*Note reinstatement of two Sunday Masses from next weekend: 21<sup>st</sup> February - 8.30 am & 11 am\*

**COLLECTION FOR  
6<sup>TH</sup>/7<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021**

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£202.00
Loose Plate	£154.61
Cathedral Fund	£7.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£363.61</b>
<b>RUNNING TOTALS</b>	
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	£886.33
Lenten Alms	£463.05
Bamenda Sunday	£714.48
Christmas Offerings	£1,352.50
First Holy Communion fees	£825.00
Cathedral Fund	£176.50
Racial Justice	£13.50

**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>

**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, Ged & Maureen Murphy, 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.*

**ST JOSEPH'S ROSARY:  
ZOOM MEETING**

Saturdays at 10 am with Fr Peter online  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/74031026138?pwd=cE14RGFicHFVNXF3SXhKNzVWZGJudz09>  
Meeting ID: 740 3102 6138 Passcode: Fwf0na

**LENTEN RETREAT**

'Finding Hope in Scripture' for everyone. Every Monday evening during Lent, for 6 weeks, we will discover aspects of the virtue of hope from 6 different Bible passages, so that we may grow in hope in these difficult times, and find ways to share our hope with others. Our reflection will be followed by a time of live-streamed adoration and Compline with the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph. Register here to participate:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEtc-2grjkiGtU8vPFJea2ktvR5U0MZ1mrL>.

*Sr Hyacinthe Defos du Rau, OP* - Formation for Mission Team Leader - Department for Evangelisation. Tel: 0159 068 1874.

**FIRST HOLY COMMUNION CATECHISTS**

An opportunity for catechists to discuss and share ideas about preparation of children for First Holy Communion within parishes during the current COVID-19 restrictions and uncertainties. Many catechists have expressed concerns about how they should work with the children in their parishes. Maybe we can support one another. If you wish to join the discussion, please register below - 3<sup>rd</sup> March from 7.30 - 8.30 pm  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYkduChrDooE9TwXMdU6bT7Q5nG30lvUHYt>

**ST JOSEPH'S PARISH OFFICE**

The Parish Office is open on Thursdays & Fridays from 9 am - 12.30 pm, for 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 if you would like anything to be included in the newsletter.

**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.

**ST JOSEPH'S COFFEE 'N' CHAT:  
ZOOM MEETING**

Sundays at 11 am  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/75345343242?pwd=ODJBR0RobE43bFJMS3NHR3prWnl1UT09>  
Meeting ID: 753 4534 3242 Passcode: VAh98R

## RIGHT TO LIFE UK

Ask your MP to sign a parliamentary motion calling on the Government to introduce new guidance on fetal pain. A new parliamentary motion (EDM 1340) is calling on the Government to introduce new guidance on fetal pain. The evidence that babies can feel pain in the womb, and during many abortions, highlights the humanity of the unborn child, and provides another important reason to introduce legislation to protect the unborn child from abortion.

Right To Life UK has set up an easy-to-use tool which makes it simple to contact your MP, and ask them to sign this motion, calling on the Government to introduce new guidance on fetal pain. It only takes 30 seconds using this easy-to-use tool. This tool can be accessed via [www.righttolife.org.uk/FetalPainMotion](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/FetalPainMotion).

There is extensive evidence that many women in the Uyghur Muslim community in Xinjiang, China are being subjected to forced abortions.

Lord Alton is currently championing an amendment to the Trade Bill which would give British courts a role in determining whether a country is committing genocide. This would help with putting international pressure on the Chinese Communist Party to stop the practice of forcing abortions on the Uyghur Muslim community along with the wider human rights abuses that evidence shows is being perpetuated against this community. If you would like to email your MP asking them to support the amendment, you can do this easily using a tool which has been set up on the Genocide Response campaign website which can be accessed by visiting the link below:

<https://genocideresponse.org/>

*Daniel Turner, Right To Life UK - 0173 246 0911.*  
[daniel@righttolife.org.uk](mailto:daniel@righttolife.org.uk)

### 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*.

### TO ALL CATHOLIC UNIVERSE & CATHOLIC TIMES READERS

Did you know that you can get your Catholic newspaper delivered direct to your home every week, post-free? Please go to [www.thecatholicuniverse.com](http://www.thecatholicuniverse.com), or call them on 0161 820 5722, and they will make the necessary arrangements for you.

## SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Dear Parishioners,

Many thanks for your continued generous donations of tinned food and clothing. They are much appreciated by the 72 homeless adults whom CIRDIC supports. We will continue to organize collections, on the first Saturday of every month, in the church car park, from 2 - 3 pm. The next collection will be on 6<sup>th</sup> March.

In addition to the tinned food and clothing which you donate, SVP also spends around £2,600, annually, regularly supplying CIRDIC with fruit, vegetables, dairy and meat products. Beyond supporting CIRDIC, we also spend around £1,000 annually supporting Launch Pad, another Reading charity, supporting SVP India and SVP Sudan, our twin charities, and supporting the needs of our elderly parishioners.

We realize that these are financially difficult times for many people, and we appreciate any donations you can provide to support what we do. You can donate cash/cheques via the collection box in the church, in envelopes, posted through the Parish Office letterbox, or given to us. Alternatively, you can make one-off, or ongoing donations, directly to our bank account; details are as follows:

Account Name: Saint Vincent de Paul

Sort Code: 60-60-04

Account Number: 46075070.

Gift Aid: If you are a tax payer, there is a benefit in having your donations gift aided. SVP gets 25% additional money, versus what you donate, to spend on good causes. Provided you are a tax payer, if you wish to Gift Aid your donation, let me know your full name and address, or include it in your envelope with your donation.

All your contributions are helping the needy at an extremely crucial time. Your generosity is much appreciated. May God bless you. *Jack Ewins, Saint Vincent de Paul*. Mobile: 0773 449 9190. Email: [jackewins9@gmail.com](mailto:jackewins9@gmail.com).

### PRAYER FOR THE PARISH

Father, pour your Spirit on  
the people of our parish.

Grant us a new vision of your glory,  
A new experience of your power,  
A new faithfulness to your word,  
And a new consecration to your service,  
So that your love may grow among us  
And your kingdom come.

Amen.

*(Attributed to Pope St John XXIII)*

**RESPOND TO DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH  
CONSULTATION TO STOP  
HOME ABORTIONS!**

The Department of Health is holding a public consultation on whether to continue the practice of allowing abortion providers to send abortion pills to women so that they can perform their own abortion at home. We need as many pro-life people as possible to complete the Department of Health's questionnaire in order to help stop dangerous DIY abortions becoming permanent. SPUC has prepared a briefing which gives a step-by-step guide to completing the consultation questionnaire. Please go to <https://www.spuc.org.uk/Get-Involved/Campaigns/England-DIY-Abortion-Consultation>. The consultation ends on 26<sup>th</sup> February 2021.



**CAFOD LENT FAMILY FAST DAY  
- FRIDAY, 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

This is an opportunity to support our overseas brothers and sisters in need. Eat a simple meal on that day so that others can simply eat! Through CAFOD's global network your support can reach the ends of the earth, so please give whatever you can, or donate online at <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Fast-Day>.

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This Lent, CAFOD invites you and the whole Catholic community of England & Wales to [Join the Big Walk for Water! | CAFOD](#) virtual event on Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> February. We are asking everyone to walk in solidarity with those who have to walk to collect water each day, like Abdella from Ethiopia. You can walk 5 miles, or just around your garden, but please walk, so that we can make this an event to create awareness of water poverty, and to raise funds for those living in poverty around the world.

If you are a keen walker, could you Walk for Water as a personal Lenten challenge by walking 10,000 steps a day, every day, for 40 days to raise funds for CAFOD's Lent appeal. Find out more at <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Walk-for-Water> Please contact Jo for more information [portsmouth@cafod.org.uk](mailto:portsmouth@cafod.org.uk) Community Participation Coordinator, CAFOD Portsmouth - 0771 009 4447.

**SAINT OF THE WEEK:  
THE SEVEN HOLY FOUNDERS  
OF THE SERVITE ORDER - 17<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

Could you imagine seven of our male parishioners abandoning their families, friends and well-paid jobs to withdraw to the mountains as a group, to live an austere life of prayer, mortification, solitude and direct service to God? No, neither could I, but that is exactly what happened in Florence in the thirteenth century.

In Florence at that time, religion was virtually meaningless and plagued with heresies; these seven men, all of whom worked in the cloth trade, decided enough was enough, and withdrew to Monte Senario (just outside Florence), to devote themselves to Christ, meditating on His Passion, and venerating Our Lady of Sorrows, to whom they are dedicated.

They founded the Servants of Mary (Servite Friars), which received papal approval in 1304. It is the only Order that was founded by a group, rather than just an individual. As a group, they were canonized by Pope Leo XIII in 1888. Their feast day has changed twice; the latest change being in 1969, when it was moved to the present date, the anniversary of the death of Alexis Falconieri, one of the Founders, who died in 1310. There are two Servite priories in England; one in Fulham, the other in Kersal (Greater Manchester). In 1952, in London, Joan Bartlett founded the Servite Secular Institute. The Institute has since spread to various European countries and to North and South America. Members live and work as consecrated individuals wherever they find themselves. Vowed to God, their first obligation is to love and serve Him in all things and to give witness to God's love for all. In 1964, to the great joy of its founder, the Institute was granted Official Church Recognition.

Carmen, our sacristan, is a member of the Servite Secular Institute, and took her first vows here at St Joseph's on 8<sup>th</sup> December 1991, the Solemnity of the Immaculate Conception; let us pray for her on her special feast day. *Holy Founders of the Servite Order - pray for us.* Mike Tomas.

**CAFÉ THÉOLOGIQUE**

Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> February 7.30 - 9 pm: Homebrewed. Local theologians sharing their ideas on Zoom. No booking required. Zoom: Meeting ID 994 1078 8443, Passcode 511 541.

Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> February from 7 - 8.15 pm - Annual Chaplaincy Lecture: An Interview with Tom Holland. Book [here](#) for a free on-line ticket.

**NATIONAL NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH:  
10<sup>TH</sup> – 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH**

The National Novena to St Joseph will take place from 10<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> March at St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead. In this Year dedicated to St. Joseph, the Mill Hill Missionaries are preparing for the Feast of St Joseph, their patron, with a special Novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their Society's missionary outreach, and for the intentions of all those who support their work.

If you are able, and if it is possible to attend, Masses are on Wednesday - Friday (10<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> March), at 7.30 pm, Saturday, 13<sup>th</sup> March at 10 am, Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> March at 11 am, Monday – Thursday (15<sup>th</sup> – 18<sup>th</sup> March) at 7.30 pm. If you are unable to attend, but would like to join in from home, for the first time this year, Masses from St Joseph's Church will be available to follow on Zoom and YouTube, via the parish website [www.stjosephsparish.co.uk](http://www.stjosephsparish.co.uk) and the Mill Hill website [www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena](http://www.millhillmissionaries.com/novena), where you will also find the Novena prayer leaflet. You can also join in by praying the daily Novena prayer, which will be in your Novena prayer leaflet. You are welcome to send in your petitions and/or to request a printed Novena prayer leaflet. Please write to the Novena Director, 41 Victoria Road, Liverpool, L37 1LW, or email [novenamhm@gmail.com](mailto:novenamhm@gmail.com).



**BILL MCMAHON RIP**

The parish offers condolences to the family and friends of Bill McMahon who died recently. Bill's Funeral took place on 5<sup>th</sup> February in the village of Cloonfad, County Roscommon, Ireland, followed by burial in the family grave plot. *Please pray for the repose of Bill's soul.*

**MARRIAGE PREPARATION**

We encourage any engaged couples that now is a great time to prepare for their married life together! Our live, facilitated, marriage preparation courses continue to be popular with couples who can now easily join these interactive workshops via Zoom. We provide group courses called "[Preparing Together](#)" which have received an Imprimatur from Cardinal Vincent Nichols, and [FOCCUS](#) – a tailored questionnaire-based marriage preparation service for couples who wish to explore their own unique relationship in more depth. Both courses are approved for marriage preparation in the Catholic Church. You can find out more and book a course [here](#).

**RELATIONSHIP COUNSELLING**

Please seek support if you are experiencing relationship distress. Our professional relationship counselling service is provided on a donation-only basis, and seeking help at whatever stage can make a real difference. You can find out more and book counselling sessions [here](#).

**SIX BIBLE STUDIES  
ON THE LENTEN SUNDAY GOSPELS**

Six Wednesday evening Bible Study sessions, to break open each Lenten Sunday Gospel. You will experience Sunday Mass in a new way!

Mauro Iannicelli will walk you through the forthcoming Sunday Gospel with in-depth teaching and stimulating questions. The sessions are delivered with 'Expository Preaching' teaching method & with 'Life-Application' questions. Wednesday, 17<sup>th</sup> February – Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> March 7 pm - 8:30 pm (Free & Live sessions). Information and Registration: <https://comeandsee.org/lent>

**INVITATION TO ADORE – 27<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY**

We are continuing our 2021 Programme: "ALIVE IN THE SPIRIT" which is in response to the invitation from Pope Francis "I ask all of you that you organise seminars to share Baptism in the Spirit." Our programme this year explores how the Holy Spirit inspires and empowers us to be missionary disciples. More details on the ADORE website [www.altonrenewal.com](http://www.altonrenewal.com). The next session is on February 27<sup>th</sup>, 10 am – 1 pm: "Salvation" - God sent his Son Jesus to give you new life through his death and resurrection. Jesus is your Lord and Saviour. Speaker: Fr Paul Leonard, Parish Priest at Sacred Heart, Hook, and Mass celebrant at Celebrate Southampton Conference. Please register in advance at [www.bit.ly/ADOREFEB2021](http://www.bit.ly/ADOREFEB2021).

ADORE is also offering confidential prayer for healing by telephone Monday - Friday from 10 am until 4 pm – Telephone No. 07579 824523. Experienced prayer ministers will pray with you confidentially for your needs. Thank you and may God bless you abundantly. *Alastair Emblem - On behalf of Alton Day of Renewal.*

**TUESDAY & WEDNESDAY MASS -  
SPACES AVAILABLE ON THE DAY**

We can offer these spaces to anyone, without advance booking, provided they are registered with us. If you would like to attend either of these two Masses regularly, please let us know. Note: this is only for mid-week 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, and those living in Tilehurst. Please do not travel from further away, during these difficult times. Contact us to register for Mass 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 on the answer phone, and *Sheila* will pass on your request.