

# NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST



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

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🌐 [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

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## THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT (B) – 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021

### SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Fr Peter and Fr Richard will be available for confessions on Saturday, 20<sup>th</sup> March at 11 am, and Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> March at 2 pm, in the large hall - *For parishioners only* – Please do not travel from outside Tilehurst.



### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

We are hoping to schedule Stations of the Cross during Lent. Please check the website and Notices during Mass, for more information.



### DO YOU WANT TO FAST THIS LENT?

In the words of Pope Francis:

- Fast from hurting words ..... and say kind words
- Fast from sadness ..... and be filled with gratitude
- Fast from anger ..... and be filled with patience
- Fast from pessimism ..... and be filled with hope
- Fast from worries ..... and have trust in God
- Fast from complaints ..... and contemplate simplicity
- Fast from pressures ..... and be prayerful
- Fast from bitterness ..... and fill your hearts with joy
- Fast from selfishness ..... and be compassionate to others
- Fast from grudges ..... and be reconciled
- Fast from words ..... and be silent so you can listen

### PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Nora Colley, Pat Togher, Bernadette Smeesters, Gerard Tomas, Charles Livingston, Barbara Turner, Stafen 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.*

**MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 7<sup>TH</sup> MARCH - SUNDAY, 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2021**

Sunday, 7 <sup>th</sup> March <b>THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	<b>5 pm (Vigil)</b> + Live-streamed	Maureen Hanson RIP
	<b>8.30 am</b> + Live-streamed	Fr José Maria de la Porte's intentions
	<b>11 am</b> + Live-streamed	Joanna Laska & family's intentions
Monday, 8 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>NO MASS</b>	
Tuesday, 9 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>12 noon</b> + Live-streamed	Mary Curtis RIP
Wednesday, 10 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>11 am</b> + Live-streamed	Rita Williams RIP
Thursday, 11 <sup>th</sup> March	Private	Jim Pickering RIP
Friday, 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Private	Patricia MacMahon RIP
Saturday, 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Private	
Sunday, 14 <sup>th</sup> March <b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT</b>	<b>5 pm (Vigil)</b> + Live-streamed	Maureen Hanson RIP
	<b>8.30 am</b> + Live-streamed	Angela Macbeth RIP
	<b>11 am</b> + Live-streamed	Maureen Hanson RIP

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

**COLLECTION FOR  
27<sup>TH</sup>/28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2021**

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£178.35
CAFOD Family Fast Day	£140.00
Coffee Morning (Divine Mercy Centre donation)	£130.00
Loose Plate	£157.90
Mass Stole Fees	£35.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£641.25</b>
<b><u>RUNNING TOTALS</u></b>	
TF9 ("On Fire!")	£3,874.77
TF3 CAFOD	£116.25
(TF10) CAFOD COVID-19 Appeal	£126.55
CAFOD Harvest Fast Day	£886.33
CAFOD Lent Fast Day	£140.00
Lenten Alms	£786.95
Divine Mercy Centre	£418.69

**SPECIAL COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND  
- CLERGY ASSISTANCE FUND**

This collection raises funds for housing and residential care costs for sick and retired priests.  
*Please be as generous as you can.*

**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 you would like anything included in the newsletter.

**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>

**ROSARY**

Saturdays at 10 am with Fr Peter online.  
Please follow the link on the website.

**COFFEE & CHAT**

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

**WOOL**

The Knitwits group makes blankets and baby items for local charities and the hospital. They are looking for donations of wool, and also for buttons suitable for use on baby jackets. If you have any spare wool or buttons, please drop them to the Parish Office on Thursday or Friday. Or email us at: [stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk](mailto:stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk). Many thanks!

### SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Dear Parishioners,

Many thanks for your continued generous donations of tinned food. 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 3<sup>rd</sup> April.

In addition to the tinned food which you donate, SVP also spends around £2,600, annually, regularly supplying CIRDIC with fruit, vegetables, dairy and meat products.

We appreciate your generous donations. 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. Please note that no clothes donations are needed, until further notice.

May God bless you. Jack Ewins,  
Saint Vincent de Paul.  
Mobile: 0773 449 9190.  
Email: [jackewins9@gmail.com](mailto:jackewins9@gmail.com).

Dear friends,  
Recently I have been sent the Prayer - Stations of the Cross from St Mary's and St Petroc's Church Bodmin, Cornwall, which I feel would be useful for prayer and meditation especially for those who are housebound or missing your usual experience of Lent. See below for the Youtube link which you need put into your browser. God bless. *Roy Singh*  
<https://youtube/9nU4isVzgQM>

### 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*.

### SAINT OF THE WEEK:

### ST FRANCES OF ROME – 9<sup>TH</sup> MARCH

Born of wealthy parents in 1384, Frances found herself attracted to the religious life when she was a young girl. However, her parents objected, and a young nobleman was selected to be her husband. Frances was a devoted wife and mother; she had six children, two of whom died in a great plague that was sweeping across Italy.

Frances always longed for a lifestyle of prayer and service, so she organised a group of women to minister to the needs of Rome's poor.

As the years went by, Frances became more and more convinced that this way of life was so necessary for the world. In 1433, she was given permission to found the Benedictine Oblates of the Tor de'Specchi [italian for tower of mirrors - the name of the monastery]. They were not bound by any vows; they simply offered themselves to God and to the service of the poor. When her husband died in 1436, Frances became Superior of the Order.

Frances often saw her Guardian Angel at her side, guiding and protecting her. This may be the reason why, in 1925, Pope Pius XI declared her to be the Patron Saint of Motorists. In 1928, on 9<sup>th</sup> March, began the custom of Romans taking their cars as close as they could to the Basilica of St Francesca Romana for a blessing. This practice continued for many years, until the area was pedestrianised. Frances died on 9<sup>th</sup> March 1440, and was canonized by Pope Paul V in 1608. St Frances of Rome -*pray for us*. Mike Tomas.

### FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME

Staff at St Paul's School are delighted to be able to resume preparation sessions for First Holy Communion. Lessons will be on Saturday mornings at the school, starting on 13<sup>th</sup> March, when all children will be back at school. There are 21 children enrolled on the programme. Please keep them, their parents and our Catechists in your prayers, as they prepare to receive the special Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist.

### 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.

**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).

**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.

**LENT - A TIME OF HOPE AND HEALING**

To help support you on your Lenten journey this year, Our Lady & St Edmund of Abingdon parish invites you to join them for their Lenten 'Hope and Healing' Prayer and Reflections by Zoom. Beginning on Thursday, 18<sup>th</sup> March, the course will continue every Thursday throughout Lent, and will include a variety of reflections, scripture, Sycamore films, and the opportunity for prayer. Everyone is welcome to join all, or any, of the sessions, and people can choose whether to participate in various discussions and sharing or can simply listen and reflect, if they prefer. 'Hope and Healing' will be hosted by the parish RCIA team and anyone interested should contact *Pauline* on [pehanley@hotmail.com](mailto:pehanley@hotmail.com) or call 07506 753085 to register for the Zoom link.



**FOUNDATION GOVERNOR VACANCY**

St Paul's Catholic Primary School is actively looking for two Foundation Governors to join our Governing Board. You must be a practising Catholic and willing to commit to a term of office of 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 school work as a team, in close co-operation with the headteacher and all the staff. As a Foundation Governor you will 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

To deliver the best for our pupils, staff, parents/carers and whole community, we need a full complement of governors. To operate effectively, a governing board must have governors with a variety of skills who are willing to share ideas and workload, and provide support and challenge in equal measure. We are looking for practising committed Catholics with the time and enthusiasm to be a school governor and to work with a strong established team to support our school and enrich our children's educational experience.

The Diocese of Portsmouth website has lots of information on the role of a foundation governor and we would suggest that you take a look at this prior to taking the next step to applying for the position – [Home | Portsmouth Diocese | England](#). If you would like to find out more about the role or chat to one of our existing governors before making a commitment, then please contact the clerk to governors [rgonzalez@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:rgonzalez@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk) or Catholic Academies and School Office [governors@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:governors@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)