

# NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST



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

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

## THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER – 17<sup>TH</sup>/18<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021



On the Third Sunday of Easter, we hear the disciples talking of the experience on the road to Emmaus, when Jesus appears to two of his disciples and reveals to them not only the truth of his Resurrection but also the true meaning of Scriptures which foretold it as the culmination of God's saving plan.

### MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 18<sup>TH</sup> APRIL – SUNDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021

|  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| Sunday, 18 <sup>th</sup> April<br><b>THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER</b>                            | <b>5 pm (Vigil)</b><br>+ Live-streamed | Richard Tombs RIP  |
|  | <b>8.30 am</b><br>+ Live-streamed      | Renato & Monica Goncalves RIP                              |
|  | <b>11 am</b><br>+ Live-streamed        | Tadeusz Pakula's intentions                                |
| Monday, 19 <sup>th</sup> April   | <b>NO MASS</b>                         |  |
| Tuesday, 20 <sup>th</sup> April  | <b>12 noon</b><br>+ Live-streamed      | John Campbell RIP  |
| Wednesday, 21 <sup>st</sup> April  | <b>12 noon</b><br>+ Live-streamed      | Kevin Rodgers RIP  |
| Thursday, 22 <sup>nd</sup> April   | <b>Private</b>                         | Stępień family   |
| Friday, 23 <sup>rd</sup> April<br><b>ST GEORGE</b> , Patron of England                     | <b>Private</b>                         | Humphrey O'Callaghan RIP                                   |
| Saturday, 24 <sup>th</sup> April   | <b>Private</b>                         |  |
| Sunday, 25 <sup>th</sup> April<br><b>FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER</b><br>(GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY) | <b>5 pm (Vigil)</b><br>+ Live-streamed | Brendan Reynolds, James Fahy, Nonie Fahy & Bernie Fahy RIP |
|  | <b>8.30 am</b><br>+ Live-streamed      | Gerry Brady RIP  |
|  | <b>11 am</b><br>+ Live-streamed        | Malgosia, Krystyna & family's intentions                   |

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



### GED & MAUREEN MURPHY RIP

The parish offers condolences to the family of Ged & Maureen Murphy, who both died recently. A joint Funeral Mass will be celebrated for Ged & Maureen on Thursday, 29<sup>th</sup> April at 11 am here at St Joseph's Church, by invitation only. Their Funeral Mass will also be livestreamed on YouTube for all those who cannot attend in person. Please remember Ged, Maureen and their family in your prayers.

**COLLECTION FOR  
10<sup>TH</sup>/11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2021**

|                            |                  |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Gift Aid (envelopes)       | £123.02          |
| Gift Aid (via bank)        | £1,213.00        |
| Planned Giving (envelopes) | £5.00            |
| Planned Giving (via bank)  | £92.00           |
| Loose Plate                | £143.00          |
| Easter Collections         | £25.00           |
| Holy Places                | £5.00            |
| Repository                 | £15.00           |
| Mass Stole Fees            | £50.00           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>               | <b>£1,671.02</b> |
| <b>RUNNING TOTALS</b>      |                  |
| TF9 ("On Fire!")           | £3,874.77        |
| CAFOD (Overall Total)      | £1,534.78        |
| Clergy Assistance Fund     | £328.12          |
| Clergy Training Fund       | £25.00           |
| 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>

**GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY: 25<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**

Next weekend, we have a collection for the Clergy Training Fund: This helps to fund the cost of training much needed priests and deacons in the diocesan seminary. The priesthood of the baptised is so very important. The role for each of us is to be Jesus in the world today. However, those who have been called to the vocation of priesthood have a particular mission to fulfil and they need our support and our prayers. *Please be as generous as you can.*

**ROSARY**

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

**TO ALL CATHOLIC UNIVERSE  
& CATHOLIC TIMES READERS**

You can get your paper 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 arrange this for you. £115 print copy & digital edition, saving over £39. Print offer only £99 (postage-free). Digital offer only £55.

**SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

Many thanks for all the tins of food which you generously donate on first Saturday of every month. They are much appreciated by the 72 homeless adults CIRDIC supports. The next collection will be on 1<sup>st</sup> May from 2 – 3 pm, in the car park. Please note, no clothes donations are needed, until further notice. Key contact: *Jack Ewins - Mobile: 0773 449 9190. Email: [jackewins9@gmail.com](mailto:jackewins9@gmail.com). Many thanks for your generosity.*

**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.*

**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 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.*

**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.

**DIOCESAN MAGAZINE - VIVE VOCE**

The Easter 2021 edition of Viva Voce, bringing you high quality news from our diocese, is available on the table as you leave Mass.

**BISHOP'S EASTER LETTER**

Bishop Philip has sent out a Letter to Everyone at this very important time in the liturgical year "to speak with as many hearts and minds as possible in the hope that people will discover the Lord in their lives". Please try to distribute it to friends, family and neighbours. You may download the Bishop's Letter from the diocesan website. Copies are also available on the table as you leave Mass.

**COFFEE & CHAT**

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



### ST PAUL'S SCHOOL CARETAKER

Required as soon as possible - 20 hours per week (plus overtime) - Grade/Salary D. Are you a team player who is able to make an impact on the outcome of children's learning in our school by helping to maintain our premises and security to a high standard? We are looking for an excellent, organised, flexible and methodical Caretaker to start as soon as possible. We welcome applications to join our dedicated and enthusiastic team. The successful candidate will:

- Be fully supportive of our Catholic ethos
- Be enthusiastic, imaginative, open and flexible
- Have high expectations
- Enjoy working in a team and on their own

We can offer you:

- **An Outstanding Catholic School in "Overall Effectiveness and all aspects of learning" as judged in our recent Diocesan Section 48 Validation**
- An opportunity to work in a school that has been rated **number one Primary** in Berkshire!
- **"St. Pauls has a strong community spirit, pupils enjoy coming to school providing a calm, friendly and well-ordered environment where pupils make good progress in their learning" - according to the recent OFSTED report**
- Delightful and happy children
- A caring and supportive ethos
- A vibrant, stimulating, well-resourced environment.

Please visit our website for our virtual tour and give us a ring if you would like to have a chat or if you need any further information. Tel: 0118 942 2003. E-mail: [sbm@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:sbm@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk). **Closing Date: Friday, 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2021 – Midday. Interviews: Tuesday, 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021.** For an application pack please contact the school. Application packs are also available on line at <http://www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk>

**St. Paul's whole school community (all staff, governors, parents and volunteers working in the school) is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. An Enhanced Criminal Records Disclosure will be sought from the successful candidate.**

### 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.

### ESSENTIAL TRAINING FOR CATECHISTS

I will be running our popular Essential Training in 5 weekly sessions on Monday evenings, starting on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> April at 7 pm. This training is not exclusive to catechists, but is open to everyone who seeks to understand how to proclaim the faith more effectively to children, young people and adults. This training is a short introduction to the principles of faith transmission for seasoned or new catechists, for everyone involved in Children's liturgy of the Word, and for anyone interested in passing on the faith or in growing in their own faith. Find out more details here: <https://www.pffm.org.uk/catechists>. Sign up for the training here: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/join?meeting=register/tZAtdu-qpzsoH9HdUzaiXyM4D1LdHq5EEXZR>. Parishioners may also be interested in watching the recordings of our Lenten retreat, 'Finding Hope in Scripture', in this Year of the Word, to help us cope with the hardships and challenges of the present time: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYwfrBOD2hwXFcjgirIadZDQ9UiPLtTc>. Wishing you all the blessings and grace of Easter, Sr Hyacinthe, OP, Formation for Mission Team Leader, Department for Evangelisation, <https://www.pffm.org.uk/> Tel: 0159 068 1874.

### CHRISTIAN AID

#### - MAKE EVERY STEP COUNT THIS MAY

Let's move one step closer to a world free from poverty. Make every step count this May; climate crisis hurts us all, but people living in poverty battle the worst of it. Every day they walk further and dig deeper to survive. This May, we invite you to take on our 300,000 Steps Challenge. Clocking in at just under 10,000 steps a day, you can do the challenge alone or with a team. Each step you take could help people like Rose in Kenya - who struggles daily to provide enough food for her family. Find out more through our Facebook group - we will be able to support you every step of the way. No matter how you decide to take part, the money you raise could help a community like Rose's to build a dam, so that many more people can have the water they need to live: [https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week/challenge-yourself?utm\\_source=christianaid&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_content=btn-body-Resources&utm\\_campaign=20210329-CA-CAW-Org-4&cldee=cmNhbmd5pbmdAbWVhZG93c3dlZXUqZXU%3d&recipientid=contact-24be3595ee4a46b5ac20301a67915fdb-1cbaede758264597a495672a5a65cbe7&esid=1684b8d9-478e-eb11-b1ac-0022481a6fba#steps](https://www.christianaid.org.uk/appeals/key-appeals/christian-aid-week/challenge-yourself?utm_source=christianaid&utm_medium=email&utm_content=btn-body-Resources&utm_campaign=20210329-CA-CAW-Org-4&cldee=cmNhbmd5pbmdAbWVhZG93c3dlZXUqZXU%3d&recipientid=contact-24be3595ee4a46b5ac20301a67915fdb-1cbaede758264597a495672a5a65cbe7&esid=1684b8d9-478e-eb11-b1ac-0022481a6fba#steps).



### 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, we will meet in the large hall on **Friday** mornings. We're open between 8.45 am - 11.30 am, during term time.

### ADORE ONLINE RETREAT

ADoRE Online spiritual mini-retreat morning on 24<sup>th</sup> April from 10 am - 1 pm, with Mass, Adoration, Reflection, Praise, Talk, Prayer and Discussion. Theme: "Receiving God's Gift" - To receive new life you must turn away from those things which block your relationship with God and accept Jesus as your Lord. Speaker: Peter Hobbs. Please register in advance at

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tZwvd0irrTMtGNHyT84ynL1f7SvwiqHwDha> ADoRE is also offering confidential prayer for healing by telephone – 0757 982 4523, Monday to Friday from 10 am to 4 pm. Experienced prayer ministers will pray with you confidentially for your needs. *Alastair Emblem - On behalf of Alton Day of Renewal.*

### DAY OF PRAYER FOR VICTIMS AND SURVIVORS

Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> May is to be this year's Day of Prayer for the Victims and Survivors of Abuse. Listening to the voices of victims and survivors, the Bishops' Conference of England and Wales have moved the date on which the Day of Prayer for the Victims and Survivors of Abuse is usually marked, to a new date during the Easter Season. Initially, the Fifth Friday in Lent, it was felt that the inclusion of this day in Lent was penitential. The original motivation for the day was not the Church seeking forgiveness for its failings, but on the hope and renewal that is necessary for the victims, survivors and others affected by abuse (for example families, parish communities). As such, the Conference decided to move this Day of Prayer for Victims and Survivors of Abuse to the Tuesday of the Fifth Week of Easter. In 2021, this will fall on Tuesday, 4<sup>th</sup> May. Making this change affirms the desire of the Church to put survivors at the heart of the response to abuse. Holding the day in Easter Season also offers the hope that Pope Francis spoke of in his first General Audience: "He healed, comforted, understood - gave hope. He led all to the presence of God." (27<sup>th</sup> March 2013). The 'Let's be Honest Group', a group set up to support survivor-centred initiatives such as this, has been asked to provide resources and prayers for the day. These will be published in due course. The group has already released a resource this Lent called 'Listening with Love' – inviting people to reflect on the impact of abuse on individuals and the Church. For more information, please click [here](#).

### DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES

With the lifting of lock down on the horizon and the successful roll out of the Covid-19 vaccination programme, Bishop Philip is inviting you to reserve a place on our pilgrimage to Lourdes. The pilgrimage is from 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021. Last year, we had to postpone our plans due to the pandemic and are this year very much looking forward to meeting with our very patient pilgrims at the airport on Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> July to fly to Tarbes, France, to begin our much-awaited pilgrimage. We do still have some places available and would encourage all of you who have told us you would like to join us, but are waiting to see what happens with regard to COVID-19, to send your booking forms and deposits to us a.s.a.p. to avoid being disappointed. This year we are due to fly from Bournemouth direct to Tarbes, France, a much shorter travelling distance, and stay as in previous years at the Hotel La Solitude, where we can enjoy ensuite rooms and full board, for the duration of our stay. We have exciting plans for our pilgrimage, and if you too would like to join us, further details can be obtained by email: [lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or phone: 0778 022 1686.

### SAINT OF THE WEEK

As every good English man and woman knows, the 23<sup>rd</sup> April marks Saint George's Day; a day raised to the celebration of Solemnity (highest class feast) in this country, in 2003.

George was martyred in Palestine in 303 for refusing to make a sacrifice in honour of pagan gods. He was canonized by Pope Gelasius I in 494, who said that George was among those "whose names are justly revered among men, but whose actions are known only to God". His tomb can be found in Lod, near Tel Aviv, Israel. George's reputation for holiness and virtue spread across Europe, and his feast day was first celebrated in this country in the 9<sup>th</sup> century. He was admired for his bravery in the face of terrible suffering, and he became popular among European Knights and military personnel.

It is said that King Edward III owned a relic of George's blood and had a great devotion to him, so much so that he appointed him patron saint of England in 1350. During the Middle Ages, George's protection was invoked against many fatal diseases such as leprosy and the Plague [maybe we could pray to him in this pandemic?]. In recent years, there have been many campaigns for St George's Day to be a public holiday. However, from the 13<sup>th</sup> century not only was St George's Day a national holiday, but was also a Holy Day. When the English Reformation severely curtailed the number of saints' days in the calendar, St George's Day continued to be observed. After the Union of England and Scotland at the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century, devotion to St George decreased in popularity. St George is also patron saint of many other countries including Ethiopia, Georgia, Portugal and Russia. *St George, patron of England - pray for us.*  
Mike Tomas.

### 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.*

### PRAYERS FOR FR JOSEPH AWOH

We have had news from Fr Joseph saying that things are not good in Cameroon; schools and churches have restricted opening, but shops, etc., are carrying on as normal. People are also carrying on as normal and COVID-19 rates are rising. Fr Joseph is recovering from malaria, and he is very grateful that we are keeping him in our prayers, and wishes to say hello to everyone. We hope and pray that they will receive the vaccine there soon.

### FIRST SATURDAY

#### - LIMITED EDITION PRINTS & CARDS

My name is Therese Withers: First Saturday was inspired by the promises of Fatima and so the First Saturday of each month, I will host a special sale in honour of Our Lady's promises. We have a faith founded in her Fiat, and it does not fail us - even now. So, watch out, and get involved! <https://firstsaturday.co.uk/shop>