

# 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**

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## THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (B) – SUNDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021

### MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY – SUNDAY, 31<sup>ST</sup> JANUARY 2021

Sunday, 24 <sup>th</sup> January <b>THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>5 pm (Vigil)</b> + Live-streamed	Sr Clare O'Brien RIP
	<b>**10 am**</b> + Live-streamed	Rita Williams RIP
Monday, 25 <sup>th</sup> January <b>THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL</b>	Private	Arthur & Francisca Pinto RIP
Tuesday, 26 <sup>th</sup> January <b>St Timothy, Bishop, Martyr &amp; St Titus, Bishop</b>	<b>12 noon</b>	Brid & Gerry Brett and family's intentions
Wednesday, 27 <sup>th</sup> January	<b>11 am</b> + Live-streamed	Rita Williams RIP
Thursday, 28 <sup>th</sup> January <b>St Thomas Aquinas, Religious, Doctor of the Church</b>	Private	Jim & Anne O'Carroll and family's intentions
Friday, 29 <sup>th</sup> January	Private	John & Vera O'Carroll and family's intentions
Saturday, 30 <sup>th</sup> January <b>Our Lady on Saturday</b>	Private	Maureen Hanson RIP
Sunday, 31 <sup>st</sup> January <b>FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME</b>	<b>5 pm (Vigil)</b> + Live-streamed	Joan Keane RIP
	<b>**10 am**</b> + Live-streamed	Maureen Hanson RIP
Monday, 1 <sup>st</sup> February	Private	Rita Williams RIP

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

### TUESDAY/WEDNESDAY MASSES - SPACES AVAILABLE ON THE DAY

Our Tuesday & Wednesday Masses often have a few spaces free, and we can now offer these to anyone who just turns up on the day, provided they are registered with us. Please do understand that the stewards may not be able to offer you a place, once the church is full. If you would like to attend Mass on Tuesday or Wednesday regularly, then please let us know, and we will add your name to the list. You will then receive an invitation, when a place is available, and can be reserved for you. Note: this is only for mid-week Masses.

Weekend Masses are strictly by invitation only: Saturday 5 pm (Vigil) and Sunday 10 am, (**\*\*note new time\*\***). Please look out for emails inviting you to a specific Mass, and reply as soon as possible. Registration for Mass attendance at St Joseph's is restricted to parishioners, and to those living in Tilehurst. Please do not travel from further away, during these difficult times. Contact us to register for Mass attendance by emailing [stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk](mailto:stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk). Email is the best way to reach us, but 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.

**COLLECTION FOR  
16<sup>TH</sup>/17<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2021**

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£105.00
Loose Plate	£118.20
Mass Stole Fees	£10.00
Christmas Offerings	£120.00
First Holy Communion fees	£50.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£403.20</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	£873.83
Lenten Alms	£463.05
Bamenda Sunday	£700.73
Christmas Offerings	£1,247.50
First Holy Communion fees	£825.00

**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>

**CATHEDRAL FUND  
- SUNDAY, 24<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**

This weekend, we have the annual collection in support of our Cathedral in Portsmouth. Appeal envelopes are available at all Masses for those who do not have gift aided, planned giving envelopes for second collections. Please take an envelope home, complete the Gift Aid section, and write your Gift Aid number on the outside.

You are welcome to return your envelope to the collection plate next time you are at Mass. This collection is the only support our Cathedral receives from the wider Diocesan family. A 'Give as you Live' page has also been created, to enable you to donate online at:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/cathedral-annual-appeal>

Understandably, we are aware that these are difficult times for us all, but please give generously, to support your cathedral, gift aiding your donation wherever possible.

**\*\* COFFEE & CHAT: NEW TIME \*\***

On Sundays, at a new time of **11 am**. Grab a coffee and have a catch-up with friends from St Joseph's. Use this updated link:

[https://pepsico.zoom.us/j/68506386409?pwd=\\_WWQ3VHpVTDRCK0pmLzlQdDVDTUxtdz09](https://pepsico.zoom.us/j/68506386409?pwd=_WWQ3VHpVTDRCK0pmLzlQdDVDTUxtdz09)

**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, Jadwiga Wlasak, Ged & Maureen Murphy, Jackie Hopper, Hilary Cameron, Sisters of St Ann (in Bamenda), Fr Peter's parents, Tess Heenan, Caroline Hurst, Kevin Keep, Betty Dennehy & Brigid.

*If you would like to add a name to this list, or if you have any queries, please contact Sheila in the Parish Office.*



**BILL MCMAHON RIP**

The parish offers condolences to the family and friends of Bill McMahon who died recently. Details of Bill's Funeral Mass to be confirmed, following which, his mortal remains will be repatriated to Ireland. *Please pray for the repose of Bill's soul.*

**ST JOSEPH'S PARISH OFFICE**

The Parish Office will be 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 say a Mass, or if you would like anything to be included in the newsletter.

**ROSARY (\*\*ON-LINE ONLY\*\*)**

Rosary on Saturdays at **10 am**, with Fr Peter:  
[https://pepsico.zoom.us/j/69178591420?pwd=\\_UGhtOTlaZXZsOVEvTIU0SFpqcmJ5dz09](https://pepsico.zoom.us/j/69178591420?pwd=_UGhtOTlaZXZsOVEvTIU0SFpqcmJ5dz09)  
Or use the link on our website. To join by telephone, dial 0203 901 7895. Meeting Code: 69178591420# Password: 957032.

### 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.

### FORMATION FOR READERS

During the 2020 lockdown we were able to form about 100 readers over two sets of online workshops, in October and November, offering a reading practice to each one with a Diocesan Listener. We will continue offering these workshops in 2021, Year of the Word in Portsmouth Diocese. The 2021 workshops will take place in February (6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup>), and in April (17<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>). Participants need to have attended both workshop 1 & workshop 2, and completed a reading practice to receive a Diocesan Recognitio. Sign up for the workshops here: <https://www.godwhospeaks.org/readers>

### ALTON DAY OF RENEWAL 2021 PROGRAMME

"ALIVE IN THE SPIRIT" - Pope Francis has said "I ask all of you that you organise seminars . . . to share Baptism in the Spirit." In response, the ADoRE programme will follow the stages of a classic "Life in the Spirit" seminar series, exploring how the Holy Spirit inspires and empowers us to be missionary disciples. Programme and booking details are available their website [www.altonrenewal.com](http://www.altonrenewal.com).

### CAFÉ THÉOLOGIQUE: "HAVE WE FOUND JESUS' HOUSE?"

The Archaeology of Nazareth and interview with Prof. Ken Dark. Monday, 25<sup>th</sup> January 19.30 – 21.00, on Zoom (shortcut to Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j/99410788443?pwd=U09sMUVWb0tzYzRpRGxScUk3aVR1QT09>).

Full link: <https://zoom.us/j/99410788443?pwd=U09sMUVWb0tzYzRpRGxScUk3aVR1QT09>.

All welcome, no booking. Ken Dark has been conducting archaeological research in Nazareth and the Galilee since 2006. He will be discussing his recent discovery of the remains of a first-century house in Nazareth and his knowledge of the wider region. He is a University of Reading-based archaeologist whose other studies include Early Christian sites in Britain and Roman survivals at Hagia Sophia in Istanbul.

### SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Dear Parishioners,

Many, 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> February.

I would like to take this opportunity to report on SVP's other activities: 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. These are all really good, deserving causes.

We realize that these are financially difficult times for many people, and we do appreciate any donations you can provide to support what we do. You can donate cash/cheques via the collection box in the church, in sealed envelopes, put in 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 sealed 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).



COVID-19 - a very challenging time for many marriages. So much uncertainty around, health, income, employment, vulnerable family members, children, housing. Different ways of seeing things, coping with change, managing fears can be a source of conflict and stress. It can be difficult to talk, to listen to support and comfort when there is so much uncertainty. Being together all the time, brings even more challenges. You just can't cope, would be better apart, you wonder.

Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage, and you don't need to leave home, it comes to you!

For confidential information about Retrouvaille', or to register for the next programme, a virtual weekend commencing on 25<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup> February, call or text 0788 729 6983 or 0797 338 0443.

✉ [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) or

✉ [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

### **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.

### **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*.

### **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)*

### **SAINT OF THE WEEK:**

#### **ST THOMAS AQUINAS 28TH JANUARY**

St Thomas Aquinas (1225 - 1274), was an Italian Dominican friar, philosopher, priest and Doctor of the Church. "Aquinas" literally means "of Aquino", an area governing the place where Thomas was most likely to have been born. He is considered to be one of the Catholic Church's greatest theologians and philosophers. He was a prolific writer (he always wrote in Latin), and had a great devotion to the Blessed Sacrament which most of his writings reflect.

On Maundy Thursday, as the Blessed Sacrament is taken to the Altar of Repose, we sing the Pange Lingua; this hymn was composed by St Thomas Aquinas. The last stanza of this hymn is the Tantum Ergo, which together with O Salutaris Hostia and Godhead Here in Hiding (also composed by him), are hymns sung when Benediction was the norm on Sunday evenings in practically every Catholic Church.

On the feast of Corpus Christi, after the Second Reading, we recite the Sequence, the Lauda Sion. Pope Urban IV asked Thomas Aquinas to compose a prayer for the new feast that was instituted in 1264. We have been saying this prayer ever since, albeit lately, in a shorter form.

His greatest work, Summa Theologica (Summary of Theology), is still widely used as part of theological studies.

Pope Leo XIII declared him Patron Saint of Catholic schools. I wonder how many Headteachers and Governors know this? His feast day was originally 7<sup>th</sup> March, the day he died. However, in 1969 when the calendar was revised, it was transferred to its present day. *St Thomas Aquinas - pray for us.*  
Mike Tomas.