

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

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT (A) – SUNDAY, 15TH MARCH 2020

24 HOURS FOR THE LORD

SATURDAY, 21ST MARCH

The parish of St Joseph is happy to be able to participate in this day devoted to Our Lord. Beginning with Mass at 10 am followed by confession, and then quiet Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, concluding with Divine Mercy Chaplet & Benediction at 3 pm. We will spend time in prayer asking the Lord to protect our families, our children and our parish from all the things that are happening in the world today.

There is a Watching List available for you to sign up at the back of the church. If you add your name to the Watching List, please ensure that you do honour that commitment, as the Blessed Sacrament should not be left unattended, under any circumstances. *All are welcome.*

VISITS TO THE HOUSEBOUND – THURSDAY, 26TH MARCH

I will make visits to the housebound, those who are unable to come to Mass, for the Sacrament of the Sick, Confession and Holy Communion from 10 am onwards. Please telephone the Parish Office and leave your details with *Sheila*. **Fr Peter.**

MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 15TH MARCH – SUNDAY, 22ND MARCH 2020

Sunday, 15 th March	8.30 am	Maria Rodrigues RIP
THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT	10.30 am	Ann Goodwin's intentions
Exposition following Masses	4 pm	Syro Malabar Catechism Class
	5.30 pm	Syro Malabar Mass
Monday, 16 th March	NO MASS	
Tuesday, 17 th March	11.30 am	Stations of the Cross
ST PATRICK, Patron Saint of Ireland	12 noon	Tessie Joyce RIP
Wednesday, 18 th March	6.30 am	Maurice & Catherine Ryan RIP
	12 noon	Graham Ward RIP
Thursday, 19 th March	9.30 am	Pauline Howat – Foundation Mass
ST JOSEPH, Solemnity		
Friday, 20 th March	6 pm	Syro Malabar Stations of the Cross
	7 pm	Babs O'Sullivan's intentions
	7.30 pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday, 21 st March	10 am	Tessie Joyce RIP
No morning Exposition - Quiet Adoration will follow Mass until 3 pm, concluding with the Divine Mercy Chaplet & Benediction – "12/24 Hours for the Lord"		
Sunday, 22 nd March	8.30 am	Kathleen Mageean RIP
FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT	10.30 am	Graham Ward RIP
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Saturday: 9.20 am followed by 10 am Mass.		
ROSARY & CONFESSIONS Saturday: Following 10 am Mass.		
Responsorial Psalm: "O that today you would listen to His voice: 'Harden not your hearts.'"		

COLLECTION FOR 8TH MARCH 2020

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£386.50
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£33.90
Loose Plate	£278.89
Lenten Appeal (Divine Mercy Centre)	£203.60
Lent Fast Day (CAFOD)	£575.45
Holy Places	£10.00
Candles	£59.82
Hall Hire	£150.00
Mass Stole Fees	£70.00
TOTAL	£1,768.16
RUNNING TOTALS	
TF3 (CAFOD)	£116.25
TF9 ("On Fire!")	£3,874.77
Divine Mercy Centre	£288.96
Lenten Appeal (Divine Mercy Centre)	£446.95
Lent Fast Day (CAFOD)	£633.83

REMINDER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 22ND MARCH

- Collection for Clergy Assistance Fund – this collection raises funds for housing and residential care costs for sick and retired priests.
- **Counters:**
Harry & Liz McSoley.
- **Mass readers**:**
8.30 am.
1st Reading – M Fernandes.
2nd Reading – M Livingston.
10.30 am
1st Reading – B Davis.
2nd Reading – C Balanza-Davis.
Eucharistic Ministers:**
8.30 am
Mike T, Tony & Ted.
10.30 am
Mike K, David & Alan.
Eucharistic Minister - Oakwood Ward:
A MacDonald.

****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**.

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.**

WEDNESDAY PRAYER GROUP – 9.30 AM

The next prayer group will take place on 18th March at St Catherine's. *All are welcome.*

DIOCESAN MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE DAY

On Saturday, 18th April from 10 am – 4 pm at the English Martyrs Church: 'BREAKTHROUGH'. For more information go to www.smartloving.org/breakthrough.

CHURCH CLEANING FOR EASTER

The Church will be cleaned for Easter on Saturday, 11th April at 10 am. Any help from parishioners would be most welcome. *"Many hands make light work!"*

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Nora Colley, Dick O'Brien, Sheila Robinson, Pat Togher, Bernadette Smeesters, Gerard Tomas, Lya Turner, Charles Livingston, Barbara Turner, Mary Hoban, Rita Boyce, Jean Trott, Stefen Griffiths, Nina Aramo, Jo Boase, Julie Thompson, Michael & Joy O'Connell, Carmela Garzia, Kathleen Urban, Helen, Natasha, Marek, Bridget, Iga, Mimi Furnell, Bob Goodwin, Maggie Tranter, Jadwiga Wlasak, Chris Quinn, Anne Rees, Ged & Maureen Murphy.

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

GOING INTO HOSPITAL?

If you know in advance that you are going into hospital, please inform Fr Peter. In case of emergency, inform hospital staff and they will contact a priest for you. Sunday Mass is celebrated at 4 pm in the Royal Berkshire Hospital chapel. *Patients, staff & visitors are all welcome.*

GENERAL HEALTH ISSUES (CORONAVIRUS)

You are no doubt aware of the risk to health of the Coronavirus (also known as Covid 19). Until further notice, we are taking the following measures:

- There will be no holy water in the stoops
- Communion is of one kind only (no Precious Blood)
- The host will only be placed directly into your hand (not on the tongue)
- The Sign of Peace is to be 'non-contact'. You may wish each other peace without touching
- The weekly collection baskets will be taken around rather than passed around.

HAND HYGIENE IS VITAL - You are welcome to bring your own hand sanitiser, as we are having trouble buying hand sanitizer at the moment, as stocks are scarce. The toilet handbasins have hot water, soap and paper hand towels for you to use. To disrupt the spread of the virus: **Catch it - sneeze into a tissue. Bin it - bin the tissue. Kill it - wash your hands.**

Please be aware that the Diocese and the Parish are constantly reviewing our approach to health and hygiene to minimise the risk of spreading this virus.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

If you would like to consider travelling to Medjugorje as a parish, please add your name and telephone number to Fr Peter's list. 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.



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

PASSOVER SUPPER: SATURDAY, 4TH APRIL - 7 PM

Plans are on hold for the time being. *Further updates will follow in due course.*

LENT 2020

Traditionally, Lent has been a time when we give up something we enjoy: biscuits, sweets or alcohol, for example. However, Lent is about self-discipline. Self-discipline doesn't have to be "giving something up", it can take the form of "doing something extra". During Lent last year, Fr Peter introduced a 6.30 am Mass on Wednesday mornings, giving us all the opportunity to practise self-discipline - to do something extra. The last of these Masses will be on 1st April (there will not be one in Holy Week). This Holy Season of Lent, why not give it a go? It really is good for the soul.

'YEAR OF THE GOD WHO SPEAKS'

In this special year, St Paul's Primary School would like to offer parents and families the opportunity to learn more about the Bible. We aim to run four sessions starting on Wednesday, 25th March at 6 pm, and it is expected that each session will last around one hour, 15 minutes. Dates of future sessions will be confirmed at a later date. Sessions will take place at St Paul's School. Each session consists of a video and time for discussion. There is no homework and no prior knowledge is needed! Our teachers have already started the course and have found it enjoyable and informative. There is no cost, but a small contribution towards tea and coffee would be appreciated, and will be donated to charity. Please contact the school office if you would like to book a space on office@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk or 0118 942 2003.

THURSDAY MORNING MASS

St Paul & St Simon's Class will be attending Mass on Thursday, 19th March at 9.30 am. *Families are welcome to join them.*

REQUIRED ASAP

St Paul's School - Teaching Assistant (Minimum qualification Level 2 and ideally SEND Experience). 17.5 hours per week (term time only Fixed Term Contract up to end of the academic year with a possibility of extension). Closing Date: Friday, 20th March at Midday. Interviews: w/c 23rd March. For an application pack please contact the school on 0118 942 2003. Application packs are also available on line at <http://www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk>.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE

40 Days for Life is a peaceful and prayerful way to work for an end to abortion. You are invited to stand and peacefully pray for an hour or two outside the BPAS abortion clinic in Reading, during a 40-day vigil running for 12 hours daily during Lent. For full details and to sign up now to pray with them see our website at 40daysforlife.com/reading-2, or contact them at 40daysforlifereading@gmail.com.

LOST PROPERTY

There are numerous items in the lost property basket in the church porch, e.g. sunglasses, gloves, etc. Please see Carmen and claim your property before the end of the month; otherwise it will be disposed of. *Thank you.*

AV SCREEN VOLUNTEERS

We need for more volunteers to help running the presentation on the screen for 8.30 am Mass. You don't need to be confident with computers. Full training and support will be given. Please consider helping so that we can share the load better. Commitment will be once a month or less. If you would like to know more, please introduce yourself to the person running the presentation at any Mass.

THE RE-DEDICATION OF ENGLAND AS THE DOWRY OF MARY - "BEHOLD"

This Re-dedication on March 29th is both a personal promise by the people of England, and a renewal of the entrustment vows made by King Richard II in Westminster Abbey in 1381. England received the title 'Mary's Dowry' when Richard sought Our Lady's protection in the face of great political turmoil. This meant England was 'set aside' as a gift for Our Lady under her guidance and protection. On Sunday, 29th March at 12 noon, the Re-dedication will take place throughout the country. Like King Richard we are invited to give ourselves, the people of this country, as a gift to Mary. We can respond in two ways; making a personal pledge (the "Angelus Promise" in which we proclaim our union with Mary through the words of the Annunciation) and a communal entrustment (a prayer of profoundly historic and spiritual nature, bringing together the prayers of surrender and dedication that have echoed throughout our history). All parishes, schools and Catholic organisations are invited to host this dedication and mark the occasion in their own way. For more details go to <https://www.behold2020.com/take-part>. The re-dedication comes as we celebrate God's Word becoming Flesh during "Year of the Word - the God Who Speaks". To link the two events, more can be found at www.godwhospeaks.org or the national site <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/the-god-who-speaks/>

MARRIAGE CARE

MARRIAGE CARE requires volunteers for the following roles: Marriage Preparation facilitators (training provided); treasurer; admin; counsellors; receptionist (Monday evenings - Woodley). Contact *Sue Cooper*: reading.admin@marriagecare.org or phone 0793 949 5774. For info on Marriage Care visit www.marriagecare.org.uk

ORGAN RECITAL

Organ Recital on Friday, 8th May at 7.30 pm at English Martyrs Church, Reading, RG30 2EB. Recital on the historic 1855 Holdich organ by Francis Brookes, in aid of organ restoration. Programme includes music by Bach, Albinoni, Susato, Tournemire and Boëllmann. Admission free - suggested donation £5. Refreshments available (further donations welcome). *See poster on parish notice board for more information.*

FEAST OF ST PATRICK - TUESDAY, 17TH MARCH

The Mass on Tuesday, 17th March at 12 noon will be to celebrate the Feast of St Patrick, Patron Saint of Ireland. We pray for the people of Ireland on that date. *All are welcome.*

