NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST



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

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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

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TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (A) – 4TH OCTOBER 2020

Gospel - Matthew 21:33-43

In his parables, Jesus uses the life experience of the people to teach them about the kingdom of God and about the relationships that we need to develop if our lives are to reach their ultimate fulfilment in the kingdom of heaven. The stories relate to what the people know about life at home – farming, fishing, building – and how to make these things work for the common good. They are examples which even today relate to life as we know it. In the Gospel today, the context is a vineyard, with tenants employed to manage it. Having been left with the responsibility, these tenants begin to think of it as "their" vineyard and when the time comes to produce the harvest for the owner, they resent it. They beat up and kill the owner's representatives, including, finally, his own son.

The story is an allegory. Jesus reminds the chief priests and elders of the prophecy of Isaiah, today's First Reading. God is the creator of the vineyard, God's own people, on whom God has spent a great deal of love and attention, but has not received the harvest which was expected. Jesus develops this image, focusing on those who are now responsible for the care of this vineyard: the priests and elders. They have begun to think of the people as their own possession and so reject the message of the emissaries of God, the prophets. Now is the time for the final act, where they reject the Son, Jesus, and are about to kill him.

So, what has all this to do with us today? First of all, we are responsible citizens. Each and every one of us has a care for everyone else and for what Pope Francis calls "our common home". We are all workers in the vineyard of the Lord. This is not something exclusively for church leaders, but for all of us. It's not something that relates only to religious things, but to everything and everybody who shares this planet with us. It's about making the world the place God wants it to be.

Over the centuries there have been movements of conquest and colonization, which have led to the enslavement and oppression of millions of people. There have been wars of liberation and there have been transformations of culture as human beings have learned the ways of international cooperation and peace. However, there are continuing examples of war and violence all around the world. With this as the constant backdrop, the word of God provides us with a vision of a world at peace where kingdoms and peoples gather in unity to worship the one God and Lord of all. The role of God's people is to give witness to the possibility of such a reality, to produce the good fruits of God's vineyard. Jesus came to reinforce this message of peace and reconciliation and sent out his disciples to demonstrate a new way of living together – the way of forgiveness and service. There is no place in God's world for violent oppression and exploitation of others. The death and resurrection of Jesus is God's answer to human selfishness and greed. Today, the disciples of Jesus, his Church, you and I, are the tenants responsible for producing the fruits of the harvest of God's vineyard.

| MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 4 TH OCTOBER – SUNDAY, 11 TH OCTOBER 2020 | | | | |
|--|--------------|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Sunday, 4 th October | 5 pm (Vigil) | Harry McSoley RIP | | |
| TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY | 8.30 am | Mary Pickup RIP | | |
| IN ORDINARY TIME | 11 am | Anne Morris RIP | | |
| Monday, 5 th October | NO MASS | | | |
| Tuesday, 6 th October | 12 noon | Harry McSoley RIP | | |
| Wednesday, 7th October | 11 am | Winifred Mary Gale RIP | | |
| Our Lady of the Rosary | | (Foundation Mass) | | |
| Thursday, 8th October | | Mary Pickup RIP | | |
| Friday, 9th October | | Private Intention | | |
| Saturday, 10 th October | 11 am | First Holy Communion | | |
| Sunday, 11th October | 5 pm (Vigil) | Purgatory, Pascal & Elie Tinjus RIP | | |
| TWENTY-EIGHTH SUNDAY | 8.30 am | Robert's health intentions | | |
| IN ORDINARY TIME | 11 am | Ligia Lobo RIP | | |

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND:

Nora Colley, Pat Togher, Bernadette Smeesters, Gerard Tomas, Lya Turner, Charles Livingston, Barbara Turner, Jean Trott, Stefen Griffiths, Nina Aramo, Jo Boase, Julie Thompson, Michael & Joy O'Connell, Carmela Garzia, Kathleen Urban, Helen, Natasha, Marek, Bridget, Maggie Tranter, Jadwiga Wlasak, Anne Rees, Ged & Maureen Murphy, Jackie Hopper, Hilary Cameron, Maureen Hanson, Dick O'Brien, Sisters of St Ann (in Bamenda), Fr Peter's parents, Tess Heenan, Breda Williams and Kevin Keep.

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 PARISH OFFICE - OPENING HOURS

The office is open for telephone and email contact only. There will be no face-to-face contact, *until further notice*. Office hours are Tuesdays, Thursdays & Fridays from 9 am -12.30 pm. 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.

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.

HOME VISITS

If you would like Fr Peter to visit you at home for Holy Communion, Confession or just a chat, please give your details to *Sheila* in the *Parish Office*.

PUBLIC MASS

Attendance at Mass is by INVITATION ONLY. Places are limited, so we have had to restrict registration to parishioners and those living in our immediate locality. Please email: <code>stjo@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk</code>, or telephone the Parish Office. Please let us know how many in your household will attend, and which Mass times you can attend. Please be flexible to give us the best chance of allocating you a place. Mass times are Tuesday 12 noon, Wednesday 11 am, Saturday 5 pm (Vigil), Sunday 8.30 am & 11 am.

CONTACT DETAILS

If you are registered for Mass, you should expect to receive an invitation at least once every other week. If you have registered, but have never received an invitation, please us contact to ensure we have your correct contact details. *Thank you*.

READING UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

Message from The Catholic Society of the University: New students are invited to join fellow students at the 5 pm Sunday Mass at Our Lady of Peace Catholic Church. This is the perfect opportunity to praise God alongside other students, as well as connecting with them before or after Mass. Please book Mass on the parish website www.olop.org.uk.

COFFEE AND CHAT

On Sundays at 12 noon - Grab a coffee and have a catch-up with friends from St Joseph's. https://pepsico.zoom.us/j/65563666322?pwd = ZlpNYlBxbTZSUIJZR3lwSHJRSnhCUT09, or join by phone: 0330 088 5830 Meeting ID: 655 6366 6322 Password: 085487

LIVE STREAMING

Live streamed Masses are scheduled at these times: Tuesday 12 noon, Wednesday 11 am, Saturday 5 pm (Vigil), Sunday 8.30 am & 11 am. The YouTube link for live Mass from St Joseph's Tilehurst is:

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCruCvuF lvKVpmI2vvGWdDKQ

KEEP WARM AT MASS

As the weather changes, please wear warmer clothing when you come to Mass. We are still advised to keep windows open during Mass to reduce risk of spreading infection from COVID19.

SUNDAY OBLIGATION

There is still no Sunday obligation: If you are extremely vulnerable, then please pray the Mass with us from home. Archbishop Vincent Nichols made this request: "Given there is no Sunday obligation, we ask you to consider the possibility of attending Mass on a weekday. This will ease the pressure of numbers for Sunday celebrations and allow a gradual return to the Eucharist for more people". Many thanks to those who register for Wednesdays, so that the weekend Masses are available for those with work or commitments during the week.

GDPR STATEMENT

Thank you for registering to join the email group at St Joseph's Parish, Tilehurst. Your privacy is important to us, and we want to communicate with you in a way which has your consent and is in line with data protection law. Your details are stored in a private document and are only visible to the *Admin Team.* We will use them only for the purpose of communicating information about St Joseph's Parish, Tilehurst. You may withdraw this consent at time by emailing stjo@st-josephstilehurst.org.uk or any member of the Admin Team. Admin Team consists St Joseph's Parish Office, Sue & Geoff Collier, Ann Epps and Anne Dennehy. Please contact the Admin Team if you have any questions.

VOLUNTEERS

If you would like to volunteer your help in any way, please contact the Parish Office. We welcome offers to read and/or steward at Mass. We would appreciate more offers of help for cleaning. Perhaps there is a couple, or family, who could offer to clean once/week between Masses? With the addition of two new Mass times in October, some of our volunteers are now helping twice a week because we don't have enough volunteers. *Thank-you!*

TRACK AND TRACE: QR CODE

The government has launched a Track and Trace App. A QR Code poster is displayed in the church porch. If you have a smartphone, please download the NHS COVID-19 app from the App Store or Google Play Store. When you arrive at church, open the App, select 'Venue Check In', and scan the QR Code to register your details with the Track and Trace programme. Do this anywhere which displays a QR Code poster. If you have COVID19 symptoms, immediately fill them in on the App so that an alert is sent to those you have been in contact with.

CONFESSION

Confession is available after every Mass. Please tell the steward when you arrive for Mass that you would like to go to confession afterwards. Confession will take place on the bench in the prayer garden, *weather-permitting*.

OCTOBER ROSARY MISSION ROSARY WHIRLWIND BRITISH ISLES

Nightly 8 pm Rosary on October 13th, October 31st & November 1st & 2nd, for this muchneeded, intensive Mission. The Sign-Up Map for October 13th Rosary Whirlwind British Isles is at www.rosaryonthecoast.co.uk. Updates are on the Walsingham Facebook page and Rosary on the Coast Facebook page

https://www.facebook.com/WalsinghamBlog https://www.facebook.com/rosaryonthecoast/ Antonia Moffatt - Outreach Coordinator - The Catholic National Shrine and Basilica of Our Lady, Walsingham.

24 HOURS ADORATION

At Our Lady of Peace Church starting on Friday, 9th October at 4 pm - Eucharist and prayers with meditation on the Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ. For more information contact *Kornel* on 0774 638 0064 or Dawid on 0780 986 8203.

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC MASSES IN OCTOBER

From 4th October, we are adding an extra Mass on Sunday. **New Mass times on Sundays will be at 8.30 am and 11 am**. We have purchased a new 'fogger' spraying machine to allow us to clean quickly between services. We are grateful to any Mass attendees who would like to donate towards the cost of this machine perhaps just an extra £1 in the bucket as you leave Mass.

SECOND COLLECTIONS

Io Lewry, from CAFOD, reminds us that this year CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day has moved to Friday, 9th October. On 10th & 11th October, our parish is marking CAFOD's Family Fast Day to help people facing the worst of the coronavirus crisis. We've all felt the impact of this terrible disease. Let's come together to help the poorest and most vulnerable people in the world survive, rebuild and heal. Please pray for all those affected, and donate online at cafod.org.uk/give, or by using one of the envelopes and putting it in the collection basket or send it direct to CAFOD. You can also give easily via text. Text CAFOD to 70085 to donate £10. Texts cost £10, plus one standard rate message and you'll be opting in to hear more about our work and fundraising via telephone and SMS. If you'd like to give £10, but do not wish to marketing communications. CAFODNOINFO to 70085. Please do support this appeal and pray for those in need.

There are also two further appeals from the Holy Father: On $3^{\rm rd}/4^{\rm th}$ October, there is the Peter's Pence appeal to support the Holy See, and on $18^{\rm th}$ October, World Mission Sunday, when a collection is to be taken for Missio, the Pontifical Mission Society. To make things easier, we have developed some online giving pages focused on each of the second collections. *In advance, thank you for your generosity.*

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS AND DONATIONS

To make any donation to St Joseph's, please see 'Donations' on the home page of our website , or follow this link directly: http://st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk/upload/newsletter/DonationStJosephs-Tilehurst.pdf

BLESSED HUGH FARINGDON CATHOLIC SCHOOL YEAR 7 ADMISSIONS SEPTEMBER 2021

Please visit our Virtual Open Day on our school website: www.hughfaringdon.org. Remember to submit your Supplementary Information Form (SIF) with evidence of religion to Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School, so that your application can be ranked correctly. If you have any queries, please contact Mrs Farrelly, Admissions Administrator via admissions@hughfaringdon.org or 0118 957 4730.

ST PAUL'S RC PRIMARY SCHOOL ADMISSIONS – SEPTEMBER 2021

If your child, or you know of a child who will be starting school in September 2021, then they should be filling out their Council Application form and a new 2021 Supplementary Information Form for St Paul's. These forms need to be returned to the Council and School by 15th January 2021. We are unable to offer any school tours, at this time. A short video tour of our reception classes can be found on our website and the school office is happy to answer any other questions www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk

ST JOHN HENRY NEWMAN 9TH OCTOBER

John Henry Newman was born in 1801, the eldest of six children into a middle-class family whose parents were practising members of the Church of England. He studied at Trinity College Oxford, and in 1822, was elected to a fellowship at Oriel College, at the time the leading college of the university. In 1825, he was admitted to Anglican Orders and was well known for visiting all of his parishioners, especially the sick and the poor. Newman became increasingly convinced that the Church of Rome was the church nearest to the spirit of early Christianity and on 8th August 1845, was received into the Church by Blessed Dominic Barberi, an Italian Passionist priest (who incidentally died in Reading near the railway station). Sadly, like many converts, this had huge personal consequences for John Henry Newman. He lost most of his friends from the Church of England; his family rejected him, and he could no longer be a Fellow at Oxford. John Henry Newman introduced the Congregation of the Oratory into England. He lived at the Birmingham Oratory continuing his ministry as pastor, teacher and writer. He became a Cardinal in 1879, and died in 1890, and tens of thousands lined the streets of Birmingham for his funeral cortege. He was beatified in 2010, and canonized in 2019. This is just a brief resumé of John Henry Newman. Go on-line to find out a lot more about his remarkable life. St John Henry Newman - pray for us. Mike.



CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS WEEKEND'S FIRST HOLY COMMUNICANTS!

A big **THANK YOU** to the children, to their parents and the team of catechists who prepared the children, and to all involved in preparing the Church and the Liturgy for our beautiful celebration:

Lily Conroy Halle Hardy Isabelle Maskell Jessica Pavitt Sophia Montague Evelyn Bisoffi Joshua Gonzalez LillyMae Iremonger Orla King Mia Rubia Isaac Keevil Rhys Morgan