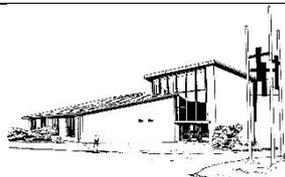


ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, TILEHURST



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

0118 942 8632 ✉ sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk  <https://www.facebook.com/stjosephstilehurst>

Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth - Registered Charity No. 1199568

Priest in charge: Fr Henry Jan Nkop MSP

✉ hkop@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Sheila Jones
Parish Office hours: 9 am – 12.30 pm
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

**Safeguarding Representative:
Miriam da Cruz Fernandes**

✉ safeguarding.reajo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT – 22ND MARCH 2026

MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 22ND MARCH – SUNDAY, 29TH MARCH 2026

Saturday, 21 st March of the 4th Week of Lent	9 am	Rosary & Exposition
	10 am	Private intention
	10.30 am	Confessions
	5 pm <i>Vigil</i>	John & Bridgie O'Driscoll RIP
Sunday, 22 nd March FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT <i>* ST JOSEPH, Solemnity</i>	8.30 am	For the souls in purgatory and for the intentions of Luana & Giovanna
	*10.30 am	Chen Foong Ying & Lew Yew Choy RIP
	5 pm	Syro Malabar
Monday, 23 rd March of the 5th Week of Lent	10 am	John McKenna RIP
Tuesday, 24 th March of the 5th Week of Lent	10 am	Ann-Marie Vimpany's intentions
Wednesday, 25 th March THE ANNUNCIATION OF THE LORD, <i>solemnity</i>	9.30 am	
	1.30 pm	<i>Confessions at St Paul's School</i>
Thursday, 26 th March of the 5th Week of Lent		
Friday, 27 th March of the 5th Week of Lent	10 am	Henry & Iris McSoley RIP (<i>Foundation Mass</i>)
	11 am	<i>Stations of the Cross</i>
	6.30 pm	Lent Reconciliation Service followed by individual confessions at 7 pm
Saturday, 28 th March of the 5th Week of Lent	9 am	Rosary & Exposition
	9 am	François Vidot RIP
	10.30 am	Confessions
	5 pm <i>Vigil</i>	David O'Brien RIP
Sunday, 29 th March PALM SUNDAY of the Passion of the Lord	8.30 am	Richard Taylor RIP
	*10.30 am	Manuel Nunez Sierra RIP
	2 – 8 pm	Syro Malabar Annual Retreat

*Please note only 10.30 am Sunday Mass and special Masses are live-streamed: *<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCruCvuFlvKVpmI2vvGWdDKQ>

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAYS & FEASTS: YEAR A

LENT CONFESSIONS IN THE PASTORAL AREA

St James: Every Saturday from 5-5.45 pm

English Martyrs: 28th March at 9.30 am (Note earlier time this year)

ST JOSEPH'S: FRIDAY, 27TH MARCH at 7 pm !!PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE!!
Examination of Conscience at 6.30 pm, followed by individual confessions at 7 pm

St John Bosco: 23rd & 24th March from 6 – 7.30 pm

Our Lady of Peace: 28th March from 9 am - 12.30 pm

Christ the King: 26th March at 7 pm



The parish is now using a new system called ChurchSuite, to manage our parishioner database and our communications like the newsletter. To do this, we need to renew all the information we hold about parishioners. To ensure you remain registered as a parishioner and to continue to receive communications from the parish, including the newsletter, please make sure you have filled out a new Registration Form. There is a separate adult and child registration form.

Adult Parishioner Registration Form. Please find a link to the online form here [REAJO Adult Parishioner Registration Form](#) OR scan the QR code:



Child Parishioner Registration Form. Please find a link to the online form here [REAJO Child Parishioner Registration Form](#) OR scan the QR code:



For those who do not have access to a computer or mobile phone, please come to the Parish Office between 10 am - 12.30 pm on Tuesdays or Thursdays, and Sheila will help you to complete the form.

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS:
14TH/ 15TH MARCH 2026**

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£248.78
Planned Giving (envelopes)	-
Loose Plate	£585.96
TOTAL	£834.74
Clergy Assistance Fund	£421.38

Donate to our parish by bank transfer thus avoiding admin fees: A/C Name: CDP Reading St Joseph. Sort Code: 30-93-04. Account No. 00885992.

SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES

Sunday offering envelopes for 2026/27 are now available in the church porch. Even if you give by Standing Order or Direct Debit, please take your named box and use the appropriate envelopes for second collections.

EASTER COLLECTION

The Easter Sunday collection for our Parish Priests will take place throughout Easter, so you will have the opportunity to give, at any service which you attend. The Easter Sunday collection traditionally supports our Parish Priests, in recognition for all the dedication, guidance and care they give across our Diocese, and in each parish. If you would like to give a gift to support Fr Henry in his vocation and mission this Easter, please place your Easter offerings into the collection plate, into the Parish Office, pay via the card reader machine, by bank transfer or <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/reading-st-joseph-catholic-parish-easter-collection-2026>. Thank you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Gerard Tomas, Charles Livingston, Stefen Griffiths, Nina Aramo, Julie Thompson, Pauline, Babs, Maggie Tranter, Jackie Hopper, Sisters of St Ann and all the people in Bamenda, Kevin & Mike Keep, Brigid, Adrian Robson, Veronica Williams, Dan and Joe Newman, Helen, Tommy Barrett, Liz Darling, Lina O'Connor, Anna.

TILEHURST DROP-IN CENTRE & FOODBANK

We are supporting approximately 35 households with food and household products. Many thanks to your very generous donations. This week, we are short of tinned corned beef/ham; tinned spaghetti hoops, instant potato mash, tinned rice pudding/custard and toilet rolls. Financial donations can be made to CDP Reading St Joseph. Sort Code: 30-93-04. Account No: 00885992. Please include as a reference, 'Foodbank'. Many thanks.



PARISH PASSOVER SUPPER



The Parish Passover Supper will take place on Saturday 28th March at 6.30 pm. Tickets - Adult £6, School-aged child £3, Family (2 adults and up to 4 children)

£15. Please sign up on the sheet in the church porch. Book Early as places are limited!



**** Reminder:**
British Summer Time begins
- Clocks go forward by
1 hour at 1 am
next Sunday, 29th March**



St Vincent
de Paul Society
England and Wales
Turning Concern into Action

Our SVP Conference helps all who need support. We also provide help to SVP

Conferences in Sudan, India and to various foodbanks in Reading. Donations can be made directly to our bank account: Saint Vincent de Paul, Sort Code 60-60-04, Account No. 46075070, via the card reader machine or by completing a Standing Order form, available at the back of the church. Thank you for your generosity. SVP President: *Rita Boyce* ritaur@yahoo.co.uk

DRIVERS: The SVP urgently needs volunteer drivers (men or women) for food centre deliveries in the Reading area. An estate car/small van would be ideal. Membership of the SVP is not required. For more details, please contact *Jack Ewins, SVP Treasurer* – 0773 449 9190.

"I am the resurrection and the life." Jesus' promise of new life inspires all vocations. Could He be calling you to the priesthood, to bring His Word to others through the sacraments? Open your heart to His plan. Talk to your priest or contact *Cn. John Cooke*. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 0132 931 8869.

ST JOSEPH'S BABY & TODDLER GROUP

On Thursdays from 8.45 am – 11.30 am in the large hall, *term-time only*. *All are welcome*.



PARKING

It is always good to see a full church. However, at busy services there have been parking problems in Berkshire Drive. So please be considerate to our neighbours by not obstructing access to their driveways. *Thank you*.

CHRISM MASS

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, 31st March at 11 am in the Cathedral. The Mass is the special Liturgy in Holy Week during which the Bishop blesses the three Holy Oils for use in the Sacraments: the Oil of the Blessing of the Sick, the Oil of Catechumens and the Oil of Chrism. The blessing of the Holy Oils is one of the most ancient ceremonies of the Church. The Mass is one of the main diocesan events of the year and during it, all the priests make a renewal of their commitment to priestly service, "manifesting their communion with the Bishop" (Roman Missal). It is always a wonderful manifestation of the Church in our Diocese of Portsmouth and an opportunity to thank God for our Catholic faith. *There will no Mass here at St Joseph's on that day*. Indeed, the Bishop warmly invites you to attend the Mass at the Cathedral, if you can.

CHRISTIAN AID QUIZ



On Saturday, 9th May at 7.30 pm, at St Catherine of Siena Church, Wittenham Avenue, RG31 5LN. Tickets £10 per person to include light refreshments and nibbles, bring your own drink. Raffle and prizes. Contact tickets@meadowsweet.eu

!!A DATE FOR YOUR DIARY!!

Fr Richard Maniak will be celebrating his 40th (Ruby) Jubilee of Ordination, on Sunday, 24th May 2026 with Mass at 11.30 am at English Martyrs, followed by refreshments in the hall. *All are welcome*.

THE LINK CAFE

The Link Café in Tilehurst is a Christian, community café run by volunteers from all the local churches. We are currently in need of volunteers to work on Friday mornings from 9.30 am – 1 pm. If you would like to join our friendly, welcoming community, please contact *Ann Epps* 0798 919 2833 for more information.



GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY FOR CHILDREN

There will be a Good Friday Liturgy for children at 3 pm in the large hall. Children should be brought to the hall between 2.45 - 3 pm and will return to their families in the Church for Veneration of the Cross. *Parents or a responsible adult must be present in the church*.

SPECIAL COLLECTION

Good Friday, 3rd April: Collection for the Holy Places. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection supports the Christian community in the Middle East. Please place your offering into the collection plate, via the card reader machine, by bank transfer. *Thank you for your donations*.

GOODBYE MASS/REFRESHMENTS FOR BARBARA POOLE

We will thank God for the work done by Barbara Poole, outgoing Parish Administrator at the English Martyrs Church, on Wednesday, 25th March. Mass will be celebrated at 6.30 pm followed by refreshments in the hall.

READING HALF MARATHON

This Sunday, 22nd March: Roads will be closed as follows: Tilehurst Road (from Russell Street to Liebenrood Road) between 9.30 am - 1.15 pm: Liebenrood Road (all) between 9.30 am – 2 pm.

PLEASE KEEP THE DATE

A joint Walsingham Pilgrimage is being planned for English Martyrs and St Joseph's parishes on 4th July. We had a great day last year - please join us this year. *Further details to follow*.

BARN DANCE – ENGLISH MARTYRS PARISH

On Friday, 19th June from 7 – 10.30 pm in the Parish Hall. A night of fun and frolics for all ages in aid of Cathedral Renovation and the Upgrading of English Martyrs Audio Visual System. Adults £15. Child (5 - 12) £10. Under 5's Free. Ticket price includes sit down meal.

TEA/COFFEE DONATIONS

Many of you enjoy the refreshments after the 10.30 am Mass on Sundays. Did you know that all donations towards these refreshments go to the Sisters of St Ann in Bamenda? Don't worry if you don't have cash. You can make donations using the "Tea/Coffee" fund on the card machine.

TEA TIME



LIFE COFFEE MORNING

On Wednesday, 25th March in English Martyrs parish centre at 10 am after morning Mass. Tea, cakes, raffle and items for sale. *All are welcome.*



From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues - If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. To find out more: www.retrouvaille.org.uk 0797 338 0443.

PASSION PLAY IN READING ON 3RD & 4TH APRIL 2026

Rise Theatre CIC, a local professional Christian theatre company, are again performing their Passion Play in Forbury Gardens (RG1 3BB) in central Reading at **2 pm on both Good Friday, 3rd April and Saturday 4th April.** It is a **FREE** event. Bring a blanket or outdoor chair to sit on! The play includes a dramatic interpretation of the crucifixion, so parental guidance is advised. See www.risetheatre.co.uk/passionplay for more information and to WATCH THE VIDEO TRAILER. *Please support this local initiative during the Easter weekend and invite your friends too!*

GOING INTO HOSPITAL

If you or a loved one is/are taken into hospital, please let the Catholic Chaplaincy know. Hospital staff are not allowed to ask you. Contact the hospital on 0118 322 7105 to let them know that you or your loved one would like a visit from a priest.

ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL BECOME A FOUNDATION GOVERNOR:



Are you a practising Catholic looking to make a real difference? Join our Governing Board and help shape the future of our children. Foundation Governors uphold the Catholic ethos, support school strategy, and oversee key decisions. You'll gain valuable skills, network with inspiring people, and truly impact the next generation. Vacancies available now - get involved and be the voice for our children! Interested? Email the Clerk to Governors at rgonzalez@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk

SOURCE AND SUMMIT YOUTH GROUP

Our parish youth group for school students (aged 11-18), 'Source and Summit' meets on Wednesdays (term-time) from 6.30 pm - 8 pm for food, games and faith. *'You were not made for comfort; you were made for greatness'* - Pope Benedict XVI. If you want to get involved, contact Lewis and Hannah: Lewisdowle2011@hotmail.co.uk



FR HENRY'S APPOINTMENTS

Fr Henry is available for appointments on Wednesdays from 10.30 am – 12 noon.

CURRENT JOB VACANCIES

Please click the following link to Careers in the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth:

[Careers - Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Curia:](#)

- IT Manager - permanent, full-time, based at St Edmund House, Portsmouth with essential travel across the Diocese.

Parish:

- Permanent part-time Parish Administrator: Holy Ghost Parish, Basingstoke.

ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST

We are recruiting for a Hall Cleaner & Administrator. Salary: £3,965.52 per annum (£24,784.50 FTE). Contract: Permanent, Part-time, working 6 hours per week. Location: St Joseph's, Tilehurst, RG31 5JJ. Applicants can apply here: <https://catholicdioceseofportsmouth.peoplehr.net/Pages/JobBoard/Opening.aspx?v=4eb210cb-2dea-4e1c-87c7-0fe35ee80d4d>

BIRTHDAY BLESSING

We will have a birthday prayer and blessing for all March celebrants next Sunday. Birthday cake will be served in the hall after 10.30 am Mass to celebrate the monthly birthdays. *Please join us.*

