

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 Jude Mbonu ✉ fatherjude@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Sheila Jones

Parish Office hours: 9 am – 12.30 pm
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

**Safeguarding Representative:
Miriam da Cruz Fernandes**

☎ 0118 943 3524

✉ miriam@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – 28TH JANUARY 2024 (YEAR B)

MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 28TH JANUARY - SUNDAY, 4TH FEBRUARY

Sunday, 28 th January FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	5 pm (Vigil)	Aleksander Gorynski & Janina Gorynska RIP
	8.30 am	Donal English RIP
	10.30 am*	Patrick & Martha Munnelly RIP
	5 pm	Syro Malabar
Monday, 29 th January	10.30 am	Roy & Christine Fisher RIP
Tuesday, 30 th January	10.30 am	In Thanksgiving to parishioners from Maureen English
Wednesday, 31 st January St John Bosco, Founder	10.30 am	Gerry Heenan RIP
Thursday, 1 st February		
Friday, 2 nd February THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD, feast		
Saturday, 3 rd February		
Sunday, 4 th February FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	5 pm (Vigil)	Private intention
	8.30 am	Vidot François, Marie Thérèse & Joseph Louis Capron RIP
	10.30 am*	Fr Peter's intentions

Please note that we only live-stream 10.30 am Sunday Mass and special Masses:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCruCvuFlvKVpml2vvGWdDKQ>

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 9 am on Saturdays + Rosary before the Blessed Sacrament. <i>All are welcome.</i>
Confessions are available after any weekday Mass or by appointment.
The church will be open for private prayer on Mondays and Tuesdays from 8.30 am until after the 10.30 am Mass.
Mass will be celebrated at 9.30 am on Thursday, <i>every other week.</i>
Fr Jude is available for appointments on Wednesdays between 11 am – 1 pm or by telephone on Mondays, Tuesdays or Wednesdays.

LESZEK WLASAK RIP

✠ The parish offers condolences to the family of Leszek Wlasak who died on the morning of Sunday, 21st January. Funeral details to follow. Please pray for the repose of Leszek's soul. May he rest in peace.

TONY CHAPLIN RIP

✠ The parish offers condolences to the family of Tony Chaplin who died recently. Funeral details to follow. Please pray for the repose of Tony's soul. May he rest in peace.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Gerard Tomas, Charles Livingston, Barbara Turner, Stefen Griffiths, Nina Aramo, Jo Boase, Julie Thompson, Aldo Garzia, Pauline, Babs & Don, Maggie Tranter, Jackie Hopper, Sisters of St Ann (in Bamenda), Caroline Hurst, Kevin Keep, Brigid, Adrian Robson, Alan Allen, Veronica Williams, David Petersen, Colin Joseph, Helen, Eileen, Diane McDonnell, Dorothy McMahon, John McKenna. 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 Vincent de Paul Society
 England and Wales
 Turning Concern into Action

The St Vincent de Paul Society is part of an international Christian voluntary network dedicated to tackling poverty in all its forms. The SVP Conference here at St Joseph's extend their hand in the care and personal service of individuals and families who need help by offering friendship and support, transport to hospital and medical appointments, financial assistance where able and home visits. Social events such as Easter and Christmas Parties are also organised together with Soup Lunches and Afternoon Teas. Support is also provided to SVP Conferences in Sudan and India to CIRDIC, New Beginnings, Whitley Wood Community Centre and The Weller Centre, with monthly meat deliveries. Donations to support these causes can be made directly to our bank account: Saint Vincent de Paul. Sort Code 60-60-04. Account No 46075070 or contactless via the card reader machine. If you're a taxpayer, you can Gift Aid your donation; SVP gets 25% extra money to spend on good causes. To Gift Aid, give your full name and address or include it in the envelope with your donation. To donate to the SVP by Standing Order, complete a donation form, available in the church porch. Please return to: SVP Finance Office, Allenby House, Rees Way, Bradford, BD3 0DZ. Many thanks for your generosity. Key contacts: SVP President: Rita Boyce - 0798 464 3250 ritaur@yahoo.co.uk. SVP Treasurer: Jack Ewins - 0773 449 9190 jackewins9@gmail.com.

SVP SENIOR CITIZENS SOUP LUNCH

Come and enjoy a variety of delicious soups and fresh bread, sample some delectable homemade cakes and pastries, over a cup or two of tea and coffee. If you would like to spend a delightful afternoon in the company of friends on Saturday, 17th February – 1 pm to 3 pm – Parish Hall, please put your name down on the sign-up sheet, which can be found at the back of the church, by February 11th. For more information, please contact *Patrizia Chessell* on 07740 547922. *"I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty". John 6:35*



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



TILEHURST DROP-IN CENTRE & FOODBANK - PARISH UPDATE



Thank you for all your prayers and support, the number of visitors to the Drop-in Centre is going gradually rising, and please remember it is there for our own parishioners who might like to drop in for a couple of hours on a Wednesday afternoon as well. Our most pressing need now to reach out to families and individuals who are struggling to cope with the current economic pressures and cost of living rises; those who would benefit from the groceries you have so kindly donated. Most of us know someone who could do with a bit of additional help but we might possibly be reluctant to approach them directly, if so please consider taking one of our fliers from the church porch today and pop it through their letter box. It could make all the difference to them and it is up to us to witness to God's love, through us in the world.

P.S. One small request: Please, does anyone have a 'toppling tower' game they could donate, to be played by visitors to the Drop-in Centre? We would like to thank everyone for their prayers and contributions. *John, Alan and all the volunteers.*

Items needed: We intend to publish a focused list of food donations that we need as and when we run short. We are well stocked at the moment but are looking for the following items:



- Instant Coffee
- Shampoo
- Shower gel
- Tampons & sanitary towels
- Female Deodorants (Roll-on and Aerosols)
- Male Razors
- Long-life fruit juices
- Long-life milk
- Cooking Oil
- Pasta sauce

We welcome cash donations in an envelope, with your name, Gift Aid number (if applicable) and "FOODBANK", written on top, can be placed in the collection basket during Mass or handed in to the Parish Office. You can also donate using the cash machine in the church porch or directly into the parish bank account by including "YOUR NAME, FOODBANK" as a reference. Account Name: CDP Reading St Joseph. Sort Code: 30-93-04. Account No: 00885992. Many thanks for your generosity. Any questions, please contact *John Foley* – 0776 925 1747.

C.I.R.D.I.C. CLOTHING DONATIONS

Clothing donations for CIRDIC are welcome on the 1st Sunday of every month. Please place your bags behind the repository or in the crying room, for the parish to deliver to C.I.R.D.I.C.

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS:
20TH/21ST JANUARY 2024**

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£151.00
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£7.00
Loose Plate	£306.29
TOTAL	£464.29
Running Totals	
Christmas offerings	£3,437.52
Cathedral Fund	£382.37

DONATIONS

To make a payment or donation online, we encourage you to do a bank transfer instead of using the website which incurs a 4.8% admin fee. Our bank details as follows: Account Name: Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth CDP – Reading St Joseph. Account No. 00885992. Sort Code: 30-93-04.

VOLUNTEER COUNTERS

New volunteers to help with counting the collection on a Sunday afternoon. The commitment is roughly once/month and volunteers will be trained and will work in a team.

ADORE SPIRITUAL MINI-RETREAT

On 27th January from 10 am – 1 pm: “Chosen to be holy – transformation by the Holy Spirit.” Including Mass, Adoration, Praise, Prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and inspiring guest speaker Charles Whitehead KSG. Please register for the Zoom meeting in advance at bit.ly/ADOREJAN2024. More information at www.altonrenewal.com

A DAY WITH MARY

Saturday, 10th February from 10 am – 5.30 pm: “A Day with Mary”. A whole day retreat at Our Lady of Peace & Bl Dominic Barberi, 338 Wokingham Road, RG6 7DA. A day of instruction, devotion & intercession, based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. See poster for more details.

MOTHERS PRAYERS

Come together to pray with other mothers for our families. Meetings at Aline Phillips’ home, 7 pm, Tuesdays. Attendance is flexible. Contact Aline on 0790 456 9437 if you would like to attend and to hear more about the prayer group and meeting location.



PRAISE AND WORSHIP EVENING

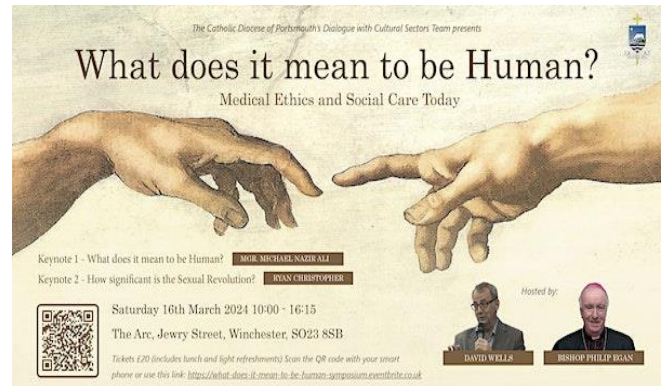
Praise and Worship’ evening at St James Church at 7.30 pm on Friday, 2nd February. Tea and coffee from 7 pm. Please join us to spend time with Jesus, with uplifting praise and worship, scripture, personal prayer, adoration and so much more. All welcome.

APF NEWS

A total of £303.05 was forwarded to the APF from our parish in 2023. Many thanks to all box holders. *Mike Tomas, APF Secretary.*

KNOCK PILGRIMAGES

Escorted Tour to Knock & Co Mayo, 3rd March 2024. £899.00 pps. Price includes flight, 10kg hold luggage, 5 nights’ in 4* Castlecourt Hotel, Westport with Dinner, Bed & Breakfast. Lunch on three days. All entertainment, excursions and transport included. Visit Knock, Galway City, Kylemore Abbey, Croagh Patrick & Ashford Castle. Single supplement on Enquiry. Contact *Patricia* or *Natali* on 01268 762 278 or 07740 175557 or email knockpilgrimages@gmail.com



BEING HUMAN IN A TIME OF AI

Wednesday, 31st January, 18.30-20.00. Van Emden Lecture Theatre, Edith Morley Building, Whiteknights Campus or join online. Booking essential: <https://r1.dotdigital-pages.com/p/4R68-DT3> The Annual Chaplaincy public in-conversation event this year explores Artificial Intelligence and the impact upon our everyday lives. How will AI change us? What will it mean for the creative industries? How might it benefit us and how could it be misused? Join three key figures in the British world of AI: Bishop Steven Croft, Prof Etienne Roesch and Charles Radclyffe. For more information contact events@reading.ac.uk

**** EVENTS AT ST JOSEPH'S: ****

Men's Evening: Wed 7th Feb from 7.30 pm

All welcome! Water Tower pub, Tilehurst. RG31 4DU. Please contact *Stephen* on 07764 756811 for more info or see you there!

**CAFOD FAMILY FAST DAY – LENT APPEAL:
FRIDAY, 23RD FEBRUARY**

This Lent, your donations to CAFOD’s Family Fast Day Appeal will help families fighting the climate crisis and ensure that our Church network can quickly respond to emergencies. Give today using the envelope or at <https://cafod.org.uk/give> and please join us in praying for CAFOD’s development and emergency response work all over the world. *Thank you.*



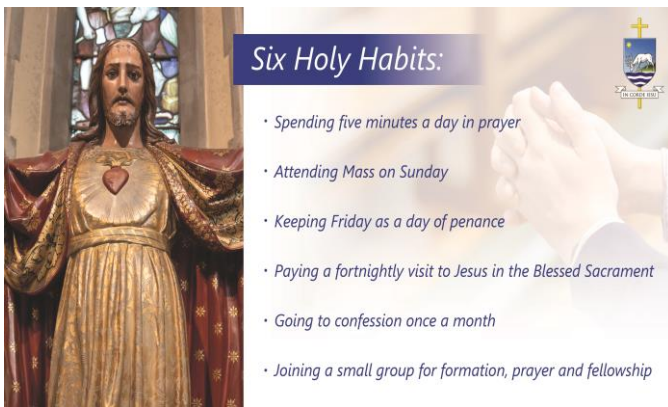
Please place your palms from last year in the basket provided in the church porch *before* Ash Wednesday, 14th February. These old palms will be burnt and the ash used on Ash Wednesday.



FROM THE BISHOP

TEN-YEAR MISSION PLAN – THE NEXT STEPS

I want to thank everyone, clergy and laity, for all the hard work being done in your Pastoral Areas and in individual parishes to bring to life the mission plan You Will Be My Witnesses. I have asked every area for a first draft of their Pastoral Area plan by 26th March. It needs to cover the three main themes of (1) deepening faith; (2) mission and service; and (3) parish structures. At their meeting last November, Co-ordinating Pastors received a workbook with helpful prompts about what needs to be considered. It led to a good discussion. I look forward to the submissions in March in order to see how things are going. In the summer, I will be visiting each pastoral area to meet with the team of clergy and laity in order to hear directly where things are up to and also to offer support.



RENEWAL STARTS WITH YOU

In his Pastoral Letter about the future of the Diocese in October 2022, Bishop Philip invited us all to establish or pledge our commitment to Six Holy Habits. Our ambitious Mission Plan would fail, he said, without a deep spiritual renewal in ourselves and in our parish communities. Have you adopted Six Holy Habits?

- Keeping Sunday special, a family day by attending Mass on Sunday - Could I prepare better for Mass, arriving in good time, reading, the Gospel and the prayers?
- Spending five minutes a day in prayer - what help do I need to pray and to know the Bible better?
- To do penance on Fridays, and to serve the poor and needy - what does poverty mean in my area and how can I help?
- Every fortnight, make a Holy Half Hour before the Blessed Sacrament - how can I hear more clearly the voice of Jesus calling me?
- Going to Confession once a month or so - how can I best prepare?
- Joining a small group for formation, prayer and fellowship - Many groups would welcome new members - or why not start a new one? How have you responded? Share your story with us at communications@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

This Sunday, 28th January, is the Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time. You can find the readings for Sunday's Mass [here](#). On our diocesan Liturgy Project website, Fr Anthony Fyk shares this commentary . . .

After a baptism, the celebrant performs an anointing with Chrism and says "The God of power and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ has freed you from sin and brought you to new life through water and the Holy Spirit. He now anoints you with the chrism of salvation, so that, united with his people, you may remain for ever a member of Christ who is Priest, Prophet, and King." The anointing signifies our sharing in the priesthood, kingship, and prophetic office of Jesus Christ. Today's scripture readings bring to mind the prophetic role of Jesus Christ, and by extension our share in this very office. We may have the notion that a prophet is someone who has divine or secret insight of future events that will come, but simply put, a prophet is one who points the way to God. We are all called to be prophets. We have all received the divine call, as God's children in our baptism and confirmation, to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ, which is a message of love, a message of justice, a message of peace, and a message of reconciliation. Through our words and actions, we are to promote justice and peace, to defend the weak and rejected of society, to live a life of honesty and integrity following the pattern set before us in the life of Jesus Christ. This is only possible if it based on a firm foundation of prayer. Being a Christian, a follower of Jesus Christ, does not mean that we escape from the world, society, and culture we live in, but to the contrary, to engage with the world, to be a voice of truth, to speak out against injustice and hatred, and pointing the way to God, which is the way of peace, reconciliation, and love. We have nothing to fear, for God will put his words into our mouths, will strengthen us with fortitude to speak with authority. We may take inspirations from the numerous prophets of the Old Testament, or look at some modern-day examples, such as Damien of Molokai, Oscar Romero and Teresa of Calcutta.

THE CHOSEN

Season 4 episodes 1 to 3 is showing at Reading Showcase on Thursday, 1st February at 7 pm & Friday, 2nd February at 7 pm. The Chosen is a major new drama series which has now reached the mid-point of Jesus' ministry. Season 4 - episodes 4 to 6 will then be showing at cinemas on Thurs, 15th February only. Season 4 episodes 7 to 8 will be showing at cinemas on Thurs, 29th February. For details and to book go to: <https://watch.thechosen.tv/>