

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. 119956

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

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE – 26TH NOVEMBER 2023 (YEAR A)

MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 26TH NOVEMBER - SUNDAY, 3RD DECEMBER

Sunday, 26 th November OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE , solemnity <i>Adoration & Benediction</i>	5 pm (Vigil)	Marian Falenta & family RIP
	8.30 am	Tess & Mick Joyce RIP
	10.30 am	Deceased members of the Dent & Flattery families RIP
	4.15 pm	Syro Malabar
Monday, 27 th November	12 noon	Funeral: Michael Francis Hannon RIP
Tuesday, 28 th November	10.30 am	David Dye RIP – <i>Foundation Mass</i>
Wednesday, 29 th November	10.30 am	Rose Pocock RIP
Thursday, 30 th November ST ANDREW , Apostle	9.30 am	Kirsty RIP
Friday, 1 st December		
Saturday, 2 nd December Our Lady on Saturday		
Sunday, 3 rd December FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAYS & FEASTS: Year B	5 pm (Vigil)	Donal English RIP
	8.30 am	Frank Jennings RIP
	10.30 am	Donal English RIP

* Please note that services are live streamed: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCruCvuFlvKVpmI2vvGWdDKQ> *

ADVENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE: Tuesday, 12th December @ 6.30 pm

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.

(MICHAEL) FRANK HANNON RIP



The parish offers condolences to the family of Frank Hannon who died recently. Frank's Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Monday, 27th November at 12 noon, followed by committal at Reading Crematorium. *Please pray for the repose of Frank's soul.*

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

This year, Advent is very short with Sunday, 24th December being the only day in the fourth week, the last day of Advent, Christmas Eve, and also, beginning with the Vigil Mass, the first day of Christmas time. Therefore, on Sunday, 24th December, the 4th Sunday of Advent, Mass will be celebrated at **10 am only** followed by:

- Sunday, 24th December – Christmas Eve Mass: The Nativity of the Lord at 6 pm and 11.30 pm Carols followed by Midnight Mass.
- Monday, 25th December – Christmas Day Mass at 9.30 am.
- Tuesday, 26th December – St Stephen's Day Mass at 10.30 am.

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS:
18TH/19TH NOVEMBER 2023**

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£202.00
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£25.00
Loose Plate	£297.10
TOTAL	£524.10
<u>Running Totals</u>	
Stella Maris	£573.72
Day for Life	£597.16
Peter's Pence	£420.10
Home Mission	£403.28
CAFOD Fast Day	£579.44
World Missions	£949.70
Bamenda Sunday	£729.58

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.

POSADA (TRAVELLING CRIB)

If you would like to host the Posada during Advent, please sign the rota in the porch *before* 3rd December.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Gerard Tomas, Charles Livingston, Barbara Turner, Stefen Griffiths, Nina Aramo, Jo Boase, Julie Thompson, Aldo Garzia, Marek, Pauline, Babs & Don, Maggie Tranter, Leszek Wlasak, Jackie Hopper, Sisters of St Ann (in Bamenda), Caroline Hurst, Kevin Keep, Brigid, Adrian Robson, John Cronin, Alan Allen, Veronica Williams, David Petersen, Colin Joseph, Gerry Heenan, Ted Millichap, Helen, Eileen, Tony Chaplin, Diane McDonnell. If you would like to add a name to this list, or if you have any queries, please contact *Sheila* in the *Parish Office*.

MOTHERS PRAYERS

Come together to pray with other mothers for our children, grandchildren and 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.



NEW STARTERS SEPTEMBER 2024



Open Mornings for the September 2024 Intake: Tuesday, 5th December at 10 am, Wednesday, 10th January at 10 am. Booking is essential. Come have a look at our Outstanding Catholic School, as judged by the Diocese. <http://www.stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk/> Telephone No. 0118 942 2003.



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

The monthly CIRDIC and family collection is on the 1st Sunday of the month, including the Saturday Vigil Mass. Leave donations in the Crying Room if a member of the SVP Group is not available. Donations of food and clothing are always greatly appreciated. You can donate 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 CHRISTMAS PARTY



Please join us for our annual SVP Senior Citizens Christmas party on Saturday, 9th December from 1 - 4.30 pm in the large hall. Traditional, hot Christmas lunch | St Paul's Children's Choir | Carol Singing with the Silver Tones | Bingo . . . and more! Come alone, bring a friend, make some friends - *All welcome!* If you would like to spend a relaxing afternoon amongst friends, please put your name down on the list at the back of the church by Sunday, 3rd December. If you would like more information, please contact *Patrizia Chessell* on 0774 054 7922. *"For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them". Matthew 18:20.*

APF

It is time to empty the Mission boxes again. Please hand them to the Sacristan or into the Parish Office by 15th December. Any monies received after this date cannot be included in the 2023 accounts. The 2024 calendars are available on the table at the back of the church. *Mike Tomas, APF Secretary.*



CHARITY CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Saturday, 2nd December from 11 am – 1 pm at the English Martyrs Church Hall, Liebenrood Road, Reading. Charities include: LIFE, The Children's Society, Thames Valley Animal Welfare. Stalls selling: Gifts, cards, plants, toys, handicrafts, jewellery, Avon, cakes, a tombola, a raffle and more. Admission FREE!

ST ANDREW, PATRON OF SCOTLAND

Thursday, 30th November is the Feast of St Andrew – a great day to go to Mass, if you can. St Andrew was one of the twelve apostles and the older brother of St Peter. He was born in Bethsaida on the Sea of Galilee and was a fisherman. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee and saw Andrew and Simon Peter fishing. It is then he asked the two to become disciples and "fishers of men." The Gospel of John says Andrew was a disciple of John the Baptist. When Jesus walked by one day, John the Baptist said, "Behold, the Lamb of God!" It is then that Andrew decided to follow Jesus. Little else is said about him in the Gospels. It was Andrew who told Jesus about the boy with the loaves and fishes, according to John 6:8. When Philip wanted to speak to Jesus about Greeks seeking him, he spoke to Andrew first. Andrew was present at the Last Supper. After the Resurrection, he is said to have preached the Gospel around the Black Sea and throughout Greece and Turkey. He was martyred by crucifixion in Patras, bound, rather than nailed, to an X-shaped cross or a "saltire." Today this is commonly referred to as "St Andrew's Cross." Relics of St Andrew were said to have reached Scottish soil thanks to St Rule, a Greek monk who had set sail from Patras in 345 and who was eventually shipwrecked in Fife at "St. Andrews." Andrew became patron saint of Scotland in 832, after Oengus II led an army of Picts and Scots to victory in a battle against Aethelstan's Angles at East Lothian. Oengus was badly outnumbered and feared defeat until he saw an X-shaped cloud in the sky. In 1320, Scotland announced its independence from England with the Declaration of Arbroath and officially adopted St Andrew as its patron. Here is a prayer from Westminster Cathedral's Chapel of St Andrew:

Lord, we pray for the people of Scotland.

Bless them with peace and prosperity.

*Help us all, like St Andrew, to hear Jesus' call
to be his disciple,*

And to make his gospel known in our world. Amen.

FROM CARITAS PORTSMOUTH

COP28 is rapidly approaching (30 Nov – 12 Dec). In Laudate Deum, Pope Francis describes how some of the big changes we need to happen to slow the rate of climate change must come from the actions of governments. Let us pray for those leaders, that they can listen to those already affected by climate change and have courage to act. Visit our website <https://caritasportsmouth.org.uk> for links to prayer resources.

Please note: The deadline for items to be included in the newsletter is **Thursdays at 9 am** – Thank you.



WINTER NIGHT SHELTER FOR ROUGH SLEEPERS 'B4N' 2024

Reading Churches plan to offer a night shelter to rough sleepers again from January to March 2024 – this time in one central venue. Catholic parishioners are invited to join with them in showing Jesus' practical care for those suffering homelessness. Help is needed with welcoming, hosting, cooking, staying overnight, and cooking breakfast. Any involvement you can offer is great and welcomed. For more information, please contact:

- Louise Cross: Faith Christian Group
0781 079 5180 - admin@b4n.org.uk
- English Martyrs Parish Office: 0118 957 2149 - office@englishmartyrsrdg.com

Or join a 30 min information Zoom with Louise on Monday, 27th November at 7.30 pm for Reading Pastoral Area parishioners:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86144393078?pwd=WWk4ckVmOUNwVzFCbnV1YUNNZUI0Zz09> Meeting ID: 861 4439 3078. Passcode: 055768.

ST EDMUND CAMPION

Friday, 1st December, the parishes of our Diocese in Berkshire and Oxfordshire keep the Memorial of St Edmund Campion, a man especially associated with our Diocese of Portsmouth. If we think that Britain today faces change and uncertainty, so too was the situation in the late 16C. Catholicism was illegal, to be a Jesuit was to be a traitor, to be a priest meant sure arrest. Yet this was the danger Edmund ran for the love of Jesus and the Catholic Faith. Born in 1540, the highly gifted son of a London bookseller, in his early 20s he became a fellow of Oxford University. A fine orator and scholar, he was chosen to make a formal speech before the Queen and soon after, though raised Catholic, was ordained deacon in the Anglican Church. He later recanted when in Ireland and, returning to his Catholic roots, he left for Douai, then Rome, to become a Jesuit. Ordained a priest in 1578, he was chosen, with Fr Robert Persons, for the first Jesuit mission to England. He landed at Dover on 24th June 1580, disguised as a jewel merchant. He ministered in secret in the houses of recusant Catholics, and it was in our Diocese at Lyford Grange on 17th July 1581, after a deadly game of cat and mouse, that he was betrayed and arrested. Tortured in the Tower and tried for treason, "Campion the Seditious Jesuit" was condemned to death at Tyburn on 1st December with SS Ralph Sherwin and Alexander Bryant. This brilliant man, brave, witty, full of faith, serene and holy, was hanged, drawn and quartered. Canonized by Paul VI in 1970, Edmund Campion is easily the best known, perhaps the best loved, of all the Forty Martyrs. Honoured by his friends as suavissime et optime, the 'sweetest and best,' let's ask his prayers for our land, at this time of change and uncertainty that many more people may come closer to Jesus Christ through His Church.