

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

✉ hnpkop@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

Muriel Fernandes

✉ safeguarding.reajo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - 6TH SEPTEMBER 2026

Saturday, 5 th September St Teresa of Calcutta , Religious	9 am	Rosary & Exposition
	10 am	Donal Patrick English & Maureen English (<i>Foundation Mass</i>)
	10.30 am	Confessions
	5 pm Vigil	Private intention
Sunday, 6 th September TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.30 am	Pauline Brown RIP
	*10.30 am	John Horkan RIP
Monday, 7 th September	10 am	John Macbeth RIP
Tuesday, 8 th September THE NATIVITY OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY , feast	11.30 am	Funeral: John Macbeth RIP
Wednesday, 9 th September St Peter Claver , Religious	9.30 am	John & Angela Macbeth RIP
Thursday, 10 th September		
Friday, 11 th September (<i>No Exposition</i>)	7 pm	Mary Cox RIP
Saturday, 12 th September The Most Holy Name of Mary	9 am	Rosary & Exposition
	10 am	Maureen Hanson RIP
	10.30 am	Confessions
	5 pm Vigil	Jimmy & Nonie Fahy, Bernie Fahy, Mattie Fahy, Brendan Reynolds and Francis Ryan RIP
Sunday, 13 th September TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	8.30 am	All Souls in Purgatory and Giovanna & Luana
	*10.30 am	Sabino Rato RIP
	5 pm	Syro Malabar

*Please note only 10.30 am Sunday Mass and special Masses are live-streamed: *<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRuCyvFlvKVpmI2vvGWdDKQ>

LECTIONARY FOR SUNDAYS & FEASTS: YEAR A



JOHN MACBETH RIP

The parish offers condolences to the family of John Macbeth who died recently. John's Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, 8th September at 11.30 am, followed by burial committal at St Michael's Churchyard, Tilehurst, at 12.45 pm. May his gentle soul rest in peace with the Lord. *All are welcome.*

FIRST HOLY COMMUNION 2026/2027

If your child is in Year 3 or above and has been baptised, they're ready to start this beautiful journey toward Jesus in the Eucharist! Preparation sessions for First Holy Communion will commence from November 2026. An inaugural Mass for candidates and parents will take place on Saturday, 7th November at 10 am, followed by a talk by Fr Henry on key information about the First Holy Communion programme. Sessions will be held at St Joseph's parish hall on Mondays at 4.30 pm. Forms are available on the parish website, in the church porch and from St Paul's School Office. Please return completed forms to the Parish Office or St Paul's School Office by **Monday, 14th September 2026**.

PARISH EVANGELISATION CELLS: IMAGINE OUR PARISH

Imagine a parish where everyone feels welcomed, faith is shared naturally and more people discover their gifts for serving others. Imagine parishioners praying regularly for family and friends, encouraging one another and growing together as disciples. This is the vision of Parish Evangelisation Cells; not replacing parish life or already established groups but strengthening the parish from within.

Our Parish Evangelisation Envisioning Evening is at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 16th September here at St Joseph's Tilehurst in the large hall. Come and hear how this vision is renewing parishes and discover how we might embrace it together here in Reading. To find out more go to www.pecsengland.com

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Gerard, Charles, Stefen, Nina, Julie, Pauline, Babs, Maggie, Jackie, Mike, Brigid, Adrian, Veronica, Dan and Joe, Helen, Tommy, Liz, Lina, Anna, Pat, Cameron.

PARISH CURRY NIGHT - SATURDAY, 26TH SEPTEMBER

Come and join us for a curry night on Saturday, 26th September at St Joseph's main hall at 6.30 pm. Feast on chicken /veg curry, sides, rice and naan, plus dessert? All for £15 per person. Bring your own alcohol, if you wish. Food will be provided by the Spice Master Restaurant, Tilehurst. If you can join us, please add your name to the list in the porch.

WELCOME



A warm welcome to Sienna Ray De Sousa Rathbone who is to be baptised here at St Joseph's this weekend.

PRAYER TO ST JOSEPH

[Catholic Prayer Library, Prayer and Devotion](#), On 23rd April 2025 by [Pope Francis](#)

"[There is] a prayer to Saint Joseph to which I am particularly attached and which I have recited every day for more than forty years. It is a prayer that I found in a prayer book of the Sisters of Jesus and Mary, from the 1700s, the end of the 18th century. It is very beautiful, but more than a prayer it is a challenge, to this friend, to this father, to this our guardian, who is Saint Joseph. It would be wonderful if you could learn this prayer and repeat it.

*"Glorious Patriarch St Joseph,
whose power makes the impossible possible,
come to my aid in these times of anguish and difficulty.
Take under your protection the serious and troubling situations that I commend to you,
that they may have a happy outcome.
My beloved father, all my trust is in you.
Let it not be said that I invoked you in vain,
and since you can do everything with Jesus and Mary,
show me that your goodness is as great as your power."*

Pope Francis – General Audience, "Catechesis on St Joseph: 10", 2nd February 2022.

[Pope Francis' Favourite Prayer to St Joseph | Catholic Truth Society](#)

SUNDAY COLLECTIONS:
16TH AUGUST 2026

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£189.50
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£20.00
Loose Plate	£351.14
TOTAL	£560.64

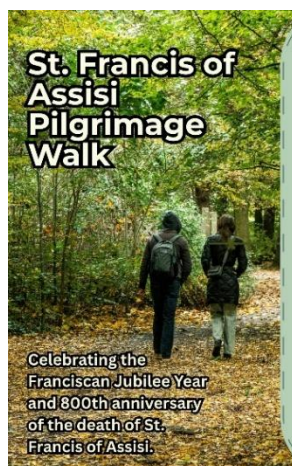
23RD AUGUST 2026

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£242.50
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£30.00
Loose Plate	£300.02
TOTAL	£572.52

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.

ST JOSEPH'S ROSARY ONLINE

We come together each evening at 8 pm to pray the Rosary as a community. Come as you are, and bring your intentions with you. Please click on the following link, or copy & paste it into your browser: <https://us05web.zoom.us/j/87447414187?pwd=xXHtnEeG02u35IST6F9uPEJH0d5dnP.1> Meeting ID: 874 4741 4187. Passcode: BtM9sX



St. Francis of Assisi Pilgrimage Walk

Celebrating the Franciscan Jubilee Year and 800th anniversary of the death of St. Francis of Assisi.

Date: 10 October 2026
Departure time: 9.30am
Departing from: St James Church

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Join us for walking, prayer, reflection and sustenance.

- Gentle, easy terrain for all ages.
- Toilets and refreshment stops throughout and at the finish.
- Public transport at several points for those wishing to head back early.
- 11.5 MILE walk, full day event, bus (Lime 2) back to Reading

Contact the Parish office email office@stjw.co.uk if you would like to join us, or find out more.

TILEHURST DROP-IN CENTRE & FOODBANK

We are supporting approximately 40 households with food and household products. Many thanks for your very generous donations. This week, we are short of **weetabix, cereals for kids, tinned hot dogs, baked beans, rice, sugar, shower gel, shampoo, washing up liquid**. 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.



CURRENT JOB VACANCIES

Please click the link to access current job vacancies across the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth [Careers - Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth](https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/careers)

To keep up to date with the news of the Diocese and the Bishop please follow:
Facebook: @PortsmouthRC
LinkedIn: Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Twitter: @PortsmouthRC
The Diocese website: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/>

DIOCESAN CATECHIST DAY - PORTSMOUTH
DIOCESE - SATURDAY, 10TH OCTOBER |
9.30AM - 1.30 PM | ST BEDE'S, BASINGSTOKE

Whether you are a parish catechist, sacramental preparation leader, RCIA team member, children's liturgy volunteer, youth catechist, or involved in any ministry of faith formation, you are warmly invited to the **Portsmouth Diocese Catechists' Formation Day**. We will be joined by Fr Emmanuel Mansford of the Franciscan Friars of the Renewal and Dr Káren North from St Mary's University Twickenham as we come together from across the Diocese for a morning of prayer, inspiration, and practical formation as we reflect on our shared mission to **form missionary disciples**. The day will start with Mass before we move into our sessions, there will also be a time for prayer and reflection as well as hearing from each other before we finish the day with a shared lunch (provided as part of the day). To register your interest please go to <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/e/RFGROzEzDh> or email Meghan on ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk



THE HOME PILGRIM VIRGIN VISITATION STATUES (HPVS)

A portable statue of the Pilgrim Virgin to visit parishioner's homes for one week with a special blessing from the sanctuary of the parish church, to encourage us, as we kneel in prayer before the Mother of the Holy Family, to entrust to her loving care all the struggles and difficulties, joys and sorrows, which we experience day by day in our own family.

Let us resolve faithfully to pray her Rosary every day, meditating on the divine mysteries of her Son, as she requested at Fatima, so that we may deserve to experience Our Lady's powerful and consoling assistance in our lives.

PREPARATION FOR THE VISIT OF OUR LADY

- The principles behind the Pilgrim Virgin programme are the promotion of conversion, peace, unity and love, as well as the desire to bring families to pray together and be united in their faith in Christ.
- Any member of the parish who makes a request may have the Pilgrim Virgin, even if they are a one-person household. The Pilgrim Virgin statue should remain with the family/household for one week, during which time the rosary should be prayed daily before it, in fulfilment of Our Lady's request at Fatima.
- Friends and neighbours may be invited by the host family to join in praying with them, if they so wish. The Pilgrim Virgin statue can also visit residential homes, hospitals, and schools, providing, of course, that the necessary permission has been obtained.
- When everyone who has requested the Pilgrim Virgin statue has received a visit, then a second round of visits may be started.
- The Rosary should always begin with the introductory prayers for the intentions of the Holy Father and for the good of the Church entrusted to his care. That way, any indulgence gained can be offered for the holy souls in Purgatory.

To request a visit or for more information, please contact:
Aline Phillips +44 7904 569437

Pray the Rosary • Invite Others • Grow in Faith • Unite in Christ

The statue of Our Lady started her journey around the homes of our parishioners on the Feast of the Assumption. Please complete the sign-up sheet, available from this weekend in the church porch, if you wish to receive Our Lady into your home.

CARDINAL RAYMOND BURKE:

Why the message of Fatima is more important than ever: <https://youtube.com/watch?v=YEvEtnIF0w&is=37AIC71VkpSpwMfZ>



**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* ritauro@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.

GOING INTO HOSPITAL

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

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS (R.C.I.A.)

Thinking about becoming a Catholic? Join our RCIA course to explore and learn more. It is open to anyone who is not yet baptised, baptised Christians from other traditions, or anyone considering becoming Catholic. Sessions begin in September 2026 - Easter 2027. If you would like to find out more, please contact the Parish Office.

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.*



ST JOSEPH'S HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER GROUP



The St Joseph's Holy Spirit Prayer Group meets every first and third Tuesday in the small room at the back of the church from 7 – 9 pm. *Everyone is welcome.*

DEVOTION TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Please join us at 9 am, every first Saturday of the month, for Devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary. *All are welcome.*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Would you be interested in volunteering to help with any maintenance jobs in our parish? We need help with plumbing, decorating, carpentry, electrics, meter reading, monthly checks, odd jobs, etc. *There is a sign-up sheet available in the church porch.*

ASSISTED SUICIDE BILL

Your MP could be one of the 12. Only 12 MPs need to switch for the assisted suicide Bill to be defeated on 11 September. A face-to-face meeting can make a real difference to how your MP votes. Right To Life UK's simple tool lets you request a meeting in just 30 seconds and gives you everything you need to prepare, including a short video guide. Please ask your MP today for a meeting and urge them to vote NO to assisted suicide: <https://righttolife.org.uk/meetyourmp>

BACK TO SCHOOL AND EXAMS

As the schools head back after the summer break, we wish all the students and teachers the best over the coming year. For those beginning Primary or Secondary School, it may seem scary but it will get better and you will make new friends. Congratulations to all students who received their results over the summer break, we hope you achieved the result you wanted and can move forward to the next phase of your lives.

CYBER CRIME ALERT FOR READING PARISHES!

Hackers recently seem to be targeting church communities' social sites. To protect yourselves from WhatsApp scams, you are recommended to:

- ✓ Enable two-step verification (2FA),
- ✓ Never share verification codes,
- ✓ Avoid suspicious links, QR codes, or attachments,
- ✓ Regularly check linked devices for unfamiliar logins.

LOOKING TO MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE TO COUPLES, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES?



Join us in continuing to make the world of difference to thousands of couples - many of whom say our service helped them rebuild their relationship and keep their family together! Whether you can spare a few hours a month or much more, and whether you want a front-line role or prefer to work 'behind the scenes', there's a volunteering opportunity to suit you and a welcoming community for you to be a part of. To find out more please visit: www.marriagecare.org.uk or email: volunteer@marriagecare.org.uk



PARISH DATABASE



Adult Parishioner Registration Form. Please click the link to the online form here [REAJO Adult Parishioner Registration Form](#)

Please register with our parish



Child Parishioner Registration Form. Please click the link to the online form here [REAJO Child Parishioner Registration Form](#)