

NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST



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

☎ 0118 942 8632 ✉ sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

🌐 www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk 📺 St Joseph's Church, Tilehurst, Reading

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

☎ 0118 943 3524

✉ miriam@st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SUNDAY, 23RD FEBRUARY 2020

ASH WEDNESDAY

ASH WEDNESDAY is next Wednesday, 26th February. Masses, when ashes will be blessed and distributed, are at 9.30 am (St Paul's School Mass here at St Joseph's), 12 noon & 7 pm. It is a day of fasting and abstinence, mandatory on both Ash Wednesday and Good Friday, when God calls us to repent with prayer, fasting and almsgiving.



CAFOD LENT FAMILY FAST DAY – FRIDAY, 6TH MARCH

This is an opportunity to support our overseas brothers and sisters in need. Eat a simple meal on that day so that others can simply eat! Anabel Goncalves, our CAFOD parish representative, will speak after both Masses on Sunday, 1st March. Through CAFOD's global network your support can reach the ends of the earth, so please collect your Fast Day envelope from church and give whatever you can, or donate online at <https://cafod.org.uk/Fundraise/Fast-Day>. Thank you.

Fr Peter.

MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 23RD FEBRUARY – SUNDAY, 1ST MARCH 2020		
Sunday, 23 rd February	8.30 am	Tessie Joyce RIP
SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	10.30 am	Margaret and Charles Tinsley RIP
Monday, 24 th February	NO MASS	
Tuesday, 25 th February	12 noon	Samantha Cross RIP
ASH WEDNESDAY, 26th February	9.30 am	St Paul's School Mass (here)
<i>Beginning of the Season of Lent</i>	12 noon	Graham Ward RIP
<i>Day of Fasting & Abstinence</i>	7 pm	Brid & Gerry Brett & family's intentions
Thursday, 27 th February	9.30 am	John & Vera O'Carroll & family's intentions
Friday, 28 th February	6 pm	Syro Malabar Stations of the Cross
	7 pm	Tessie Joyce RIP
	7.30 pm	Stations of the Cross
Saturday, 29 th February	10 am	Jim & Anne O'Carroll & family's intentions
Sunday, 1 st March	8.30 am	Margaret Humphreys RIP
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT	10.30 am	Eileen Drake RIP
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Saturday: 9.20 am followed by 10 am Mass.		
ROSARY & CONFESSIONS Saturday: Following 10 am Mass.		
Responsorial Psalm: "The Lord is compassion and love".		

COLLECTION FOR 16TH FEBRUARY 2020

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£263.50
Planned Giving (envelopes)	£26.00
Loose Plate	£289.11
Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC)	£388.85
Candles	£51.38
Donation (Syro Malabar)	£60.00
Confirmation fees	£75.00
Mass Stole fees	£70.00
TOTAL	£1,223.84
RUNNING TOTALS	
TF3 (CAFOD)	£116.25
TF9 ("On Fire!")	£3,874.77
Divine Mercy Centre	£288.96
Cathedral Fund	£392.09
Society for the Protection of Unborn Children (SPUC)	£388.85

REMINDER FOR NEXT SUNDAY, 1ST MARCH

- Collection for CAFOD Lent Fast Day
- **Counters:**
T Clarke & J Horton.
- **Mass readers**:**
8.30 am.
1st Reading – C Ogbuagu.
2nd Reading – N Bricker.
10.30 am
1st Reading – G Heenan.
2nd Reading – A Archer.
Eucharistic Ministers:**
8.30 am
E Wooller, J Scarpa & T Parnell.
10.30 am
M Fernandes, S Collier & A Goncalves.
Eucharistic Minister - Oakwood Ward:
E Wooller.

****Eucharistic Ministers & Readers: Will you kindly note that due to constant swapping around of dates, the accuracy of the above names cannot be guaranteed. Thank you**.**

WEDNESDAY PRAYER GROUP – 9.30 AM

Due to flood damage in the Marian Room, all prayer group meetings will take place at St Catherine's, until further notice. *All are welcome*

PRAYER REQUESTS

There is a Prayer Request box in the church porch into which you are invited to place any intentions that you may have. Each week during one of the Masses, Fr Peter will pray especially for those intentions. **PLEASE DO NOT PUT ANY MONEY IN THE BOX.**

TEA/COFFEE

Tea/Coffee will be served after 10.30 am Mass. *All are welcome.*

UNION OF CATHOLIC MOTHERS

For our next meeting, we will share a simple lunch of soup and bread in the small hall, after attending the parish Mass for Ash Wednesday at midday.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND

Nora Colley, Dick O'Brien, Sheila Robinson, Pat Togher, Bernadette Smeesters, Gerard Tomas, Lya Turner, Charles Livingston, Barbara Turner, Mary Hoban, Rita Boyce, Jean Trott, Stefen Griffiths, Nina Aramo, Jo Boase, Julie Thompson, Michael & Joy O'Connell, Carmela Garzia, Kathleen Urban, Helen, Natasha, Marek, Bridget, Iga, Mimi Furnell, Bob Goodwin, Maggie Tranter, Jadwiga Wlasak, Ged & Maureen Murphy. If you would like to add a name to this list, or if you have any queries, please contact *Sheila* in the *Parish Office*.

GOING INTO HOSPITAL?

If you know in advance that you are going into hospital, please inform Fr Peter. In case of emergency, inform hospital staff and they will take the necessary action of contacting a priest for you. Sunday Mass is celebrated at 4 pm in the Royal Berkshire Hospital chapel. *Patients, staff & visitors are all welcome.*

VISITS TO THE HOUSEBOUND

Fr Peter will make visits to the housebound, those who are unable to come to Mass, for the Sacrament of the Sick, Confession and Holy Communion on Thursday, 26th March from 9 am onwards. Please telephone the Parish Office and leave your details with *Sheila*.

SVP

A Mass with Sacramental Anointing of the Sick will be held on Thursday, 12th March at 2 pm. Tea, coffee, cake, etc., will be available in the hall after Mass. *Everyone is welcome.* Should you require transport, please contact *Jack* or other members of the SVP.

ST PAUL'S SCHOOL - 50TH CELEBRATION

There will be an open afternoon on Sunday, 15th March, to commemorate the opening of St Paul's School, from 12 noon - 2 pm.

"Be holy, for I, the Lord your God, am holy." Is your vocation to holiness to be lived out as a priest or in the consecrated life? Contact *Fr John Cooke* vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 0132 931 8869.

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH OFFICE

St Joseph's Parish Office will be closed next Tuesday, 25th February, but will be open as usual on Thursday & Friday.

Our next "On Fire!" Prayer & Healing Service will be held on Saturday, 14th March 2020 from 5 – 7 pm. Please park considerately. *All are welcome.*

PARISH LIFE & WORSHIP IN MEDIEVAL READING

An illustrated talk by a leading local historian, Joan Dils, at Our Lady of Peace Church on 11th March at 7.30 pm. *Everyone welcome.*

WALKING THE ST JAMES' WAY

From Reading Abbey to Southampton in 6 stages on a Saturday starting 21st March at St James' Church, Reading, RG1 3FD. The route passes through beautiful countryside, past points of historic and religious interest, to a place where many pilgrims in former days will have set sail for Spain. Why not re-enact their journey by joining us this year? Please email St James' Parish Office on stjames@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk to register your interest. Please see poster for full list of dates.

DIOCESAN MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE DAY

On Saturday, 18th April from 10 am – 4 pm at the English Martyrs Church: 'BREAKTHROUGH'. For more information go to www.smartloving.org/breakthrough



Please note that there is a designated wheelchair area in our church, situated beside the choir.

PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE

If you would like to consider travelling to Medjugorje as a parish, please add your name and telephone number to Fr Peter's list. Details are set out below: 16th - 25th September 2020 - 9 nights. Accommodation is based on bed, breakfast and evening meal. All rooms are en-suite and air conditioned. Tariff: Single occupancy: 35 Euros per night = 315 Euros per person. Shared occupancy: 25 Euros per night = 225 Euros per person. (Note: any possible increase on these rates in due course will be very minimal). Also, there will be an additional total return payment of 40 Euros per person for coach transfers between the airport and Medjugorje. Flight details: Outbound: BA0842 LHR - SPLIT (Terminal 5) departing at 13.35 - 16th September 2020. Return: BA0843 SPLIT - LHR (Terminal 5) departing at 14.20 - 25th September 2020.

LAITY LED STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Laity led Stations of the Cross before Mass on Tuesdays (Wednesday in Holy Week) have been well attended over the last few years. However, finding people to lead them has proved difficult. There are no set prayers to accompany the Stations, so who ever leads, decides the format to adopt. Guidance can be given if you would like to lead but have never done so before. If you are able to lead, please contact me. *Mike Tomas - 0770 803 2743.*

THE NATIONAL NOVENA TO ST JOSEPH

10th - 18th March 2020 at St Joseph's Church in Maidenhead and at Herbert House, Freshfield, Liverpool. Each year the Mill Hill Missionaries prepare for the Feast of St Joseph, their patron, with a special novena of Masses and prayers to ask for God's blessing on their Society and the missionary outreach of the Church, as well as for the intentions of all those who support their work. You are invited to send in your petitions and/or request a novena booklet to enable you to join in from home by praying the daily Novena prayer. Please write to *Novena Director, St Joseph's Missionary Society, 58 Cookham Road, Maidenhead, SL6 7HT* or email: *novenamhm@gmail.com.*

REMINDER: DROP-IN CENTRE & PARISH SVP

Our monthly collection for the Drop-in Centre and parish SVP is next Sunday, 1st March. Please note that the items that are most useful this month are:

- Tins of minced beef, chicken casserole, beef casserole, stewed beef, vegetable curry, beef curry, chicken curry
- Tea bags, instant coffee, sugar
- Tinned cold meats, tinned tuna
- Tinned soup, tinned hot dogs or meatballs
- Pasta sauces, tinned vegetables
- Family cereal, porridge, tinned fruit
- Warm socks
- Warm coats, in good condition for men and women
- Towels in good condition

All donated food items must have a long "use by" date, to be of use. Please leave your donations in the church porch next Sunday, 1st March. Thank you for your support with this collection. Any queries, please contact *Margaret Bailie* on 941 1483.

VOCATIONS WEEKEND FOR YOUNG WOMEN

Theme: Discernment and Vocation. Dates: 28th February - 1st March 2020. The weekend in Liverpool is organised by sisters of the Faithful Companions of Jesus (FCJ). There will be opportunity for prayer, reflection and input, chance to ask questions and meet others who are also wondering where God is calling them. Contact *Sr Lynne fcj* at *lynnefcj@hotmail.com* or visit our website: *www.fcjsisters.org*

LENT 2020

Traditionally, Lent has been a time when we give up something we enjoy: biscuits, sweets or alcohol, for example. However, Lent is about self-discipline. Self-discipline doesn't have to be "giving something up", it can take the form of "doing something extra". During Lent last year, Fr Peter introduced a 6.30 am Mass on Wednesday mornings, giving us all the opportunity to practise self-discipline - to do something extra. The first of these Masses will be on 4th March and the last will be on 1st April (there will not be one in Holy Week). This Holy Season of Lent, why not give it a go? It really is good for the soul.

THE RE-DEDICATION OF ENGLAND AS THE DOWRY OF MARY - "BEHOLD"

This Re-dedication on March 29th is both a personal promise by the people of England, and a renewal of the entrustment vows made by King Richard II in Westminster Abbey in 1381. England received the title 'Mary's Dowry' when Richard sought Our Lady's protection in the face of great political turmoil. This meant England was 'set aside' as a gift for Our Lady under her guidance and protection. On Sunday, 29th March at 12 noon, the Re-dedication will take place throughout the country. Like King Richard we are invited to give ourselves, the people of this country, as a gift to Mary. We can respond in two ways; making a personal pledge (the "Angelus Promise" in which we proclaim our union with Mary through the words of the Annunciation) and a communal entrustment (a prayer of profoundly historic and spiritual nature, bringing together the prayers of surrender and dedication that have echoed throughout our history). All parishes, schools and Catholic organisations are invited to host this dedication and mark the occasion in their own way. For more details go to <https://www.behold2020.com/take-part>. The re-dedication comes as we celebrate God's Word becoming Flesh during "Year of the Word - the God Who Speaks". To link the two events, more can be found at www.godwhospeaks.org or the national site <https://www.cbcew.org.uk/home/events/the-god-who-speaks/>

SUNDAY, 1ST MARCH 2020 DAY OF PRAYER & REPARATION FOR THE SINS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

Bishop Philip writes: I'd like to invite the whole Diocese to join me at the Cathedral on the First Sunday of Lent, 1st March 2020 for a Day of Prayer and Reparation for the sins of sexual abuse by members of the Church. I will lead the day, with the Cathedral clergy, assisted by Fr Dominic Allain and Antonia Moffat of the organisation From Grief to Grace. The purpose is to beg God's forgiveness and healing and make reparation for the sins and crimes of sexual abuse that have taken place within the Church by and against its own members, especially children and vulnerable adults. As we begin the season of Lent, and especially during this two-year period of intense prayer for the spiritual renewal of our Diocese, it seems very important that we all have an opportunity to pray earnestly for the victims of sexual abuse and for the forgiveness of those people, clerical and lay, who have perpetrated abuse. We can feel heavily tarnished by the sins of the few and this weight of shame and guilt impairs and even imperils the Church's mission, or at least our ability serenely and joyfully to communicate the Good News of Christ. The Day will comprise prayers, talks, Rosary and devotions, woven around the Cathedral's usual Sunday Mass schedule. I will preach at all the morning Masses. The Day culminates with an afternoon Communal Act of Repentance and Atonement. More details in the next few weeks. *All are welcome.*