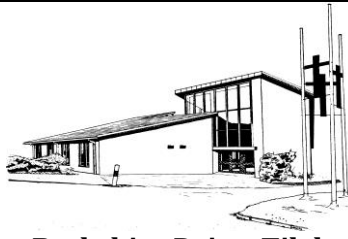


NEWSLETTER FOR ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST



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

Royal Berkshire Hospital Chaplain:

Fr John Paul Lyttle ☎ 0118 322 7105 (RBH) ☎ 0118 957 2149 (Parish) ☎ 0739 189 6559 (Mobile)

THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD (C) – SUNDAY, 6TH JANUARY 2019



Wise Men, Magi, Three Kings, Astrologers or Astronomers – who knows exactly what these men were who arrived 'from the east' to pay homage to the new-born child. There are plenty of theories about who they were and where they came from but to get hung up on these details is to miss the point as far as the Gospel story is concerned. Right at the very beginning of Christ's life on earth people are drawn to his presence to worship him, just as the prophecy in Isaiah foreshows.

First come representatives of the Jewish people – the shepherds on whom the brightness of heaven had shone to direct their way. Then, sometime later, come representatives of nations far away and with different cultures and religions. They too are given a sign, and a guide: the star. This was a sign which was significant in their own culture, for God always starts leading us from where we are at the moment; he will use all kinds of incidents and experiences we are naturally involved with in order to draw us to himself.

At the beginning of another year, we can look forward with hope because of our faith in Jesus Christ. What we cannot know are the challenges and maybe tough situations we will need to face during the twelve months ahead. There will be lots of good – new relationships, the birth of babies, young people branching out and embracing new opportunities, new jobs and promotions. All of which provide ways for us to grow and 'live life to the full'. And, yes, mixed in with those there will be times of sadness, of loss, of coming to terms with things we would rather not face. But in all of it we are never ever alone because 'God-is-with-us'. This is why he came and why he beckons us to draw closer. Don't gaze from a distance at the child in the manger – come closer and allow him to take and hold your hand as you walk through this year.

May I take this opportunity of wishing you all a Happy and Holy New Year and may you all receive many blessings from the Good Lord in the year ahead.

Fr Peter.

MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 6th JANUARY – SUNDAY, 13th JANUARY 2019		
Sunday, 6th January <i>THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD</i>	8.30 am	Doris and Bill Cordaroy RIP
	10.30 am	Renato Goncalves RIP
Monday, 7th January	NO MASS	
Tuesday, 8th January	12noon	Tony Flint RIP
Wednesday, 9th January	12 noon	Paul Spackman's Intentions
Thursday, 10th January	9.30 am	Ian Murray RIP
Friday, 11th January	7 pm	Michael & Kate Cummins & deceased members of their family
Saturday, 12th January	10 am	Fr Colm Kelleher RIP – Foundation Mass
Sunday, 13th January	8.30 am	Bridget Jones RIP
	10.30 am	Fr Peter Tierney RIP
EXPOSITION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT Saturday: 9.20 am followed by 10 am Mass.		
ROSARY & CONFESSIONS Saturday: Following 10am Mass.		
Responsorial Psalm: "All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord."		

**COLLECTIONS FOR
25TH & 30TH DECEMBER 2018**

Gift Aid (Envelopes)	£203.60
Planned Giving (Envelopes)	£42.50
Loose Plate	£294.80
TF3 (CAFOD)	£20.00
Candles	£85.03
Christmas Collection	£2,330.25
TOTAL	£2,976.18
<u>RUNNING TOTALS</u>	
TF3 (CAFOD)	£396.50
TF4 (Parish Events)	£151.69
TF9 ("On Fire!")	£2,197.47
First Holy Communion Subs	£825.00
Christmas Collection	£2,766.50

**REMINDER FOR NEXT SUNDAY,
13TH JANUARY**

- The counters will be Tom & Pat McKeown and Hugh Glover.
- The Eucharistic Minister for Oakwood Ward will be Claude Fearn. If you do swap with another Eucharistic Minister, please remember to notify the Parish Office, so that we can publicise the correct information in the newsletter.
Thank you.

GOING INTO HOSPITAL?

On admission, all Catholics should inform the hospital staff that they are Roman Catholic and if they wish to have Holy Communion or see a priest. All arrangements in RBH are 'Patient Led'. Royal Berkshire Hospital Chaplain: Fr JP Lyttle. Mobile: 0739 189 6559. RBH: 0118 322 7105. Sunday Mass 4 pm. Patients, staff & visitors welcome.

**ST JOSEPH'S PARISH PROPOSED
PILGRIMAGE TO MEDJUGORJE - 2019**

Depart: Friday, 20th September - London Heathrow to Split (Croatia). Return: Friday, 27th September - Split to London Heathrow. Estimated overall cost at current exchange rate £425 shared, £495 single. This cost includes the return flights (£180 approx). If you would like to know more, please speak to Fr Peter after any Mass and collect a registration form.

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.*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE
SICK AND HOUSEBOUND:**

Nora Colley, Richard O'Brien, Sheila Robinson, Ellen Knox, Pat Togher, Richard Owens, Bernadette Smeesters, Gerard Tomas, Lya Turner, Charles Livingston, Barbara Turner, Mary Hoban, Rita Boyce, Alayna Fernandes, Wendy Kelly, Mary O'Shea, Eileen Marshall, Jean Trott, Stefen Griffiths, Tessie Joyce, Nina Aramo, Jo Boase, Julie Thompson and Michael O'Connell. If you would like to add a name to this list or if you have any queries, please contact *Sheila* in the *Parish Office*.



REQUIEM MASS FOR ROY FISHER

St Mary's Church, Upper Woolhampton on Thursday, 10th January at 11.15 am, and afterwards at Henley Road Cemetery. All welcome. *Helen Fisher (Roy's daughter).*

PILGRIMAGE TO THE HOLY LAND

Wednesday, 15th - 22nd May 2019. Cost: £1360pp. Flights from Heathrow. Deposit £250pp. Led by Canons John O'Shea & Michael Dennehy. Apply to St James', Reading on 0118 957 4171 or email stjames@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. ONLY 4 PLACES LEFT - DON'T DELAY!

TEA & COFFEE

Please join us for tea & coffee which is served in the large hall after 10.30 am Mass on Sundays. *All are most welcome.*

WEDNESDAY PRAYER GROUP

Wednesday Prayer Group will meet on 9th January at 9.30 am at St Joseph's. *All are welcome.*

If you are interested in digital sound engineering, or you know someone who is, we would like to hear from you! Regardless of your faith and age, we have an opportunity in our church which we would like to share with you. Come and reach out. We look forward to hearing from you. Email English Martyrs Parish Office for more details at englishmartyrs@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

2019 CALENDAR - THE HANDS OF TIME

Hands tell the story of life – of laughter, of longing and of love. Cost £5 each – all proceeds to the Hibernian Society – on sale from the Repository.

HIBS SUPPER CLUB & CABARET

At Reading Irish Centre on Friday, 18th January 2019. Music by Simon Mayor & Hilary James, plus a 3-course meal. £10 per head. Tickets only available from Ann Morris - 0788 899 7293.

CLERK TO GOVERNORS

BLESSED HUGH FARINGDON SCHOOL

Grade 5 points 22 - 25 (£10.92 - £11.98 p/h) approx 400 hours per annum. Blessed Hugh Faringdon Catholic School is a successful and oversubscribed school judged as "Good" by Ofsted in 2017. For further information and an application pack please contact *Karyn Stiles, Human Resources Officer* on 0118 918 3806 or email k.stiles@hughfaringdon.org. Closing Date – Friday, 11th January 2019.

GOOD COUNSEL NETWORK

On Saturday, 12th January, please pray and fast for the end of abortion and euthanasia in this country. Your prayer and fasting are urgently needed, and it really does save lives. This is the day before the 22nd anniversary of the founding of the Good Counsel Network, for details of our live saving work see; www.GoodCounselNetwork.com

SVP REMINDER

The next Senior Citizens' Afternoon Tea will be on Thursday, 31st January. This will be held in the small hall from 2 – 4 pm. *All are welcome.* Please contact an SVP member or Jack Ewins if you would like to attend or if you require transport. Many thanks. *Jack Ewins - President, SVP St Joseph's Conference - 0773 449 9190.*

BAPTISM COURSE

The next Baptism course at St Joseph's will be on Wednesdays, 16th & 23rd January from 8 - 9.30 pm in the large Church hall. We will be using a programme called: Baptism – Helping your child get the most out of life. Godparents are also welcome to join us for discussion and to watch a DVD. The courses only run every few months, so if you are new or expectant parents, it might be better to attend this course if you wish your child to be baptised fairly soon.

If you are considering Baptism for your child, whatever their age, please register for the course by contacting *Mary Philip* on 961 5905 email: mphilip@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

ST ANNE'S & ST MARTIN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOLS

The Federation of St Anne's and St Martin's Catholic Primary Schools in Caversham Park, Reading, is seeking a new Executive Headteacher and a new Head of School. For more information please contact *Jacqueline Campbell*: bursar@st-annes.reading.sch.uk or by phoning 0118 937 5597 or via the following links:

<http://www.e-ctg.com/adverts/201980.asp?Postcode=rg4%20h6ss&country=1&type=33&ieref=110038>

[http://www.e-](http://www.e-ctg.com/adverts/201979.asp?Postcode=rg4%205aa&country=1&type=34&ieref=110003)

[ctg.com/adverts/201979.asp?Postcode=rg4%205aa&country=1&type=34&ieref=110003](http://www.e-ctg.com/adverts/201979.asp?Postcode=rg4%205aa&country=1&type=34&ieref=110003)

Paul Fallon (member of the Governing Body of the Federation of St Anne's and St Martin's Catholic Schools) - 07962 240211.

PILGRIMAGE TO POLAND 2019

Our Lady of Peace & Bl Dominic Barberi is planning a pilgrimage to Poland in 2019 (June 5th – 11th); the group, under the leadership of Father Stan, will be visiting Warsaw, Krakow, Czestochowa (the Shrine of the Black Madonna), the Salt mines, Auschwitz, Wadowice (the home town of St John Paul II), and other places of interest. For more information, please contact *Nancy Johnson*:

0118 9262315/07745 434888/

e-mail: nancy.johnson7@btinternet.com