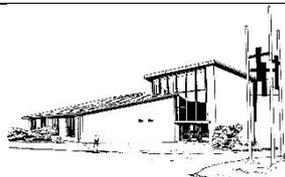


# ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, TILEHURST



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

0118 942 8632 ✉ [sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:sjtilehurst@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

[www.st-josephs-tilehurst.org.uk](http://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**

✉ [hknop@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:hknop@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**

✉ [safeguarding.reajo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding.reajo@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

## PALM SUNDAY – 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2026

“The Commemoration of the Lord's Entrance into Jerusalem”.



Palm Sunday is the beginning of Holy Week, the most important week of the year - the week that changed the world! By the close of today's long Passion Gospel, the work of our redemption will have been accomplished, the new covenant will be written in the blood of His broken body hanging on the Cross at the place called the Skull.



## EASTER TRIDUUM

GOOD FRIDAY will be on 3<sup>rd</sup> April: A Day of Fasting and Abstinence which is mandatory on Good Friday. Holy Week and the Easter Triduum is upon us. Please join the three celebrations of the Paschal Mystery of the Lord's death and resurrection (*details below*). **Fr Henry.**

### MASS INTENTIONS: SUNDAY, 29<sup>TH</sup> MARCH – SUNDAY, 5<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026

Saturday, 28 <sup>th</sup> March <b>of the 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Lent</b>	9 am	Rosary & Exposition
	10 am 10.30 am	Confessions
	5 pm <i>Vigil</i>	David O'Brien RIP
Sunday, 29 <sup>th</sup> March <b>PALM SUNDAY of the Passion of the Lord</b>	8.30 am	Richard Taylor RIP
	*10.30 am	Manuel Nunez Sierra RIP
	2 – 8 pm	Syro Malabar Annual Retreat
Monday, 30 <sup>th</sup> March <b>of HOLY WEEK</b>	10 am	Brendan Reynolds RIP
Tuesday, 31 <sup>st</sup> March <b>of HOLY WEEK</b>	<del>10 am</del>	No Mass <i>due to Chrism Mass at Portsmouth at 11 am</i>
Wednesday, 1 <sup>st</sup> April <b>of HOLY WEEK</b> [Spy Wednesday]	9.30 am	James O'Shea RIP – <i>Foundation Mass</i>
Thursday, 2 <sup>nd</sup> April <b>MAUNDY THURSDAY THE EASTER TRIDUUM Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper</b>	<b>8 pm</b>	Thanksgiving for the Priesthood including washing of the feet <i>followed by watching until midnight</i>
Friday, 3 <sup>rd</sup> April <b>GOOD FRIDAY</b> <i>A Day of Fasting &amp; Abstinence</i> <b>Celebration of the Lord's Passion</b>		9.30 am
		11 am
		3 pm
Saturday, 4 <sup>th</sup> April <b>HOLY SATURDAY EASTER VIGIL</b>	<b>8 pm</b>	People of the parish
Sunday, 5 <sup>th</sup> April <b>EASTER SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION OF THE LORD</b>	<b>8.30 am</b>	People of the parish
	<b>10.30 am</b>	People of the parish

\*Please note only 10.30 am Sunday Mass and special Masses are live-streamed: \*<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCruCvuFlvKVpmI2vvGWdDKQ>

### LENT CONFESSIONS IN THE PASTORAL AREA

St James: Every Saturday from 5-5.45 pm. English Martyrs: 28<sup>th</sup> March at 9.30 am (Note earlier time this year).  
**ST JOSEPH'S: FRIDAY, 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH at 7 pm !!PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE!! Examination of Conscience at 6.30 pm, followed by individual confessions at 7 pm.** Our Lady of Peace: 28<sup>th</sup> March from 9 am - 12.30 pm.



The parish is now using a new system called ChurchSuite, to manage our parishioner database and our communications like the newsletter. To do this, we need to renew all the information we hold about parishioners. To ensure you remain registered as a parishioner and to continue to receive communications from the parish, including the newsletter, please make sure you have filled out a new Registration Form. There is a separate adult and child registration form.

**Adult Parishioner Registration Form. Please find a link to the online form here [REAJO Adult Parishioner Registration Form](#) OR scan the QR code:**



**Child Parishioner Registration Form. Please find a link to the online form here [REAJO Child Parishioner Registration Form](#) OR scan the QR code:**



For those who do not have access to a computer or mobile phone, please come to the Parish Office between 10 am - 12.30 pm on Tuesdays or Thursdays, and Sheila will help you to complete the form.

**SUNDAY COLLECTIONS:  
21<sup>ST</sup>/22<sup>ND</sup> MARCH 2026**

Gift Aid (envelopes)	£317.00
Planned Giving (envelopes)	-
Loose Plate	£495.91
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£812.91</b>

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.

**SUNDAY OFFERING ENVELOPES**

Sunday offering envelopes for 2026/27 are now available in the church porch. Even if you give by Standing Order or Direct Debit, please take your named box and use the appropriate envelopes for second collections.

**EASTER COLLECTION**

The Easter Sunday collection is for our Parish Priests and Priests-in-charge, in recognition for all the dedication, guidance and care they give across our Diocese, and in each parish. If you would like to give a gift to support Fr Henry in his vocation and mission this Easter, please place your Easter offerings into the collection plate, into the Parish Office, pay via the card reader machine, by bank transfer or <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/reading-st-joseph-catholic-parish-easter-collection-2026> (admin fee incurred). Thank you.

**The Good Friday collection is for the Holy Places only, and is separate from the Easter Sunday collection.**

**SPECIAL COLLECTION**

Good Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April: Collection for the Holy Places. The Pontifical Good Friday Collection supports the Christian community in the Middle East. Please place your offering into the collection plate, via the card reader machine, by bank transfer. Thank you for your donations.

**PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK & HOUSEBOUND**

Gerard Tomas, Charles Livingston, Stefen Griffiths, Nina Aramo, Julie Thompson, Pauline, Babs, Maggie Tranter, Jackie Hopper, Sisters of St Ann and all the people in Bamenda, Kevin & Mike Keep, Brigid, Adrian Robson, Veronica Williams, Dan and Joe Newman, Helen, Tommy Barrett, Liz Darling, Lina O'Connor, Anna.

**TILEHURST DROP-IN CENTRE & FOODBANK**

We are supporting approximately 35 households with food and household products. Many thanks to your very generous donations. This week we are short of cereal/weetabix, jam, long life milk, tea, instant coffee, sugar, cooking oil, ketchup, tinned fruit and shampoo. 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 following link to Careers in the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth: [Careers - Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth](#)

**ST JOSEPH'S, TILEHURST**

We are recruiting for a Hall Cleaner & Administrator. Salary: £3,965.52 per annum (£24,784.50 FTE). Contract: Permanent, Part-time, working 6 hours per week. Location: St Joseph's, Tilehurst, RG31 5JJ. Applicants can apply here: <https://catholicdioceseofportsmouth.peoplehr.net/Pages/jobBoard/Opening.aspx?v=4eb210cb-2dea-4e1c-87c7-0fe35ee80d4d>



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](mailto: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.

"Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" As we enter Holy Week, we honour Christ's sacrifice. Priesthood, diaconate, consecrated life, and holy matrimony mirror this self-giving love, offering one's life for others. Could God be calling you to serve?. Talk to your priest or contact *Cn. John Cooke*. [vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or call 0132 931 8869.

**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*.



**PARKING**

It is always good to see a full church. However, at busy services there have been parking problems in Berkshire Drive. So please be considerate to our neighbours by not obstructing access to their driveways. *Thank you*.

**CHRISM MASS**

The Chrism Mass will be celebrated on Tuesday, 31<sup>st</sup> March at 11 am in the Cathedral. The Mass is the special Liturgy in Holy Week during which the Bishop blesses the three Holy Oils for use in the Sacraments: the Oil of the Blessing of the Sick, the Oil of Catechumens and the Oil of Chrism. The blessing of the Holy Oils is one of the most ancient ceremonies of the Church. The Mass is one of the main diocesan events of the year and during it, all the priests make a renewal of their commitment to priestly service, "manifesting their communion with the Bishop" (Roman Missal). It is always a wonderful manifestation of the Church in our Diocese of Portsmouth and an opportunity to thank God for our Catholic faith. *There will no Mass here at St Joseph's on that day*. Indeed, the Bishop warmly invites you to attend the Mass at the Cathedral, if you can.

**CHRISTIAN AID QUIZ**



On Saturday, 9th May at 7.30 pm, at St Catherine of Siena Church, Wittenham Avenue, RG31 5LN. Tickets £10 per person to include light refreshments and nibbles, bring your own drink. Raffle and prizes. Contact [tickets@meadowsweet.eu](mailto:tickets@meadowsweet.eu)

**!!DATES FOR YOUR DIARY!!**

Fr Richard will be celebrating his 40<sup>th</sup> (Ruby) Jubilee of Ordination, on Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> May with Mass at 11.30 am at the English Martyrs Church, followed by refreshments in the hall. *All are welcome*.

**Update: Fr Richard will celebrate his 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Ordination Mass here at St Joseph's on Sunday, 14<sup>th</sup> June at 10.30 am followed by refreshments in the hall. *All are welcome*.**

**THE LINK CAFE**

The Link Café in Tilehurst is a Christian, community café run by volunteers from all the local churches. We are currently in need of volunteers to work on Friday mornings from 9.30 am – 1 pm. If you would like to join our friendly, welcoming community, please contact *Ann Epps* 0798 919 2833 for more information.



**GOOD FRIDAY LITURGY FOR CHILDREN**

There will be a Good Friday Liturgy for children at 3 pm in the large hall. Children should be brought to the hall between 2.45 - 3 pm and will return to their families in the Church for Veneration of the Cross. *Parents or a responsible adult must be present in the church*.

**PLEASE KEEP THE DATE**

A joint Walsingham Pilgrimage is being planned for English Martyrs and St Joseph's parishes on 4th July. We had a great day last year - please join us this year. *Further details to follow*.

**BARN DANCE – ENGLISH MARTYRS PARISH**

On Friday, 19<sup>th</sup> June from 7 – 10.30 pm in the Parish Hall. A night of fun and frolics for all ages in aid of Cathedral Renovation and the Upgrading of English Martyrs Audio Visual System. Adults £15. Child (5 - 12) £10. Under 5's Free. Ticket price includes sit down meal.



**\*\* Reminder:  
British Summer Time begins  
- Clocks go forward by  
1 hour at 1 am  
next Sunday, 29<sup>th</sup> March\*\***

## TEA/COFFEE DONATIONS

Many of you enjoy the refreshments after the 10.30 am Mass on Sundays. Did you know that all donations towards these refreshments go to the Sisters of St Ann in Bamenda? Don't worry if you don't have cash. You can make donations using the 'Tea/Coffee' fund on the card machine.



From relationships that are 'Just in a Rut', needing some refreshment or more serious issues - If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. We have helped thousands of couples get their relationship back on track as they rediscovered hope and trust in the marriage. To find out more:

[www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk) 0797 338 0443.

### PASSION PLAY IN READING ON 3<sup>RD</sup> & 4<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2026

Rise Theatre CIC, a local professional Christian theatre company, are again performing their Passion Play in Forbury Gardens (RG1 3BB) in central Reading at **2 pm on both Good Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April and Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> April**. It is a **FREE** event. Bring a blanket or outdoor chair to sit on! The play includes a dramatic interpretation of the crucifixion, so parental guidance is advised. See

[www.risetheatre.co.uk/passionplay](http://www.risetheatre.co.uk/passionplay) for more information and to WATCH THE VIDEO TRAILER. *Please support this local initiative during the Easter weekend and invite your friends too!*

### GOING INTO HOSPITAL

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

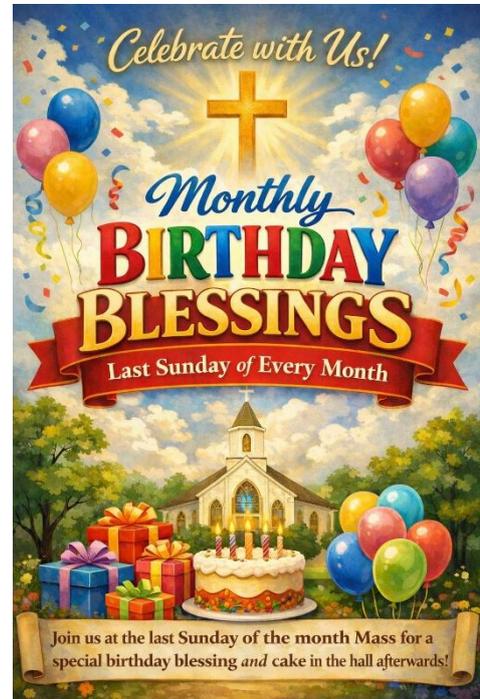
### ST PAUL'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL BECOME A FOUNDATION GOVERNOR:



Are you a practising Catholic looking to make a real difference? Join our Governing Board and help shape the future of our children. Foundation Governors uphold the Catholic ethos, support school strategy, and oversee key decisions. You'll gain valuable skills, network with inspiring people, and truly impact the next generation. Vacancies available now - get involved and be the voice for our children! Interested? Email the Clerk to Governors at [rgonzalez@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk](mailto:rgonzalez@stpauls.w-berks.sch.uk)

## SOURCE AND SUMMIT YOUTH GROUP

Our parish youth group for school students (aged 11-18), 'Source and Summit' meets on Wednesdays (term-time) from 6.30 pm - 8 pm for food, games and faith. 'You were not made for comfort; you were made for greatness' - Pope Benedict XVI. If you want to get involved, contact Lewis and Hannah: [Lewisdowle2011@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:Lewisdowle2011@hotmail.co.uk)



### BIRTHDAY BLESSING

We will have a birthday prayer and blessing for all March celebrants this Sunday. Birthday cake will be served in the hall after 10.30 am Mass to celebrate the monthly birthdays. *Please join us.*

### PENTECOST LUNCH



On Sunday, 24<sup>th</sup> May at 12 noon in St Joseph's parish hall. Please bring your own lunch. Cake, desserts, hot and cold drinks available for a donation towards parish funds. *All are welcome. (See poster for further details).*

### THANK YOU FROM CAFOD



Thank you for your generous support this Family Fast Day – your kindness is helping families like Shorai's in Zimbabwe and Rejoice's in South Sudan grow food, even in the face of drought and floods. You have shown what it means to love your neighbour this Lent – fasting, praying and giving so families can put food on the table. Find out how your donations are helping to build a better world at [cafod.org.uk/thankyou](http://cafod.org.uk/thankyou) PS **It's not too late to donate**– pick up a CAFOD envelope in church or visit [cafod.org.uk/envelope](http://cafod.org.uk/envelope)

### FR HENRY'S APPOINTMENTS

Fr Henry is available for appointments on Wednesdays from 10.30 am – 12 noon.