

## 2nd Collection for Cathedral in Portsmouth

This weekend our annual collection will be in support of our Cathedral in Portsmouth. Appeal envelopes are available in Advent Room.

Due to the lockdown and restrictions being imposed on many people travelling, a 'Give as you Live' page has also been created to enable you to donate online at:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/cathedral-annual-appeal>

Understandably, we are all aware that these are difficult times for us, but please give generously to support our cathedral, gift aiding your donation wherever possible.

### Pastoral News:

**Diocesan Survey and Questionnaire:** Bishop Philip is encouraging all parishioners to take part in this survey. The link can be found on the Portsmouth diocese website or via [Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth - Questionnaire Survey \(surveymonkey.com\)](https://www.catholicdioceseofportsmouth.org.uk/questionnaire)

**Prayer & Praise with Bishop Philip every Thursday during lockdown from 7.30pm - 8.30pm:** The service is called Verso L'Alto: Reach to the Heights! You can join us this Thursday by the Cathedral live-stream to pray for all our intentions, for our safety, for our Diocese, for the sick and for resolution of the crisis.

### Online resources

**Tea with Mary - every Saturday at 5 pm** on Radio Immaculata YouTube Channel and Facebook Page.

### Catholics in Royal Berkshire Hospital

Contact duty priest: 0118 3227105.

Chaplaincy at the RBH is covered and shared by Fr. Pat Madden and the priests from the FSSP. Fr. Pat covers every Monday from 12 Noon until Thursday 12 Noon. The priests from FSSP cover from Thursday 12 Noon until Monday 12 Noon. Priests on call are only allowed into the hospital to give the last rites in danger of death as this is the Hospital policy due to the ongoing current COVID 19 pandemic

### Reading Catholic Churches

Christ the King, Whitley	Fr. Pat Madden	0118 931 4469
St. John Bosco, Woodley	Fr. Bill Wilson	0118 969 3423
St. James	Fr Chris Heaps	0118 957 4171
English Martyrs, Tilehurst	Cn. Michael Dennehy	0118 957 2149
St. Joseph, Tilehurst	Fr Peter Glas	0118 942 8632
St. William of York	Fr. Mathew Goddard / Fr. Patrick O'Donohue	0118 966 5284
Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham	Msrgr. Patrick Daly	0118 947 1787

**Bible Podcast:** Fr Mike Schmitz of Ascension Press is delivering a series of Podcasts over 2021 - The Bible in a Year. The Podcast is available on most major podcast platforms including Apple, Google, Spotify and others

### Retrouvaille 2021 virtual course 25th Feb-28th Feb.

COVID 19 has created a very challenging time for many marriages. Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples. For confidential information about Retrouvaille, or to register call or text 0788 7296983 or 0797 3380443.

Email: [retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com](mailto:retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com) – or visit [www.retrouvaille.org.uk](http://www.retrouvaille.org.uk)

### Community Support

**Readifood (Reading's Foodbank):** You can drop off the items in the Advent room. Information on list of items can be found on <https://readifood.org.uk>. Also needed donations of Toiletries eg Toothpaste & Toothbrushes, Soap, Shower Gel, Shampoo, Conditioner, Deodorant and Household Cleaning Items

**CIRDIC:** Items for packed lunches are needed to feed the homeless. Please take them directly to CIRDIC (St Saviours Church Hall, 1, Berkeley Ave, Reading RG1 6JT ) from 8.30am on Mondays, Tuesdays or Fridays. Please contact Mabel at [enquiries@cirdic.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@cirdic.org.uk) or text 07817 373773 to arrange delivery first.

### Emergency numbers for a Priest –

*Please call your own priest first*

## Our Lady of Peace & Bl Dominic Barberi

338 Wokingham Road Earley Reading RG6 7DA Website [www.olo.org.uk](http://www.olo.org.uk)  
Portsmouth Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No 246871

### Parish Priest

The Rev Fr Stan Gibziński

[fatherstan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:fatherstan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### Parish Secretary

Rachel Alexander 0118 966 3711

[earley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:earley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

### Safeguarding Officer

Mable Thyveetil 07726 589624

### Parish Team

[earley.matters@gmail.com](mailto:earley.matters@gmail.com)

### Hall Bookings

Margaret Dias 07763 681072

[hallbookingsolop@gmail.com](mailto:hallbookingsolop@gmail.com)



The Parish office is open Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 11am-2.00pm

Third Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B / Our Lady of Peace

24th January 2021

### Life is a Vocation

Once we reflect on our lives in the context of Christ's calling "follow me", we are already changed as we allow Christ's Eyes to rest on us and to touch our hearts deeply.

Once we enter into the paradigm of life as a vocation, we know that the main question for us is not how we live our lives, but with whom do we live our lives. The reality of this relationship establishes and supports the quality of our lives, all our moral and spiritual decisions. We see then, the border vision of the world. We search for Jesus' voice. The world then looks different, more friendly. We also see ourselves in a different light: we are not alone on this planet; loneliness is only a feeling which cannot damage us any more; nothing wrong can happen to us, as He, the Shepherd, is in every single moment of the valley of darkness.

Life, as a vocation, brings freedom of heart; makes us at home with ourselves; we are not orphans. Moreover, our prayer life is settled in the ongoing voice of Jesus; prayer becomes the breath of life; it is no longer a monologue or "a list of wishes" to God.

The only familiar element of all kinds of vocations for us is the voice of Christ. The voice of Christ draws us in our deep desire to lead a more fulfilled life (read John 10;10); our desire to do everything to let Christ grow in us. However, in all vocations there is also an unknown, unfamiliar element: what will life be like when we really follow Christ? We simply cannot predict in which way Christ is going to transform us, to shape us into an ideal true-self known to God alone. Like clay in the hand of the potter, so we are in God's Hand. The pot He shapes from the clay might be crushed into a lump of clay again and again. The Divine Potter can shape the clay as it seems best to Him. (Please reflect on Jeremiah 18:1-6). For instance, deep down, all the charm of being a husband or a wife, or a priest, or a nun, is there, but at the same time this is taken away once one has to live daily life with another. The desire of being a husband, a wife, a priest or a nun (united with Christ through faith) is the key element of a vocation, as well as the self-sacrifice and agreement that "someone else will dress you and lead you where you do not want to go" but which you deeply desire as you are rooted in the voice of Christ (John 21:18).

Fr Stan

### Psalm Response: Lord, make me know your ways.

#### Readings for Sunday 24th January 2021

**1st Reading Jonah 3: 1-5.10:** *The people of Nineveh renounce their evil behaviour.*

**2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 7: 29-31** *The world as we know it is passing away.*

**Gospel Mark 1: 14-20** *Repent, and believe the Good News.*

Date & Dedication	Time	Mass Intentions etc
Sat 23rd Jan	No Mass	
Sun 24th Jan 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Times/ Our Lady of Peace <i>solemnity</i>	8.30am Ad Orientem *11.00 am (Facing Congregation) *5.00pm Ad Orientem	Don Werner RIP Aniya Maheswaran 10th birthday Paola Moretti RIP rec. dec
Mon 25th Jan The Conversion of St Paul	7.30pm Ad Orientem Extra Ordinary Form	Paola Moretti RIP rec. dec
Tues 26th Jan St Timothy	Daily Mass without congregation 1.00pm - 4.00pm	Rachel & Jofi thanksgiving The church is open for private prayers
Wed 27th Jan St Angela Merici	Daily Mass without congregation 1.00pm - 4.00pm	Intention available The church is open for private prayers
Thur 28th Jan St Thomas Aquinas	Daily Mass without congregation 1.00pm - 4.00pm	Intention available The church is open for private prayers
Fri 29th Jan	11.00am -7.00pm 7.30pm Ad Orientem	Adoration Intention available
Sat 30th Jan	No Mass	
Sun 31st Jan 4th Sunday in Ordinary Times	8.30am Ad Orientem *11.00 am (Facing Congregation) *5.00pm Ad Orientem	Vera Gorman RIP Intention available Intention available

\* Mass will be live streamed via YouTube (olop earley).

Please note that the dispensation from obligatory attendance of Sunday Mass remains valid.

**Sunday Masses can be booked via our website [www.olop.org.uk](http://www.olop.org.uk) (latest by 8.00pm Friday) or by calling the Parish Office on 0118 9663711. If you are booking via telephone, then please call by Friday 3.00pm at the latest as messages will not be accessed after this time.**

**Please note:** Weekday mass on Monday and Friday is open to congregation and you do not need to book for these Mass.

#### Anniversaries: Please keep in your prayers

23rd Jan: Michael Lynch (1986);  
24th Jan: Charles Farr (1996); David Brown (1997); Reg Oakman (2006);  
25th Jan: José Matias (2014). 26th Jan: Rupert Christopher(2006)  
27thJan: Paul McMEnamin (2001); 30th Jan: Joseph Haughton (1973);

**We pray for the repose of the soul of William (Bill) McMahon (Parishioner) who died on Wednesday 13th January 2021.**

**Please pray for members of the parish and their family who are sick or housebound, especially Margaret Browne (Parishioner).**

**Thank you from Fr Stan:** Thank you for all your prayers and warm wishes. I am getting better and ready to do my duties. From this Sunday 24th January, we will resume Public Mass again, but we must keep safe and follow the guidelines.



Due to the highly virulent nature of the new COVID strain, Father Stan would like to add the following measures to keep us all safe and ensure that Public Mass is celebrated safely in our church:

- ◆ **We have reduced the number of spaces from 40 to 30 (to maintain 2 metre distance).**
- ◆ **Physical distribution of Holy communion will be after Mass.**
- ◆ **Strictly no social interaction in the church or in the car park.**
- ◆ **If you are vulnerable then please stay at home and follow the advice given by the government.**

Online streaming is working well, so we hope that those unable to attend physically would still be in union with us via the online streaming.

**Church is open for private prayer :**

**Tuesday - Thursday : 1.00pm - 4.00pm**

**Friday with Adoration from 11.00am -7.00pm.**

#### Parish News:

**William (Bill) McMahon RIP.** We pray for the repose of the soul of Bill who sadly passed away on Wednesday 13th January 2021. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends. Bill was a regular parishioner who came to the 9.00am Sunday Mass. Funeral details to follow shortly. His mortal remains will be repatriated to Ireland for burial.

**Wednesday 27th Jan 8.00pm: Holocaust Memorial Day** Households across the UK are asked to light a candle and put it in their window at 8pm (if you are able to do so safely) to:

•remember those who were murdered for who they were

•stand against prejudice and hatred today.

The UK Ceremony for Holocaust Memorial Day (HMD) will be streamed live for the first time at 7pm on Wednesday 27th January. If you wish to join the ceremony online then you need to register in advance via [www.hmd.org.uk](http://www.hmd.org.uk).

**Tuesday 2nd Feb 7.30pm: Presentation of the Lord (feast).** Holy Mass at our church at 7.30pm.

Father Stan will do the Candlemass procession privately. Those attending Mass may bring their own candles and also candles to be blessed.

**Please book online for this Mass.** (Booking for this Mass will close on Monday 7.30pm)

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation** is available on request. Please contact Fr Stan by email [fatherstan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:fatherstan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk). Please maintain a safe distance.

**Mass Intention:** The Mass Intention book for 2021 is available for you to book your Mass Intention. Due to COVID 19 restrictions, we cannot place the book in the Advent room. You can book Mass Intention via the Parish office either by visiting in person or phoning the Parish office during opening times.

**The Parish Bereavement Support Group** can be contacted via the Parish Office.

**Helping those most Vulnerable in our Parish.**

If you know of anyone, or are yourself lonely and/or vulnerable, please consider giving details to the parish office.

**Weekly & online donation:**

Thank you to all those who make their weekly donations by standing orders and for the online donations. Thank you for financially supporting our parish during these difficult times.