

Pastoral News

Saturday 5th September: Annual March for Life: Morning event starts from 10.00am -1.00pm at the Emmanuel Centre Marsham St. SW1P 3DW. Holy Mass at 10.30am in Westminster Cathedral. The March begins at 1.00am from the Emmanuel Centre and end at Parliament Square at 4.30pm. Marchforlife.co.uk.

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>

MARRIAGE SUPPORT: If you are just in a rut or for more serious issues – Retrouvaille could be the solution. www.retrouvaille.org.uk +44 797 338 0443

Visitors to the Parish are reminded that photography/video recording is not permitted at any time during mass services unless authorised by the Parish. Photography of children and young people is prohibited.

To keep up to date with the news of the Diocese and the Bishop please follow :

Facebook: @PortsmouthRC
Twitter: @PortsmouthRC

The Diocese website:

LinkedIn: Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
<https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/>

Catholic Chaplaincy in Royal Berkshire Hospital

All arrangements in RBH are "Patient Led". If you or a loved one are taken into hospital, please inform the Catholic Chaplaincy. Hospital staff are not allowed to ask you. Ring the hospital on 0118 322 7105 to let them know that you or your loved one would like a visit from a priest.

Reading Catholic Churches

Christ the King, Whitley	Fr. Daniel Agber
St. John Bosco, Woodley	Fr. Leo Odomeja
St. James	Fr. Chris Heaps
English Martyrs, Tilehurst	Fr. Gaston Forbah
St. Joseph, Tilehurst	Fr. Henry Jan Nkop
St. William of York	Fr. Seth Phipps
Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham	Fr. Joe McLoughlin

Adoremus event in London on Saturday 10th October 2026. Adoremus is a National Eucharistic Congress initiated by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales to deepen devotion to the Eucharist and encourage adoration of the Blessed Sacrament. Its on Saturday 10th October 2026, with Mass, a Eucharistic Procession and Benediction. See poster in Advent Room for more details.

Offertory Donations:

You can set up regular offertory donation by setting up monthly standing order. Our Bank details are as follows:
A/c name: CDP Reading Our Lady of Peace
Lloyds Bank 30 93 04 A/C No: 00886018
If you are a UK taxpayer, then donating with Gift Aid means that we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 received. You can also pay via the contactless machine in the Advent Room.

Resources

Day by Day: September edition in Advent Room. 1.20 / book. Please leave money in the box next to the books in the Advent Room.

Our Lady of Peace & Bl Dominic Barberi

338 Wokingham Road Earley Reading RG6 7DA Website www.olo.org.uk
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No 1199568

Parish Priest

The Rev Fr Stan Gibziński
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Parish Secretary

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Safeguarding Officer

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Harish Chander
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Hall Bookings

Zuzanna Bochenek
hall@olo.org.uk



Parish office opening hours : Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 11.00am-2.00pm.

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A page: 767

30th August 2026

Psalm Response:
For you my soul is thirsting, O Lord, my God.

Important Distinction

During our life time, till the last moment of our breath, we learn how to build community with the One who loves us beyond our capacity to understand, who never will leave us, never will forsake us (*Hebrews 13:5*).

In this light we learn how much faith grants in us positive thinking and opens us to many new possibilities of seeing things and acting accordingly. On the base of growing mutual trust between God and our souls we learn how to enjoy our life, how to love and sacrifice our life and how to go through *the Valley of darkness* (*Ps 23:4*).

However we need to keep in mind that faith is something more than positive thinking and feeling. Positive thinking is the fruit of faith, not the other way round. Faith is then an instrument to grow in love with God and not a simple course how to be positive, how to deal with obstacles in our live, how to feel good.

This distinction is particularly important when we experience various forms of purifications such as described in today's Gospel when Jesus turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' (*Matthew 16:23*). In this light we see that if we put our positive thinking, positive feelings, simply ourselves before anything else, we would not be able to see the importance of being formed, shaped in Christ and His vision of life (*see Galatians 4:20*). We would need to question all fundamentals of our faith and our souls would suffer.

Fr Stan

Date & Dedication	Time	Mass Intentions etc
Sun 30th August 2026 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm	Rosary Bridget Awah thanksgiving Rosary Marie de Silva RIP For Parishioners
Mon 31st Aug: St Aidan, Bishop & All Saints of Lindisfarne	6.00pm 6.30pm	Rosary John Hanratty RIP
Tues 1st Sept	8.00am	Mary Burke RIP Foundation Mass
Wed 2nd Sept	8.00am 4.15pm	Bridget Awah thanksgiving Rosary
Thurs 3rd Sept: St Gregory the Great	No Mass	
Fri 4th Sept	5.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Adoration Rosary Jesus Carreon conversion
Sat 5th Sept: St Theresa of Calcutta	8.00am - 9.00am 9.00am	Adoration followed by Holy Mass Thyveetil family thanksgiving
Sun 6th September 2026 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm	Rosary For Parishioners Rosary Carreon & Loj family thanksgiving Alan & Jayne

Baptism: If you wish to celebrate the baptism (of a child) here, please contact Father Stan.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: On Mass days on Mondays, Fridays and Holy Days of Obligation 5.30pm-6.30pm or by private appointment with Fr Stan.

Anniversaries: Please keep in your prayers

30th August: Albert Bone (1978);
31st August: Barbara Eve Boyce (2021);
1st September: Geoff Way (1994); Mary Burke (2002);
2nd September: Angela Hughes (2012);
4th September: Linda Clayton (1979); Dee Faithfull (2008);
6th September: Lydia Robertson (1979);

We keep in our prayers our parishioners who are sick and housebound . We pray for God's mercy and healing for the sick and for health and strength for all who care for them. **If you or someone you know is sick and housebound and would like to mention them here, or if you have any queries, please contact Rachel at the Parish Office.**

Parish News

UPDATE: Parish Fundraising for Church windows: Thanks to the generosity of our parish community, we have raised £13,130.00 this includes £359 raised from our Parish BBQ. With the amount raised to date, once approval is granted from the diocese, we would be in a position to replace three of the six windows. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has already donated. Every contribution, large or small, is sincerely appreciated and brings us one step closer to completing this work. We kindly ask for your continued support as we work towards completing this important project and preserving our church for future generations. **Donations can be made easily via Dona contactless payment or through our parish website, olop.org.uk.**

Friday 4th September: Due to unforeseen circumstances, Friday 4th September Adoration will start at a later time of 5.00pm. Adoration will resume as normal from Friday 11th September.

Saturday 5th September: There is a change in our normal schedule due to March for Life. The Saturday devotion will start at 8.00am with Adoration and Holy Mass 9.00am. After Mass, for those who wish to go for March for Life, can join the group from church. All are welcome to join the group.

Change of Date for Open Day for new Nursery: 5th September: Join us for a fun-filled Open Day for the new nursery starting in our complex on Saturday 5th September, from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Come and meet a fascinating collection of live animals located behind the church on parish ground. All children and their parents are warmly welcome. We look forward to seeing you there.

Fire Drill on Sunday 6th September after 5.00pm Mass.

Sunday 13th September 2.30pm - Divine Mercy Holy Hour

Friday 18th September: Adoration will start at a later time of 2.00pm due to wedding in our church.

Change in Weekly schedule due to Parish Pilgrimage: No weekday mass on Tuesday 22nd September to Thursday 24th September. Father Linus will celebrate Friday 25th September 6.30pm Mass and all three Masses on Sunday 27th September. There will be no weekday Mass on Monday 28th & Tuesday 29th September. The Parish office will be closed from Tuesday 22nd to Tuesday 29th September. Please keep our Parish Pilgrims in your prayers.

Cyber Crime Unit: The parish office received a call from the cyber crime unit of Thames Valley police. There are investigating a current trend of WhatsApp account being compromised by hackers calling and getting verification codes from the victim. The reason we were contacted was that one of the victims had mentioned that she is our parishioner. It seems like hackers are targeting church communities social sites to hack into accounts. Please protect yourselves from WhatsApp scams by enabling two-step verification (2FA), never sharing verification codes, and avoiding suspicious links, QR codes, or attachments. Also to regularly check Linked Devices for unfamiliar logins.

First Holy Communion 2026-2027. Children who will be in School Year 3 and turn 8 years old between 1st September 2026 and 31st August 2027 are eligible to join our next First Holy Communion preparation programme, beginning in October 2026. Parents or guardians are kindly asked to email or write to Father Stan at the church office, providing the following details: their child's name, date of birth, date and place of baptism, parents' names and contact details. Further details about the programme will be shared in due course.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is open to people who are discerning whether to join or come into full communion with the Catholic Church; new sessions to start soon. To find out more, please see Fr. Stan after Mass.