

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.

Pastoral News

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.

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

Please ask your MP today for a meeting and urge them to vote NO to assisted suicide: <https://righttolife.org.uk/meetyourmp>

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

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.

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A page: 771

6th September 2026

Psalm Response:

O that today you would listen to his voice! 'Harden not your hearts.'

Mutual help to remain in God

Everyone deserves to know the truth about God and how God sees the way we should build our relationship with Him and with one another. All of these are revealed to us and we pass it on from generation to generation. St Paul, who was very determined to share the Gospel with all clarity and loving care, says: "For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts. You know we never used flattery, nor did we put on a mask to cover up greed—God is our witness. We were not looking for praise from people, not from you or anyone else, even though as apostles of Christ we could have asserted our authority. Instead, we were like young children among you. Just as a nursing mother cares for her children, so we cared for you. Because we loved you so much, we were delighted to share with you not only the gospel of God but our lives as well." (1 Tess 2:3-8)

The love towards God and our neighbours expresses itself not only in various polite manners and fraternal support according to our impulses and inspirations, but in all in corporal and spiritual works of mercy:

The corporal works include: 1. Feeding the hungry. 2. Giving water to the thirsty. 3. Clothing the naked. 4. Sheltering the homeless. 5. Visiting the sick 6. Visiting the imprisoned, or Paying the ransom for people in captivity. 7. Burying the dead.

The spiritual works include: 1. To instruct the ignorant. 2. To counsel the doubtful. 3. To admonish the sinners. 4. To bear patiently those who wrong us. 5. To forgive offences. 6. To comfort the afflicted. 7. To pray for the living and the dead.

It looks like the most challenging works of mercy are: "instructing the ignorant", "admonishing the sinners", "forgiving offences. The attitude of the Lord himself towards everyone, the attitude of St John the Baptist towards king Herod, St Tomas Moore and John Fisher towards the king Henry VIII, or the amazing testimony of Dame Cecily Stonor about the reverence towards the Holy Mass, are great examples for us.

We must be careful though that we do not drink the poisonous judgmental attitudes of the Pharisee, and the poison of the hypocrite who does not want to deal with a plank in his own eye and is scandalised with the speck in his neighbour's eye.

Date & Dedication	Time	Mass Intentions etc
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
Mon 7th Sept	5.15pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Adoration Rosary Valentina Carreon - pure heart
Tues 8th Sept: The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary	8.00am	James & Kathleen Buckley RIP Foundation Mass
Wed 9th Sept: St Peter Claver	8.00am 4.15pm	Holy Souls Rosary
Thurs 10th Sept:	No Mass	
Fri 11th Sept	5.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Adoration Rosary Gabriel Carreon grace of obedience
Sat 12th Sept: The Most Holy Name of Mary	No Mass	
Sun 13th September 2026 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm	Rosary Gorman family thanksgiving Rosary C.E. Fernandes thanksgiving For Parishioners

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

6th September: Lydia Robertson (1979);
7th September: William Dailly (1992); Peter Dawson (2008);
9th September: Bill Hunt (1994); Regina Zaboklicka (2007);
10th September: Frederick Grigg (1993);
11th September: Janice Robins (1995); Bernard Coakeley (2004); Desolina Auch (2019)
12th September: Anthony Davis (1997);
13th September: Doris Frost (1990); Marjorie Sheldon (1997);

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 £17,560.00 this includes £359 raised from our Parish BBQ. We understand that the AAP committee in the diocese will be meeting in October. With the amount raised to date, once approval is granted from the diocese, we would be in a position to replace four 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.

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

Sunday 13th September 2.30pm - Divine Mercy Holy Hour

Friday Adoration: As there are many activities and events taking place during September, Father Stan has decided that our Friday Adoration will resume at its usual time from Friday, 25th September. In the meantime, we warmly invite you to join us for Adoration on Monday and Friday from 5.00pm to 6.00pm, followed by the Rosary and Holy Mass.

Thursday, 17th September at 6.30pm: we will be welcoming Fr Lawrence Carney to our church. He will give a talk at 6.30 pm, on the Devotion to the Holy Face of Jesus. This visit is a joint initiative of the Fraternity of St Peter and our parish. Fr Carney is particularly well known for promoting devotion to the Holy Face, but he has also written a number of other books and speaks on a variety of spiritual topics.

Friday 18th September: No evening Mass at our church due to the Centenary Mass at English Martyrs 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, all three Masses on Sunday 27th September and Mass on Monday 28th September. No Mass on Tuesday 29th September. The Parish office will be closed from Tuesday 22nd to Tuesday 29th September. Please keep our Parish Pilgrims in your prayers.

Catechesis on Sunday Oct 4 2026 at 8.30am and 11.00am Mass: The Topic "The Guardian Angel, our guide on the path of holiness" . Fr Fidelis Stöckl ORC will preach at both our 8.30 am and 11.00 am Masses, speaking about the ministry of the Holy Angels. Between the two Masses, he will also give a special talk in the church entitled "The Guardian Angel – Our Guide on the Path of Holiness". After the 11.00 am Mass, there will also be an opportunity for those who are interested to meet him.
As this is shortly after the Feast of the Holy Guardian Angels on 2 October, we see this as a particularly timely opportunity for the parish to reflect on the important, though often overlooked, ministry of the angels in our lives.

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.