

Vocation: Pray for discernment and openness to where God might be inviting you to follow Him. Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke via email at vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869

Visit of the Relics of St Gerard Majella: On Wednesday 28th October English Martyrs Church is hosting the relics of St Gerard Majella. This is part of a pilgrimage around the country to celebrate his 300th anniversary. The relics will be available for personal prayer from 18:00, and Mass at 19:00, followed by blessings with the relics. St Gerard is the patron of mothers, couples trying to conceive, those looking for work, and making a good confession. All welcome, and bring your intentions to this little saint. See poster in Advent Room for more detail.

“A Bed for the Night” are looking for volunteers to help with their Winter Night Shelter for the Homeless in Reading. Its running from 1st December 2026 to 21st March 2027. Volunteers shifts from 19:00-22:00, 21:45-7:00, 7:00-9:0. If interested then please email your details to admin@b4n.org.uk. Training will be provided. For more information, please visit the website www.fcg.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.

Scan the QR Code to check out our website



Reading Catholic Churches Emergency Numbers for a Priest
Please call your own Priest first

Christ the King, Whitley	Fr. Daniel Agber	0118 931 4469
St. John Bosco, Woodley	Fr. Leo Odomeja	0118 969 3423
St. James	Fr. Chris Heaps	0118 957 4171
English Martyrs, Tilehurst	Fr. Gaston Forbah	0118 957 2149
St. Joesph, Tilehurst	Fr. Henry Jan Nkop	0118942 9632
St. William of York	Fr. Seth Phipps	0118 966 5284
Our Lady & St Anne, Caversham	Fr. Joe McLoughlin	0118 947 1787

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

Facebook: @PortsmouthRC
Twitter: @PourtsmouthRC

Vacancy: Please visit the jobs page on the Diocesan website, which lists all the vacancies. For full details and how to apply, please contact recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Community News

Woodley food bank: List of items needed are; pasta, rice, toilet-paper/kitchen rolls, cooking oil, tinned meats, tea bags, sugar, coffee, puddings, tinned stewing steak, tinned chicken in sauce, long life milk. Items for food bank can be left in the Advent room.

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: October edition in Advent Room. £1.20 per 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
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Registered Charity No. 1199568
www.olop.org.uk



Parish Priest: The Rev Fr Stan Gibziński
fatherstan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary: Rachel Alexander
0118 966 3711 / office@olop.org.uk

Safeguarding Officer: Harish Chander
safeguarding@olop.org.uk

Hall Bookings: Zuzanna Bochenek
hall@olop.org.uk

Parish office opening hours: Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 11:00 - 14:00

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.

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time	Year A page: 798	25th October 2026
Psalm Response: I love you, Lord, my strength.		

The Love of God

To love God means to accept His love.
God wants to be your only Lord, your only love (cf. Ex 20:5; Deut 5:9).

He calls us to conversion which always has two elements, turning “to” and turning “away from”. We are to turn away from everything that pushes us away from the only Lord, to whom we belong. We are to turn away from our egoism which desires securities, and which is deeply set in our souls.
If you had formed some system of security and God had then caused your “manna” to rot, then remember He did this out of love.

God strips you of that which is your enslavement and which leads to lack of faith in His love. He is the only Lord, yours and your “manna’s”, that is to say, the Lord of your daily bread and your existence. Everything depends on Him. He, whether you acknowledge it or not, will remain the only Lord, but He is the Lord who loves you.

He does not want you to get lost in a false kingdom of a false god, because that kingdom will destroy you. The gospel says that you cannot serve two masters. The word douleuein [to serve] in Greek means the type of servitude a slave is engaged in for his master. A slave does not have time for himself, does not dictate what he will accept or not. A slave is not a cherry picker or disputes over the rules established by the master. The master controls the slave’s time completely and always.

You need to give God everything; you need to know how to give Him that which is His; that is the program of our conversion. You must also accept His jealous love and accept Him as the only treasure, the only love. You are His possession including everything you own: your body and soul, your work which is dependent on Him, your home which is His, your children who belong to Him, and your time which you often dole out to Him like a miser, despite the fact that all of your time also belongs to Him.

Fr Stan

Date & Dedication	Time	Mass Intentions etc
Sun 25th October 2026 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time	08:00 08:30 10:30 11:00 17:00	Rosary For Parishioners Rosary Andrej RIP Michal RIP
Mon 26th Oct to Friday 30th Oct	No Mass	
Sat 31st Oct	No Mass	
Sun 1st November 2026 ALL SAINTS	08:00 08:30 10:30 11:00 15:00 17:00	Rosary Mary Jennings RIP Rosary Souls of Pozniak & Wojtowicz families Blessing of Graves at Mays Lane Cemetery For Parishioners

A Guide to Plenary Indulgences for the All Souls' "Octave", November 1-8 Visiting a Cemetery:
 An indulgence, applicable only to the Souls in Purgatory, is granted to the faith ful, who devoutly visit a cemetery and pray, even if only mentally, for the departed. The indulgence is plenary each day from November 1-8; on other days of the year it is a partial indulgence.

Blessings of grave at Mays Lane Cemetery on Sunday 1st November from 15:00.
Blessings of grave at Henley Road Cemetery. Sunday 8th November from 14:00.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: On Mass days on Mondays, Fridays and Holy Days of Obligation 17:30 - 18:30 or by private appointment with Fr Stan.

Anniversaries: Please keep in your prayers

26th Oct: David Trinder (1995); Maurice Fahey (1975); Dolly Coffey (2015);
 27th Oct: Aloisy Karas (2002);
 28th Oct: Bernard McCloskey (1995); Lucienne Wakefield (1974);
 29th Oct: Enid Newman (2006)
 30th Oct: Patricia Hewitt (1981)
 31st Oct: Annie Wareham (1987)
 1st Nov: Mary Callaghan (1982); Kathleen Sergent (1995); Noreen Doyle (2011);

Blinnia McAteer RIP: Blinnia passed away this morning Friday 23rd October 2026. Blinnia was a cherished member of our Parish and served as a Sacristan till 2017 and has been housebound for some time. We pray for her soul and keep her family in our prayers.

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: We are really pleased to confirm that the AAP committee have approved our application for the replacement of our church windows. A heartfelt thank you to everyone who has already donated. Our target is £24,000.00 for all 6 windows. We have raised £19,307.00 so far. With the amount raised so far, we are in a position to change nearly 5 of the 6 windows. Every contribution, large or small, is sincerely appreciated and brings us one step closer to completing this work. **Donations can be made easily via Dona contactless payment or through our parish website.**

Weekday Mass and Adoration: There will be no weekday Mass or Adoration from Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October. Church will remain open during Parish office hours.

CHILDREN'S CATECHISM CLASSES: We hope to launch children's catechism classes on Sundays, between the 8.30 am and 11.00 am Masses. Each session will last approximately 45 minutes. To make this possible, we are looking for volunteers to help lead the sessions on a rota basis. If you would be willing to offer your time and support in this important work of passing on the faith to our children, please contact Fr. Stan or the parish office. Thank you for your generosity and support.

First Holy Communion 2026-2027. First session with parents and children on Sunday 25th October after 08:30 Mass.

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. We have started our programme and sessions are on Friday after 18:30 Mass for half hour. If you are still keen to join then please approach Fr Stan soon.

Sunday 1st Nov: The Solemnity of All Saints.

Monday 2nd Nov: “All Souls Day”: Holy Mass at 18:30 Mass. The 18:30 Holy Mass is for the deceased family members and friends of parishioners. Everyone will be invited to light candles before Mass.

“A book of remembrance” is in the church - please write the names of those whom you wish to remember. The book will be received on the altar during Holy Mass on Monday 2nd November at 18:30.

Saturday 7th November 2026: 1st Saturday of every month at 09:30: (Dedication to Our Lady) Adoration, Rosary, Reconciliation followed by Holy Mass at 11:00.

Sunday 8th November 2027: We won't have our 2nd Sunday Devotion of Divine Mercy at 14:00 due to blessings of graves at Henley Road Cemetery at 14:00.

✨ **NEW AT OLOP: HOLY FACE OF JESUS DEVOTION GROUP** ✨Join us from **Friday 20th November at 7:30 pm**, after Holy Mass, as we come together to adore the Holy Face of Jesus and offer reparation for blasphemy, the profanation of Sundays and Holy Days, and sins against God. Our sessions will also include consecration to the Confraternity of the Holy Face, spiritual retreats, and a pilgrimage to France. 🙏 Every third Friday of the month at 19.30. All are warmly welcome!

Young Adults of Peace (YAP): If you 21 or older and are interested in joining YAP please reach out to Fr Stan or meet us after 11:00 mass where we host teas and coffee in the Dominic Baberi room.

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

Pastoral News

Parish Administrator Vacancy at St James:
 20hrs per week. Mon - Fri 09:30 – 13:30.
 Applications close 27th October. Please send an up to date CV with a cover letter explaining your suitability for the role,
 to recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk with 'Reading Administrator' in the title.