

Upcoming Safeguarding Training on 22nd June 2024 in Reading. Great opportunity for anyone who wants to volunteer in our Parish especially with Youth and vulnerable adults. Please see poster for more details. Please email safeguarding@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk to book your space.

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.

Offertory Collection 2nd March 2024

| | |
|---------------------|----------|
| Loose Cash | £ 387.58 |
| Contactless payment | £ 114.00 |
| Standing Orders | £ 627.86 |

Thank you all for your kind donations.

2nd collection on Sunday 10th March: Clergy Assistance Fund. The Fund contributes to the work of the Department for Clergy Team, responsible for looking after the welfare, ongoing formation and personal support of our clergy, such as the provision of spiritual direction, counselling, appraisal, ongoing formation and practical advice. The team organises retreats, ministerial formation days, courses and sabbaticals. It looks after the junior clergy, the overseas clergy and especially the retired clergy. Donate via the collection basket on your way out or use our card machine in the Advent Room.

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 Jude Mbonu |
| St. William of York | Fr. Seth Phipps |
| Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham | Fr Joe McLoughlin |

Closer to Christ Campaign: As mentioned by Fr Stan last week, here is an update of our Parish's decision on the campaign. As you may be aware the Closer to Christ campaign allocates a target amount for each parish to pledge for 5 years. The aim for the diocese is to raise £13.5 million to support our clergy from formation into retirement and support the parishes. Our Parish's share is £90,000 for 5 years of which the diocesan share is £60,300. The remaining £29,700 is for our own Parish projects. Fr Stan has decided not to go for this approach as he did not want to put the pressure on individual parishioners to make commitment for 5 years towards the campaign.

Instead we have made the commitment to raise the fund for £60,300 and pay £12,060 each year for 5 years towards the campaign fund from the parish account. The contactless machine will have the option for you to pay towards the fund under "Closer to Christ campaign". If you have any fundraising idea's, then please share with Fr Stan and together, we can raise the required funds that we have committed towards the campaign.

Community Support

Woodley food bank List of items needed are:- Pasta, rice, toilet paper./Kitchen rolls, Cooking oil./Tinned meats, Tea bags./ Sugar, Coffee./ Puddings. (sweet), Tinned stewing steak, Tinned chicken in sauce, Long life milk. Items for food bank can be left in the Advent room.

Emergency numbers for a Priest –

Please call your own priest first

| |
|---------------|
| 0118 931 4469 |
| 0118 969 3423 |
| 0118 957 4171 |
| 0118 957 2149 |
| 0118 942 8632 |
| 0118 966 5284 |
| 0118 947 1787 |

Our Lady of Peace & Bl Dominic Barberi

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

Parish Priest

The Rev Fr Stan Gibziński
fatherstan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Secretary

Rachel Alexander 0118 966 3711

Safeguarding Officer

office@lop.org.uk
Harish Chander
safeguarding@lop.org.uk
Zuzanna Bochenek
hall@lop.org.uk

Hall Bookings

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



4th Sunday in Lent

Year B (p)

10th March 2024

Psalm Response:

O let my tongue cleave to my mouth if I remember you not!.

The Church - Our Mother.

Our Mother, the Church, has been left behind with furrows of sins from her children. Indeed, many do their best to separate Her from the Beloved.

Few seek the Lord; Shepherds confused "go about into a land that they know not"; "Prophets prophesy false vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart"; Christ's Teaching, The Divine Teaching is being changed into human doctrines, and there is a call for a new, better Church - Church adjusted to human needs.

But the Church, Our Mother, remains united with the rejected King of the Universe; She exists in the exalted Body of Christ above the earth; in the Holy Mass celebrated validly; in God Himself coming in the Sacrament of Penance and Reconciliation, in Holy Scripture exactly as it is.

Come together all you who worry about the Church. Find yourself in Her. Stay with Her and call: "Magnificat!" Let our Mother, the Church rejoice!

*We shall go into the house of the Lord.
where we find words of eternal life;
where the meaning of life is restored;*

where there is the Host elevated – Christ Himself – the Lamb of God offered to the Father.

Fr Stan

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/>

| Date & Dedication | Time | Mass Intentions etc |
|--|--|---|
| Sun 10th March 2024 4th Sunday in Lent <i>Mothering Sunday</i> | 8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 2.30pm 5.00pm | <i>Rosary</i> Blessing for Isobelle & Joanna <i>Rosary</i> For Parishioners <i>Divine Mercy Holy Hour</i> Carol & Paddy's intention |
| Mon 11th Mar | 5.15pm 6.30pm | <i>Adoration & Confession followed by Rosary at 6.00pm</i> Dawid conversion and pure heart |
| Tues 12th Mar | 8.00am 4.15pm | Eva Nora's intention <i>Rosary</i> |
| Wed 13th Mar | 6.30am 4.15pm | Fr Krzysztof Wojcieszak Int <i>Rosary</i> |
| Thur 14th Mar | No Mass | |
| Fri 15th Mar St David | 11.00am - 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm | <i>Adoration.</i> <i>Stations of the Cross</i> Fr Stan's holy priesthood intention |
| Sat 16th Mar | No Mass | |
| Sun 17th March 2024 5th Sunday in Lent | 8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm | <i>Rosary</i> Achilles Fernando RIP <i>Rosary</i> For Parishioners Emma Morigi |

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

First Holy Communion 2023-24. Sessions on Saturday 9th, 16th (9.30am - 10.30am) & 23rd March, 6th & 7th April at 10.00am in Bl Dominic Barberi Room. Reconciliation on Saturday 13th April & First Holy Communion on Sunday 14th April at 11.00am.

Confirmation 2023-24. Sessions on Sunday 17th March, 14th & 28th April at 10.00am in Carl Barton Room. Confirmation at Portsmouth Cathedral on Sunday 5th May at 3.00pm.

Anniversaries: Please keep in your prayers

10th Mar: George Scola (2006); 11th Mar: Irene Garton (1978);
12th Mar: Jacqueline Gallagher (1982); Margaret Molony (2003); 13th Mar: Chris Dickie (1996)
14th Mar: William Miller (1986); and Doreen Warrick (2000); 15th Mar: Bridie Cummins (2015)
16th Mar: Sister Christine (1979); Derek Higgs (1992); 17th Mar: Percy Chamberlain (1976); Edward Brookes (1992); Eileen Cafferty (2012);

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

Today the Fourth Sunday of Lent is mid-Lent Sunday or Laetare Sunday. It is also **Mothering Sunday** and we wish all mothers & spiritual mothers a very happy Mothers day!

Sunday 10th March: 2nd Sunday of the month. Divine Mercy Holy Hour at 2.30pm.

RCIA candidates: Please keep in your prayers our 2 RCIA candidates: Nathanael Timothy Hodge who will be received into the church at the Easter Vigil Mass and Chole Lorraine Henriques Barbosa who will receive her sacrament of Confirmation on Easter Sunday.

Wednesday during Lent - Holy Mass at 6.30am. Come and celebrate Mass before dawn.

Stations of the Cross every Friday in Lent at 6.00pm followed by Holy Mass. This is a beautiful practice which brings us into unity with the crucified Lord.

Tuesday 19th March: St Joseph solemnity. Holy Mass at 8.00am & 6.30pm. *(If you wish to start the St Joseph's Novena in preparation for St Joseph's feast then the Novena starts this Sunday 10th March and finishes on Monday 18th March)*

Lent Penitential Service in our Pastoral Area

| Date | Time | Venue |
|-------------------------|--|--------------------------|
| Tues 12th Mar | 6.45pm | St Joseph's |
| Sat 16th & Sat 23rd Mar | 5.00pm - 6.00pm & after Mass at 7.00pm | St James |
| Tues 19th Mar | 6.45pm- 8.15pm | St John Bosco |
| Thu 21st Mar | 6.45pm | Christ the King |
| Sat 23rd Mar | 10.00am - 12.00 noon | Our Lady of Peace |
| Sat 23rd Mar | 9.45am | English Martyrs |

Saturday 23rd March 10.00am-12 noon: Lent Penitential service at our Church .

Holy Week

Sunday 24th March Palm (Passion) Sunday – 8.30am, 11.00am & 5.00pm Mass.

Monday 25th March: (No Mass at church)
Tuesday 26th March Chrism Mass at Portsmouth Cathedral (No Mass at church)
Wednesday 27th March (No Mass at church)

Thursday 28th March: Maundy Thursday
10.00am: Office of Readings: Tenebraerum
6.30pm: Solemn Mass of the Lord's supper followed by Adoration until midnight.

Friday 29th March: Good Friday: *(Day of fasting & abstinence)*
9.40am: Start of Walk of Witness from our church.
10.00am: Office of Readings: Tenebraerum
11.00am: Children's Good Friday service
3.00pm: Solemn Liturgy of Our Lord's Passion *(Divine Mercy Novena starts on Good Friday)*

Saturday 30th March: Easter Saturday
10.00am Office of Readings: Tenebraerum. *(After Tenebraerum, blessing of food)*
8.00pm Easter Vigil
Sunday 31st March: Easter Sunday.:
Holy Mass at 9.00am, 11.00am Holy Mass. *(No 5.00pm Mass)*

Sunday 7th April – Divine Mercy Sunday
2.30pm Divine Mercy Holy Hour

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

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

Pastoral News

Saturday 16th March at The Arc, Winchester. Invitation to Symposium on Health-Care Ethics : The Diocesan Dialogue with Cultural Sector Team is hosting a Symposium on medical and social ethics entitled 'What does it mean to be Human? Medical Ethics and Social Care Today. Tickets are priced at £20 for the day, including sandwiches and refreshments. Please see poster for booking details.