

CAFODLENT to 70085 to donate £10. Envelopes will be available from Sunday 2nd March in the Advent room for collection on Sunday 16th March.

Rise Theatre film evening - Saturday 15th March at 3pm and 7:30pm St Joseph's in Tilehurst is showing two films created by Rise Theatre. "The Room" and "The Masterpiece". Both will be shown at each screening and are suitable for adults and children over 12. We are helping Rise Theatre to fundraise for their Passion Play that will be performed in Forbury Gardens at the end of Lent.. See Poster for more details.

Caritas Social Action Network (CSAN) is conducting a survey to understand the impact of the two-child benefit cap and the current economic climate on Catholic families in England and Wales. Please share your experience by completing the survey, which can be accessed at csan.org.uk/news/familysurvey, where you will also find further information about the survey. The survey will close on 25th March"

Sunday 18th May; Pilgrimage to Walsingham: St Joseph's Church in Tilehurst are organising pilgrimage to Walsingham. Please contact Aline Philips on 07904569437. Please see poster for more details.

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

Celebrating Significant Wedding Anniversaries: Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or anniversary over 60 years? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration. This will take place at St Bede's church in Basingstoke on Saturday 21st June at 11am. This will be followed by a buffet lunch. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage. Please email to anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk to request a form for you to complete and return. Please note the email address is not monitored daily and you may have to wait for a reply, so please be patient.

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. (sweet), Tinned stewing steak, Tinned chicken in sauce, Long life milk. Items for food bank can be left in the Advent room.

Resources

Day by Day - Lent edition is in the Advent Room £1.00/book: Please leave money in the box next to the books in the Advent room.

Emergency numbers for a Priest –

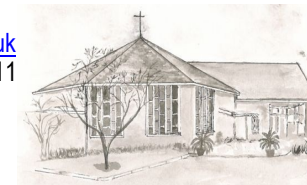
Please call your own priest first

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.olo.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
office@olo.org.uk
Safeguarding Officer Harish Chander
safeguarding@olo.org.uk
Hall Bookings Zuzanna Bochenek
hall@olo.org.uk



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

1st Sunday in Lent **Year C page 207** **9th March 2025**



Psalm Response: Be with me, O Lord, in my distress.

Suggestions for Lent

Clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ and allow Him to make your heart and mind completely new. Get rid of your old self and distrust, a charity that costs nothing and does not hurt. However, rend your heart and not your garment and always overcome evil with good. Forget you exist when you say you love and search for a humble place amongst others. Take up your cross and follow the Lord:	Give up pessimism ... focus on seeing God's care in your life
Give up sin ... come back to virtue and God's Law.	Give up self harm and obsessive thoughts ... allow Jesus to love you
Give up wrong habits and bad attachments ... follow the path of the Lord to Calvary	Give up grumbling ... focus on gratitude
Give up some of your pleasures and ... exchange it for empathy and unity with the Lord at His Passion.	Give up being impetuous ... learn to be patient
Give up time in front of the screens ... fix your eyes on the Lord in the Bible and come for Adoration.	Give up bitterness ... come back to forgiveness
Give up your worries ... trust in Providence	Give up judging people ... focus on gentleness and find out God's love in your neighbour
Give up discouragement ... fix eyes on the Lord	Give up envy ... embrace God's gifts planted in your heart
Give up sadness ... enjoy the beauty of the world around you	Give up gossips ... control how and what you say.
	Give up a little bit from your comfortable life ... be open to those who need you.
	Give up your fear and tendency to compromise with what is wrong ... protect the vulnerable and those at the peripheries: the unborn, those in danger of euthanasia, in danger of losing faith and moral vigour, the rejected, different or uneducated.

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.

Date & Dedication	Time	Mass Intentions etc
Sun 9th March 2025 1st Sunday of Lent 	8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 2.30pm 5.00pm	Rosary Isabelle - God's blessing for 8th birthday Rosary For Parishioners Divine Mercy Nicolle's birthday
Mon 10th Mar	6.00pm 6.30pm	Rosary Fr Krzysztof Wojcieszak
Tue 11th Mar	8.00am	Bernard & Shelly Jones RIP
Wed 12th Mar	6.30am †10.00am 4.15pm	Joy John RIP Requiem Mass Late Jean Smarey† Rosary
Thurs 13th Mar	No Mass	
Fri 14th Mar CAFOD Fast Day	11.00am - 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Adoration Stations of the Cross Hanna Toy - Grace of good death
Sat 15th Mar	No Mass	
Sun 16th March 2025 2nd Sunday of Lent 	8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm	Rosary For Parishioners Rosary Anthony John Owens RIP Waclaw & Regina RIP

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

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

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

Anniversaries: Please keep in your prayers

9th March: Edwin Anderson (1994); Antonietta Cuzzocrea (2013);
10th March: George Scola (2006); 11th March: Irene Garton (1978);
12th March: Jacqueline Gallagher (1982); Margaret Molony (2003); 13th March: Chris Dickie (1996)
14th March: William Miller (1986); and Doreen Warrick (2000); 15th March: Bridie Cummins (2015)
16th March: Sister Christine (1979); Derek Higgs (1992);

We keep in our prayers our parishioners who are sick and housebound. We pray for Ashish Thankachan, a young parishioner who is receiving palliative care in hospice. We keep the whole family in our prayers. We pray for Jeyarani Sivaganeshan, who is in hospital and for Cedric Dias as he recovers at home. 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

Pancake Sunday: Thank you all for supporting our fund raiser. We raised £288.05. We would like to thank the fundraising committee for all their hard work and for preparing tasty pancakes. It was enjoyed by everyone.

Lent for Children: every Tuesdays at 4:15 pm (30-minute sessions) in Lent: It will be 5 meetings after the regular, shortened session for First Holy Communion children.

Lent Bible Study every Wednesday in Lent (12th March - 9th April) 7.00pm-8.30pm in DB Room. The Bible study will be every week in Lent apart from Holy Week, which would be five sessions in total. In the readings at Easter Vigil, we trace the story of the world from God's creation through to Jesus' resurrection. Join us for a more in-depth look at some of these readings.

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.

Fortnightly meeting of Men's Formation group. We invite all men who have any questions about their faith or who are simply interested in developing their spiritual growth. The next meeting is on 13th March, 19:00 - 20:30 in DB Room .

Lent preparation Women's Retreat on Saturday 15th March 8.00am -12 noon. Adoration, Holy Mass followed by talk by Fr Stan. Refreshments will be provided. All women are welcome to attend.

Wednesday 19th March St Joseph's Feast : Holy Mass at 6.30am & 6.30pm.

Volunteers for Holy Week: Anyone interested in giving support to decorate the church for Holy Week and Easter, please get in touch with Fr Stan or the office.

Resilience training for women (cf. Phil 4:13)

Free introductory session on a resilience training program designed for women (ages 17+) in Our Lady of Peace Parish (338 Wokingham Rd, Earley, Reading RG6 7DA). Open to friends from other parishes, this course will help you: Build self-confidence, Strengthen mental and physical resilience, Develop character and inner strength & Kick-start a healthy lifestyle. The training will be led by Dieye – a fitness trainer, self-defense instructor, and trauma medic. Course Details:

Free introductory session on 20 March at 7.15 pm in the parish hall. Four follow-up sessions (1 hour each, including warm-up) Cost: £10 for all four sessions Registration open until 16 March 2025 (course will run if there's sufficient interest) Register after Mass on Sundays or via Parish office email-office@olop.org.uk. Spread the word and take a step toward greater confidence and well-being!

Tuesday 25th March: The Annunciation of the Lord Solemnity. Holy Mass at 10.00am & 6.30pm .

Saturday 29th March 1.30pm-4.30pm : Join us for a Catholic-themed quiz afternoon in the Parish Hall! Entry fee: £2 per adult, £1 per child of age 7+. Bring some friends along, even those outside of our parish!

Holy Wednesday 16th April at 6 pm: Film night in a contemplative prayerful mood "Passion" by Mel Gibson

Easter Saturday 26th April 9am-4pm: Chess tournament at the Parish Hall. Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/olop-chess-april-2025>

Pastoral News

Friday 14th March: CAFOD Fast Day Please donate to our Family Fast Day parish collection and be a pilgrim of hope with CAFOD this Jubilee Year. You will be supporting communities experiencing the impacts of war, poverty and climate change to find solutions and hope. Donate online at cafod.org.uk/envelope or call us on 0303 303 3030. You can also text