

Reading's cinemas are showing two new Christian films "Chosen" and "King of Kings" this week: "Chosen" being shown in Showcase from Thurs. 10th to Sun. 13th April. Thurs 4.30pm, 7.20pm & 10.05pm; Fri 4pm & 7pm; Sat 11am & Sun 12.10pm. "King of Kings" being shown in Vue and Showcase

Passion play in Reading on 18th & 19th April 2025: Following last year's success, Rise Theatre CIC, again perform their Passion Play in Forbury Gardens, Reading, on Good Friday, 18th April at 3.30 pm & Saturday 19th April at 3 pm. A FREE event. Bring a blanket or chair. The play includes a dramatic interpretation of the crucifixion, so parental guidance is advised. See www.risetheatre.co.uk/passionplay to WATCH THE VIDEO TRAILER. Please support this local initiative during the Easter weekend and invite your friends too! See poster for more details.

CAFOD Myanmar Earthquake Appeal: Following the devastating earthquake in Myanmar, CAFOD is responding through the Catholic Church to support families affected by the disaster. Your donations will provide essentials like water, food, solar lights, and mosquito nets. Please give to CAFOD's Myanmar Earthquake. You can donate online at cafod.org.uk/myanmar or by calling 0303 303

3030. You can, also text EARTHQUAKE to 70450 to donate £10.

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

Pilgrimage to Lourdes 7th - 11th July 2025. You are invited to join Bishop Philip whether as pilgrim or youth helper. Leaving from Bournemouth Airport and staying at Hotel La Solitude. For further details, email at lourdes@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. (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 / Easter edition is in the Advent Room £1.00/book: Please leave money in the box next to the books in the Advent room.

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

Facebook: @PortsmouthRC LinkedIn: Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth
Twitter: @PortsmouthRC The Diocese website: <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

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

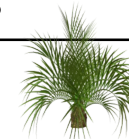


Parish office opening hours : Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 11.00am-2.00pm.

Passion Sunday **Year C page 245** **13th April 2025**

Psalm Response: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?

We raise our palm leaves with awe and worship



We raise our palm leaves in awe and worship to welcome Christ, the Emperor of Life and the High Priest. Amazingly, as the Priest and Victim, the Holy Host, he is preparing himself for sacrifice. He is the Lamb of God, who was slaughtered instead of Isaac. He is the Lamb whose blood was sprinkled upon us, so that we are safe. He is the Lamb of God, who is given to us. He has asked us to take Him and eat His Precious Body.


We raise our palm leaves in awe and worship to welcome Christ. He enters Jerusalem, God's property, as the Warrior. As we will see during Holy Week and Holy Triduum, He gives no chance to spiritual forces. Jesus Christ came to wrest from hearts the core of sin, which has divided the soul from the body, life from eternity, man from God.

At the gates of Jerusalem, the time for imitating Christ reaches its threshold. 'You cannot come where I am going' (J. 13:33) says the Lord. Although, we were invited to follow His footsteps; although, we were taught how to rise from the table, gird our hips, kneel down and wash the feet of our neighbours, all our actions have now reached their limit. Our imitation of the Lord has its limit. This limit is the beginning of worship, and the beginning of working with Christ, in Christ and through Christ. This is where our nature submits itself to grace.

We raise our palm leaves in awe and worship. There are some things which only He can do, and doors which only He can enter. Let Him be our Redeemer. Let us adore, the Saviour of the world.

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 13th April 2025 Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord 	8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm	Rosary Sylvia Witynska- thanksgiving 50th birthday Rosary Liz Bailey RIP For Parishioners
Mon 14th April	No Mass	
Tues 15th April	No Mass	11.00am Chrism Mass in the Cathedral.
Wed 16th April	No Mass 4.15pm	Rosary
Thur 17th April Maundy Thursday	10.00am 6.30pm	Office of Readings: Tenebrarum Solemn Mass of the Lord's supper followed by Adoration till midnight
Friday 18th April Good Friday (Day of fasting & abstinence)	10.00am 11.00am 3.00pm	Office of Readings: Tenebrarum Children's Good Friday service Solemn Liturgy of Our Lord's Passion
Sat 19th April Holy Saturday	10.00am 9.00pm (Easter Vigil Mass)	Office of Readings: Tenebrarum and later Blessing of food. Parish family and friends
Sun 20th April 2025 Easter Sunday of the Resurrection of the Lord	8.30am *please note change in time 9.00am 10.30am 11.00 am No 5.00pm Mass	Rosary Parish family and friends Rosary Parish family and friends

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.

Anniversaries: Please keep in your prayers

13th April: Muriel Wigley (1993); 14th April: Nan McDonagh (2017)
15th April: Theresa Doyle (2016); 16th April: Leonard Cracknell (1993);
17th April: Horace Tilley (1983); Margaret Eddleston (2004);
18th April: John McGlynn (1988); Una Quinn (2007);
19th April: Joshua Susel (2000); Michael O'Loughlin (2015); 20th April: Kevin Total (2005);

We keep in our prayers our parishioners who are sick and housebound. We pray for Ashish Thankachan's soul who died on 11th April. He was a young parishioner who was receiving palliative care in hospice. We keep the whole family in our prayers. We pray 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.**

Holy Week

Palm (Passion) Sunday 13th April

8.30am, 11.00am & 5.00pm Mass. The 11am Mass will begin with a procession in the local neighbourhood (weather-permitting). The 8:30am and 5pm Masses will begin with the Solemn Entrance.

Holy Monday 14th April: (No Mass at church)
Holy Tuesday: 15th April Chrism Mass at Portsmouth Cathedral (No Mass at church)
Holy Wednesday 16th April (No Mass at church)

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

Maundy Thursday 17th April:

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

Good Friday 18th April:

(Day of fasting & abstinence)
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)

Holy Saturday 19th April:

10.00am Office of Readings: Tenebraerum.
(After Tenebraerum, blessing of food)
9.00pm Easter Vigil. (this is later than some previous years due to the late sunset time).

Easter Sunday 20th April :

Holy Mass at 9.00am, 11.00am Holy Mass. (No 5.00pm Mass)

Easter Monday 21st April: 10.00am Holy Mass
Weekday Mass: No weekday mass from Tuesday 22nd April - Friday 25th April 2025.

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

Sunday 27th April – Divine Mercy Sunday
2.30pm Divine Mercy Holy Hour

Friday Adoration: We will take a break in April and Adoration will resume on Friday 2nd May.

Special Collection

Good Friday collection for Holy Places: The Pontifical Good Friday Collection supports the Christian community in the Middle East. This last year has been, particularly challenging for this small community which seeks 'to be the salt, light and leaven of the Gospel' in the region, often living in difficult circumstances.

Easter offerings The collections at all the Easter Masses are for Fr Stan. Christmas and Easter are the most substantial part of a priest's yearly income. Please either use our contactless payment or use the envelope provided and give generously. Thank you.

Parish News

Stop the Assisted Suicide Bill: The important vote for all MPs on the assisted suicide legislation is likely to take place on 25th April. **Not Dead Yet**, a network of disabled people who oppose legalising assisted suicide, has very helpfully arranged for postcards to be printed and distributed throughout the UK. These postcards present evidence-based reasons to oppose assisted suicide, urging MPs to vote against the Bill at Third Reading. With the vote passing, previously by a margin of 55, only 28 MPs would need to reconsider their stance. Please take the postcards from the Advent room and post it. Let us make our voice heard.

Fundraiser for refurbishment of the Church Pews: My name is Hayres from the Neocatechumenal Way. I am fundraising for Our Lady of Peace (OLOP) Parish. I will embark on a 4-day Camino Walk in Spain from the 18th to the 21st of May 2025. The church's pews are very well worn out and need refurbishment. All proceeds will go directly to this project. You can donate online on our web page or via the contactless machine under the code Refurbishment Funds. Please contact the Parish office if you need more information. Many thanks for your support and generosity. It is much appreciated.