

to join in the fightback, to make your voice heard and stand up for the vulnerable. Please fill out the post cards in the Advent room. You can drop the postcards to the parish office or post it directly to SPUC.

Pastoral News

Saturday 6th September: Annual March for Life: Morning event starts from 10.00am - 1.00pm at the Emmanuel Centre Marsham St. SW1P 3DW. Holy Mass at 10.30am in Westminster Cathedral. The March begins at 1.00am from the Emmanuel Centre and end at Parliament Square at 4.30pm. Marchforlife.co.uk.

Stop assisted suicide - action needed!

The Leadbeater assisted suicide Bill is expected to have its Second Reading in the House of Lords on Friday 12 September. Right To Life UK has launched an EasyAction tool to help you write to a few Peers with a tailored message to highlight key concerns with the Bill. Please take action now and visit www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeers to ask Peers to oppose assisted suicide - it takes just 30 seconds!

Marriage Help: Retrouvaille helps couples find hope and healing for their marriage. Next date: 17th-19th Oct. www.retrouvaille.org.uk Tel: 0788 7296983

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

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.

Community News

Woodley food bank Updated List: Long life Milk, Cereals, Tinned meat, Tinned fish, tinned vegetables, Sugar, Rice pudding, Tea & Coffee, Sugar small bags, Long life juice, Squash, Tinned potatoes. Rice, Pasta sauce, Tinned fruit, Custard, Biscuits, Cooking oil (small bottles). 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
You can also pay via the contactless machine in the Advent Room.



If you are a UK taxpayer, then donating with Gift Aid means that we can claim an extra 25p for every £1 received.

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

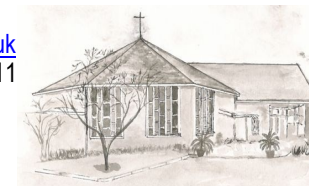
Parish Secretary

Rachel Alexander 0118 966 3711

Safeguarding Officer

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

Hall Bookings



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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C page:1049

31st August 2025

Psalm Response: In your goodness, O God, you provided a home for the poor.

It is the humble who wins

In today's gospel, Jesus reminds us about humility. As we all know, there can be many prejudices and misunderstandings about this humility. Some may say that to be humble means to act like a loser, and none of us wants to feel like a loser, We want to win, All of us want to be the best in that great race that's called life. The question is, does humility really mean weakness? What does it really mean for us to be humble?

One of my professors (Fr. K. Grzywocz) used to remind his students that the word humility is derived from the Latin word humus, that means soil. Soil, he explained, is very fertile, precious, very valuable but at the same time soil is, also very dusty, dirty and contaminated. This is true about us, humans, because we humans are derived from that humus, that is from soil (cf. Gen. 2,7). We have very great achievements, big talents; we are good, altruistic, and ready to help, but at the same time we are selfish, jealous, self-centred, and prone to temptations. We are a mixture of light and darkness and good things and bad.

So, to be humble means to be aware that in the same "ME" there are many bright dimensions but also, those shady ones. This awareness protects us from falling into extremities. We won't fall into false pride because we will remember that we are sinners, we need God, we need His mercy and need our neighbours, who is not immaculate, who also makes mistakes but it is His presence that makes life easier. We will not fall into despair because we will be aware of all those good things that God has put into our hearts: kindness, openness, honesty, compassion.

To take the last seat means to be humble, to be aware about the good and bad parts of our hearts. It is with this attitude that we will be able to remain open to God's Grace, to love our neighbour, and so in the end we win the life eternal.

Fr Stan

| Date & Dedication | Time | Mass Intentions etc |
|---|---|--|
| Sun 31st August 2025 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time | 8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm | Rosary Margaret & family intention Rosary For Parishioners Anthony Mundackal RIP |
| Mon 1st Sept | 6.00pm 6.30pm | Rosary Mary Burke RIP Foundation Mass |
| Tue 2nd Sept: | 8.00am | Dawid & Daria conversion and pure heart |
| Wed 3rd Sept St Gregory the great | 8.00am 4.15pm | Dorota's intention Rosary |
| Thurs 4th Sept: St Cuthbert | No Mass | |
| Fri 5th Sept | 11.00am - 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm | Adoration Rosary Jesus Antonio Carreon - grace of conversion |
| Sat 6th Sept | No Mass | Please see note in newsletter with regards to 1st Saturday devotion to our Lady. |
| Sun 7th September 2025 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time | 8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm | Rosary Roger Bell RIP Rosary For Parishioners Nicole Mundackal RIP |

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.

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

31st August: Barbara Eve Boyce (2021);
1st September: Geoff Way (1994); Mary Burke (2002);
2nd September: Angela Hughes (2012);
4th September: Linda Clayton (1979); Dee Faithfull (2008);
6th September: Lydia Robertson (1979);
7th September: William Dailly (1992); Peter Dawson (2008);

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

Saturday 6th September: There is no 1st Saturday devotion to Our Lady in our church in September due to the March for Life. A Group is going from our church. All are welcome to join the group. **The SPUC Reading Branch is hiring a coach to go to March for Life on the 6th September.** No fixed cost but a suggested donation of £20 for those who can afford it. The coach will depart from St William of York Church with the ability to park in the car park. Please use the following form to sign up [March for Life 2025 - Reading coach sign-up](#) or e mail Christopher Cahill at spucreading@gmail.com.

Friday 19th September 6.30pm. A Holy Mass will be offered in thanksgiving for our volunteers. All our volunteers are warmly invited to attend. If you are interested in volunteering at the church but are unsure where you can help, this is the perfect opportunity to come along and have a chat after Mass. Our church runs entirely on volunteers, and we truly need and appreciate any help you can offer.

Fire Warden Volunteers for Sunday Mass: Thank you to everyone who has volunteered for this important role. We now have Fire Wardens in place for the 8.30am and 11.00am Masses. We are still in need of volunteers for the 5.00pm Mass. If you are interested, please speak to Fr Stan or contact the Parish Office.

Saturday 4th October 2025 from 10.00am to 5.30pm: "A Day with Mary". A whole day retreat at our church. A day of instruction, devotion & intercession, based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. Sermon on our Lady by Fr Linus Clovis. See poster for more details."

Maiden Erlegh School Pre-school : We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude to Maiden Erlegh School Pre-school for three wonderful years of collaboration, friendship, and partnership. Sadly, the pre-school has now closed, and their space in the small hall is available for long-term hire. If you or someone you know is looking for space to run a business or activity, please contact hall@olop.org.uk

Pew Refurbishment update: Thanks to your continued generosity, we have raised £1,306.39 so far. We are pleased to confirm that work on the pew refurbishment has now begun. The project will be completed in stages to avoid disruption to our Sunday Mass. Please continue to donate for this project. The current estimate is £2,500 to the total project.

First Holy Communion 2025-2026. Children who will be in School Year 3 and turn 8 years old between 1st September 2025 and 31st August 2026 are eligible to join our next First Holy Communion preparation programme, beginning in October 2025. 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.

Confirmation 2025-26 is open to all young baptised Catholics who will be in Year 8 or above as of September 2025. If you are interested, please email or write to Father Stan at the church office. Further details about the programme will be provided in due course.

Fundraising for Church: Patio cleaning - If you would like to have your Patio cleaned then please contact Dawid on 07809868203. Special discount for Parishioners and also 80% of the fees will be donated to the church.

Mass Intention: Mass intentions are available for weekday Masses from mid-September. You may request a priest to offer a Mass for various reasons: in thanksgiving, for the intentions of another person (such as a birthday or special occasion), or most commonly, for the repose of the soul of someone who has died. If you would like to offer a Mass for a loved one, please contact the parish office to book a date.

SPUC Fightback Campaign: In the space of one week in June 2025, MPs voted to allow women to abort their baby up to birth for any reason, and to legalise assisted suicide. **Life is under attack at every stage.** SPUC invites you