

Sunday 11th January 2026 The Baptism of the Lord: 8.30am, 11.00am and 5.00pm Holy Mass.

No weekday Mass from Monday 12th January – Friday 16th January 2026.

Friday day Adoration. Adoration will start again after the Christmas break on Friday 23rd January 2026.

Pastoral News

Bed for the Night will start in January 2026. During the coldest winter months, Wycliffe church (along with other churches) provide a meal and shelter for people who need a place to sleep. Here at Wycliffe we will be hosting refugees on Tuesday nights from 6th January-31st March 2026. If you're interested in volunteering, please complete this form: <https://forms.office.com/e/3h48nC6P8D>. If you have any questions, get in touch with Kathryn (07765 600372).

Pro-life update: 2025 has been one of the most challenging and busiest years ever for the pro-life movement in the UK, with the biggest battles

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/>

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

on abortion and assisted suicide in over 50 years. Thanks to the support of our parish, there has been a strong, coordinated response in Parliament, in the media and among the wider public. Please visit <http://righttolife.org.uk/2025> to read the Year in Review to find out more about what we have achieved together for life this year.

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 - January edition is in the Advent Room £1.20 / book: Please leave money in the box next to the books in the Advent room.

Missio 2026 Calander: Please take your copy of the Mission Calander from the Advent room.

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

Hall Bookings

Zuzanna Bochenek

hall@olo.org.uk

Parish office will be closed from Wednesday 24th December 2025 to Wednesday 14th January 2026.
Parish office opening hours from 14th January : Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 11.00am-2.00pm.



Fourth Sunday of Advent

Year A (Sunday Missal page 42)

21st December 2025

Psalm Response: Let the Lord enter; he is the king of glory.

Joseph made up his mind when the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream.

We need people who help us to see Jesus. There are key moments in the life of others which help our faith to grow. The moment when the Angel Gabriel came to Our Mother, the meeting between Mary and Elizabeth and the time when St Joseph made up his mind to take Mary home as his wife, after a long period of deep confusion, are brilliant examples of how to see Jesus in daily life.

As for Mary, her acceptance of God's words enters a new chapter of her life and a new area of mankind. She is the first who embraced Christ - and her faith and the fact of real conception being interlinked to the unbelievable mystery of God's presence in the midst of people. Although we find continuity of God's presence and leadership of the Chosen Nation, in the scene of Annunciation we see the radically different presence of God. The incarnation challenged every human mind. The angels and Mary were open to that mystery.

As for Mary and Elisabeth, neither of them wanted to impress others or win their esteem. Both of them simply shared the joy of the coming Messiah. Mary helped Elisabeth with ongoing

house duties, keeping Jesus in her heart all the time. Her faith was joyfully shared with the elderly relative who also kept the hope.


As for Joseph, it was the time when he was afraid to take Mary home as his wife, because she had been found pregnant and Joseph knew nothing about it. One must be brave to believe that Mary conceived by the Holy Spirit and she was to give birth to the Messiah.

Let me stress again: we do need people who help us to see Jesus. When we reflect on the life of Mary, Joseph, Elizabeth and Zechariah in the relationship to Jesus, we find a link between God's grace and our effort of faith. We also learn how to keep a balance between daily duties, tensions and relationships with others and with God.

Wishing you great preparation for Christmas,

Fr Stan



Date & Dedication	Time	Mass Intentions etc
Sun 21st December Fourth Sunday of Advent 	8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm	Rosary For Parishioners Rosary Carreon family thanksgiving Jane John RIP rec. dec.
Mon 22nd Dec	6.00pm 6.30pm	Rosary Wafaa intention
Tue 23rd Dec	8.00am	George Bentley RIP foundation Mass
Wed 24th December The Nativity of the Lord <i>Solemnity with octave</i>	4.30pm 5.00pm Holy Mass 11.45pm	<i>Children's Nativity followed by Holy Mass</i> For The Parish Carols
Thurs 25th December The Nativity of the Lord	Midnight Mass 9.00am Mass 11.00 am Mass	For The Parish For The Parish For The Parish
Fri 26th Dec: St Stephen	10.00am	Ann Parker RIP
Sat 27th Dec	No Mass	
Sun 28th December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, Joseph	8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm	Rosary Martin & Kate Gorman wedding anniversary Rosary Evelyne Steventon thanksgiving For Parishioners

Census 2026

Please go to the Parish website www.olop.org.uk, click on the **Parish Database** button & fill in your details which are for parish use only and confidential. *We will not be importing old data, as in order to comply with GDPR, we have to make sure we only keep current information in our Database.*

Anniversaries: Please keep in your prayers

22nd Dec: Martha Franks (1998); Margaret Sellers (1998);
23rd Dec: Maureen Chapman (2000); George Bentley (2003);
24th Dec: Muriel Bowman-Smith (1976); Pauline Thackram (2001);
25th Dec: Donald Wignall (1996);
26th Dec: Anthony Lesner (1999); Mary James (2009); William Cham (2024)
28th Dec: Ann Hutchinson (2023)

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

Census 2026: It is time to conduct a new Census in our Parish. The last Parish Census was completed in 2018. The Census can be completed online via our website. If you prefer not to use the online option, physical copies are available in the Advent Room. Completed forms to be returned to the Parish Office. *Please note that we will not be importing data from previous censuses. In order to comply with GDPR requirements, we must ensure that only current information is held in our database.*

Carol Singing on Sunday 14th December:

Many thanks to those who came for the carol-singing! As expected, we have met people who received us very warmly (some even sang with us), as well as others who aren't interested at all. In total, we have received £61 of donations from our local neighbours and have given quite a few Christmas cards (designed by our own Nathaniel) to them.

Advent Giving: Today, Sunday 21st December 2025, is the last day for donations. Thank you in advance for your generosity. Fr Stan, together with our Parish community, would like to express sincere thanks to Sara Sabey for the kind donation of the Christmas tree for our Advent Giving.

Christmas day collection: The collections from all the Christmas Masses are a gift for Fr Stan's ministry amongst us. Please either use our contactless payment or use the envelope provided in Advent room.

Parish office will be closed from Wednesday 24th December 2025 to Wednesday 14th January 2026.

The Christmas newsletter will cover the 3 Sundays while the parish office is closed (28th Dec, 4th Jan & 11th Jan.) - so please keep your copy!

Christmas Crib Collection: In the Diocese, we alternate our annual Christmas Crib offerings between Friends of the Holy Land and the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre. This year, the Christmas Crib offerings will go to the Friends of the Holy Land (FHL).

The situation for our Christian families in Holy Land has gone from very difficult to critical. Caught in the middle of terrible conflict, many more families from places like Bethlehem, East Jerusalem and Ramallah are thinking seriously about emigrating. We face the possibility of the last members of the ancient Christian community leaving the homeland of our faith forever. Your support can make all the difference. Thanks to your donations so far, FHL have been able to send practical life-saving supplies to around 1,100 people sheltering in the Gaza church compounds – including children and people who are injured and ill.

Christmastide

Friday 26th December: St Stephen 10.00am Holy Mass.

Sunday 28th December: Holy Family. Holy Mass at 8.30am, 11.00am & 5.00pm. The renewal of marriage vows are celebrated at all Masses this day).

No weekday Mass on Monday 29th December and Tuesday 30th December 2025.

Wednesday 31st December 2025: Thanksgiving Mass for 2025 at 6.30pm

Thursday 1st January 2026: Mary Mother of God: 11.00am Holy Mass

Friday 2nd January 2026: 1st Friday of the month, 6.30pm Holy Mass

Saturday 3rd January 2026: 1st Saturday devotion to our Lady 11.00am Holy Mass

Sunday 4th January 2026: 2nd Sunday after Christmas: 8.30am, 11.00am and 5.00pm Holy Mass.

Monday 5th January 2026: Vigil Mass for Epiphany at 6.30pm.

Tuesday 6th January 2026: Epiphany of the Lord (Holy day of obligation) Holy Mass at 6.30pm