

**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](mailto:recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**IMPORTANT MESSAGE: Gift card fraud** is an increasingly common way of tricking victims into purchasing gift cards and sharing their details, leading to financial loss. Please be aware that there have been scam messages circulating which appear to come from priests or diocesan staff, asking people to buy gift cards or provide financial help urgently.

The Diocese and its clergy will never ask for money, gift cards, vouchers, or personal details by email, text message, or social media. If you receive a message of this kind, do not respond and do not send any money. Please report it to your Parish Office.

## 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.

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

### 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

## Resources

**Day by Day - January edition is in the Advent Room £1.20 / book:** Due to Lent beginning on Wednesday 18th February, the January edition of Day by Day is till Tuesday 17th February. Please leave money in the box next to the books in the Advent room. The Lent edition of My Day by Day will be from Wednesday 18th February to Tuesday 31st March.

**Missio 2026 Calander:** Please take your copy of the Mission Calander from 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

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.

# Our Lady of Peace & Bl Dominic Barberi

338 Wokingham Road Earley Reading RG6 7DA Website [www.olop.org.uk](http://www.olop.org.uk)  
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No 1199568

#### Parish Priest

The Rev Fr Stan Gibiński  
[fatherstan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:fatherstan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

#### Parish Secretary

Rachel Alexander  
0118 966 3711  
[office@olop.org.uk](mailto:office@olop.org.uk)

#### Safeguarding Officer

Harish Chander  
[safeguarding@olop.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@olop.org.uk)

#### Hall Bookings

Zuzanna Bochenek  
[hall@olop.org.uk](mailto:hall@olop.org.uk)



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

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A (Sunday Missal page 702)

1st February 2026

**Psalm Response:**  
**Blessed are the poor in spirit; for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. .**

### Meditation on Beatitudes as true moment of enlightenment

We are pilgrims. We are earthly pilgrims on an earthly pilgrimage heading to unknown world.

They point out the richness of human and divine life, and in this way they bring back lost integrity and stability of hearts.

We are people made out of clay, we are on the journey where dust and mud are known to us.

The revelation of the reality of human hearts happened on the Mount of Beatitudes. It was the moment of true enlightenment of humanity. On that mountain Jesus announced and embraced all human desires, and all God's promises starting from those given in Paradise and to Abraham.

Every pilgrim, every believer, is marked by dust, clay and mud - as well as by God's blessing; by Christ. God's blessing comes in Christ as the epiphany, as the revelation of the real face of God to us.

The Beatitudes help us also to see what really make us happy, as the desires of our souls simply have the divine origin.

God's blessing comes also as the revelation to us of what is in the depths of the hearts of every man and woman; as a revelation of who I am and who you are.

The Beatitudes bring answer to the natural desire for happiness, hidden in our hearts. It is because God himself has implanted them in our hearts.

In our hearts there is the most natural style of life named by Jesus Christ as the Eight Beatitudes. Because these Beatitudes are in the centre of Jesus' teaching, in the centre of each of them is the Kingdom of Heaven.

When we listen carefully ourselves, we will be attracted to them. Interestingly enough, only God can meet our desires with His blessings formulated in Beatitudes.

The Beatitudes teach us about the final goal of our life - the kingdom of God, the vision of Christ, participation in His eternal life, in holiness.

Fr Stan

Date & Dedication	Time	Mass Intentions etc
Sun 1st February 2026 Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm	Rosary Peter De Mello thanksgiving Rosary Nikita Steventon thanksgiving Aurora Aquino's health
Mon 2nd Feb The Presentation of the Lord	6.00pm 6.30pm	Rosary Julian 5th birthday
Tue 3rd Feb: St Blaise	No Mass	
Wed 4th Feb	No Mass	
	4.15pm	Rosary
Thurs 5th Feb: St Agatha	No Mass	
Fri 6th Feb St Paul Miki & Companions	11.00am - 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm	Adoration Rosary Nicole & family intention
Sat 7th Feb 1st Saturday Devotion to Our Lady	9.30am - 11.00am 11.00am	Adoration, Rosary, Reconciliation followed by Holy Mass at 11.00pm Andreas Latta RIP
Sun 8th February 2026 Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 2.30pm 5.00pm	Rosary Rodney Pell RIP Rosary William Cham RIP Divine Mercy For Parishioners

**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

1st Feb: Edyth Cameron (1979); Mary Tompkins (2001); Sue Rose (2001); and Joseph Fernando (1984).  
2nd Feb: Elizabeth Ballard (1986); Elena Atkinson (2015); 3rd Feb: Richard Sangster (2023)  
4th Feb: Maria Bryant (1977); Richard Johnston (2009);  
5th Feb: Monica Carroll (1997); Renza Manning (2014);  
7th Feb: Anna Pelikan (1978)  
8th Feb: Roselyn Fernando (1990); and Agnes Teresa Walsh (2007); Elizabeth (Liz) Ann Bailey (2018)

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:** Please go to the Parish website [www.olop.org.uk](http://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.*

**2nd Collection for the Cathedral on Sunday 25th January 2026.** raised £115.24. Thank you for your generosity.

**No Mass from Tuesday 3rd February to Thursday 5th February.**

**Saturday 7th February** : 1st Saturday of every month at 9.30am: (Dedication to Our Lady) Adoration, Rosary, Reconciliation followed by Holy Mass at 11.00am.

**Sunday 8th February - 2nd Sunday of the Month** – Divine Mercy prayers from 2.30 pm – 3.30 pm.

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)** The Rite of Election with Bishop Philip is on **Saturday 21st February in Portsmouth Cathedral**. All candidates need to attend the Rite of election. Please speak to Fr Stan to complete the paperwork urgently.

**Polite request regarding Car Park:** Please park your cars in the designated space. If the Car park is full, then please park in Aldbourne Avenue. **Please do not park in the middle of the car park.** This section should be clear at all times to allow access to emergency vehicles.

#### Lent preparation

**Last Year's Palm Crosses:** Basket is in Advent room for last year's Palm Crosses. This will be burnt on Tuesday 17th February for Ash Wednesday.

**Wednesday 18th February (Ash Wednesday)**  
10.00am & 6.30pm Mass. Abstinence and fasting are to be observed on Ash Wednesday.

**Stations of the Cross:** We will have 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.

**From Wednesday 25th February during Lent - Holy Mass at 6.30am.** Come and celebrate Mass by candlelight before dawn every Wednesday during Lent at 6.30am.

#### Pastoral News

**Headteacher Vacancy: Christ the King Catholic primary school Reading**, are seeking to appoint a headteacher for September 2026. The details can be found at <https://www.christthekingreading.co.uk/staff-vacancies/>

**KS1 Class Teacher at St Dominic Savio Catholic Primary School. Full time Maternity Cover:** Details can be found on their website [www.stdominicsavio.co.uk/join-our-team](http://www.stdominicsavio.co.uk/join-our-team)

**Vacancy at CommuniCare:** who are a Christian led Advice charity in Reading. We support those in need in Reading and beyond. We currently have vacancies for volunteer Advisers (full training will be given). If you would like more details, please do contact CommuniCare for an informal chat. Either call 0118 9263941 or email [office@communicare.org.uk](mailto:office@communicare.org.uk). Full role descriptions can be found on the CommuniCare website: <https://www.communicare.org.uk/volunteering/>

**Vocation:** Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." The Beatitudes guide us in living holy and generous lives no matter the vocation He has placed on our heart. We are all called to embody these virtues, serving God and His people with humble hearts. Pray for discernment and openness to where God might be inviting you to follow Him. Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. [vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or call 01329 318 869