

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
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Safeguarding Officer Harish Chander
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hall@lop.org.uk



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

Friday 3rd April, Good Friday Walk of Witness: This is organised by the local Churches and the idea is to visit the 4 churches (Olop, Earley St Peters, Anderson Baptist Church & Park URC) stop reflect, pray, sing and then move on carrying a large cross. 9:30am: We will begin our Walk of Witness at Our Lady of Peace and conclude at Wycliffe Baptist Church, followed by tea, coffee, and hot cross buns.

Here is the FULL order of proceedings:

9:30 – Our Lady of Peace (Start)

9:55 – Earley St Peter's

10:20 – Anderson Baptist Church

10:45 – Park URC (including children's activity)

11:15 – Wycliffe Baptist Church (including children's activity)

11:30 – Refreshments. If anyone is unable to walk the entire distance, they can go directly to Wycliffe Baptist Church at 10:45 AM and join the singing there. We would love for you to participate in this event, help spread the word, and pray for good weather.

On **Sunday, 19 April at 4:30 pm (UK time)**, the Catholic Bishops of England and Wales will hold a Holy Hour to pray for the promotion of a culture of life in our lands. This is to present a unified, prayerful front to offer this petition to Our Lord for the dignity of life from conception to natural end and to pray that assisted suicide will not become law.

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MARRIAGE SUPPORT: If you are just in a rut or for more serious issues – Retrouvaille could be the solution. www.retrouvaille.org.uk +44 797 338 0443

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.

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Resources

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

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.

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 Henry Jan Nkop |
| 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

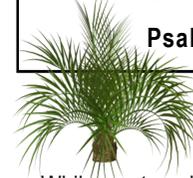
| |
|---------------|
| 0118 931 4469 |
| 0118 969 3423 |
| 0118 957 4171 |
| 0118 957 2149 |
| 0118 942 8632 |
| 0118 966 5284 |
| 0118 947 1787 |

Palm Sunday

Year A (Sunday Missal page 234)

29th March 2026

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



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord

While contemplating the Passion, we become closer to our Lord. Let us be with the Lord in the moment of the rejection. God was rejected. He embraced and picked up all kinds rejections. Some of them have happened to us. Some of them, we have shown to others.

There are some who are not happy when they hear about the Cross. However, this challenge is calculated in the process of growing to the maturity of Christian life. The same happened to St Peter, who enthusiastically professed Jesus Christ then denied the Cross. St Peter saw a lot and yet escaped; was close in the Upper Room, was alongside when the Lord prayed in the Olive Garden. Indeed, he did not climb the Mount of Golgotha but in his act of contrition and by our Lord's prayer from the Cross, he ended up right in the middle of the heart of Jesus.

When we have great devotion to the Passion, we learn better that through the Sacrifice of His Cross the darkness is overcome.

By adhering to the crucified Jesus, our love and faithfulness increases. By adhering to the disfigured and crushed image of Jesus, we equally see His glorified face. With Him we unite our wounded hearts and allow Him to reign. Indeed, the Lord reigns over the Universe and reigns from the Cross. The Cross of Christ is our stronghold as it conceives in us the joy of the Resurrection. We experience that miracle at every single Holy Mass as there we mysteriously take part in the events of Calvary. At every single Mass, the Sacrificial Offering of Jesus is made and the fruits, the Holy Body and Blood of the Lord, are given to us.

We proclaim His death and resurrection to 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 29th March 2026 Palm Sunday <i>(Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday 29th March)</i>  | 8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm | <i>Rosary</i> Bruno & Luzia Reiling RIP <i>Rosary</i> Leo's 3rd birthday thanksgiving For Parishioners |
| Mon 30th March | No Mass | |
| Tues 31st March | No Mass | <i>11.00am Chrism Mass at Portsmouth Cathedral.</i> |
| Wed 1st April | No Mass | |
| Thur 2nd April Maundy Thursday | 10.00am 6.30pm | Tenebrae (Office of Readings & Morning prayers) Solemn Mass of the Lord's supper followed by Adoration till midnight |
| Friday 3rd April Good Friday <i>(Day of fasting & abstinence)</i> | 10.00am 11.00am 3.00pm | Tenebrae (Office of Readings & Morning prayers) Children's Good Friday service Solemn Liturgy of Our Lord's Passion |
| Sat 4th April Holy Saturday | 10.00am 8.30pm (Easter Vigil Mass) | Tenebrae (Office of Readings & Morning prayers) <i>and later blessing of food.</i> Parish family and friends |
| Sun 5th April 2026 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 | <i>Rosary</i> Parish family and friends <i>Rosary</i> 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

29th March: Vera Seckey (1979); and Daniel Lynch (2004).
 30th March: Andrew Molony (1997); Chantelle Pattinson (2000);
 1st April: Patrick Burke (2008); Frederick V. Ntang (2010); Bridget Fuery (2012);
 2nd April: Mabel Blake (1985);
 3rd April: Edward Woyczys (1973); John Newton (2003); Angela Nightingale (2025)
 4th April: Maria Colella (1989); Bridgeen Fox (2012).

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.**

Holy Week

Tea & Coffee after 8.30am Mass: We will take a break from our usual tea & coffee after 8.30am Mass for Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. We will be back on Sunday 12th April.

Palm (Passion) Sunday 29th March *(Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday 29th March)*, 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.

Monday 30th March: (No Mass at church)
 Tuesday 31st March Chrism Mass at Portsmouth Cathedral (No Mass at church)
 Wednesday 1st April (No Mass at church)

Maundy Thursday 2nd April:

10.00am: Tenebrae (Office of Readings & Morning prayers)
6.30pm: Solemn Mass of the Lord's supper followed by Adoration until midnight.

Good Friday 3rd April:

(Day of fasting & abstinence)
9.30am: Walk of Witness starts from our church.
10.00am: Tenebrae (Office of Readings & Morning prayers)
11.00am: Children's Good Friday service
3.00pm: Solemn Liturgy of Our Lord's Passion
(Divine Mercy Novena starts on Good Friday)

Good Friday Collection is for Holy places:

The Good Friday Collection is the main source of funds for the maintenance of Christian life around these Sacred Sites. If you would like to give a gift to this collection, you can donate via our contactless payment in the Advent room or loose change can be placed in the collection basket.

Holy Saturday 4th April:

10.00am Tenebrae (Office of Readings & Morning prayers)
After Tenebrae, blessing of food.
8.30pm Easter Vigil.

RCIA candidates: Please keep our four candidates in your prayers as they prepare to receive their Sacraments in Easter. Peter Cousin for Baptism, Richard Godden for Reception into Church and Joseph Maimone for Confirmation. Klaudia Kardoheliova will receive her sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 26th April 2026.

Easter Sunday 5th April :

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

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 & give generously. Thank you.

Easter Week:

Monday 6th April: 10.00am Holy Mass,
 No weekday mass on Tuesday 7th April and Wednesday 8th April.

Friday 10th April: 6.30pm Holy Mass
Sunday 12th April – Divine Mercy Sunday
 2.30pm Divine Mercy Holy Hour

Parish News

Weekday Mass: No weekday mass from Monday 13th April - Friday 17th April.

Friday Adoration: Friday Adoration will resume on Friday 24th April 2026.

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.

Pastoral News

PASSION PLAY in Reading on 3rd & 4th April 2026: Rise Theatre CIC, a local professional Christian theatre company, are again performing their Passion Play in Forbury Gardens (RG1 3BB) at 2.00pm on both Good Friday 3rd April & Holy Saturday 4th April. It is a FREE event. Bring a blanket or outdoor chair to sit on! The play includes a dramatic interpretation of the crucifixion so parental guidance is advised. See www.risetheatre.co.uk/passionplay for more information Please support this local initiative during the Easter weekend and invite your friends too!