

Our Lady of Peace & BI Dominic Barberi

338 Wokingham Road Earley Reading RG6 7DA Website www.olo.org.uk
Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth Registered Charity No 1199568

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

7th Sunday of Easter

Year A (Sunday Missal page 401)

17th May 2026

Psalm Response:
I believe I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.

Father, glorify your Son.

Heaven cannot exist without Christ and Christ indeed is Ascended into Heaven in His real flesh. He is Ascended in His glorified body with five visible sacred wounds examined by doubting Thomas. Christ is Ascended above all visible heavens marked and limited by time and space, into the highest heaven. He is Ascended into the most Blessed dwelling-place of God the Almighty - unimaginable by our limited minds and hearts, but yet real and the most desirable place for our souls where we share life with God, angels, saints and those who hopefully are going to be saints, namely all our beloved. In every soul there is the desire of heaven shared with many as we are created into God's image and likeness, who wants eternal happiness for all His children.

Somewhere deep in us we are able to touch the desire of heaven expressed in wanting good, truth, justice, peace, beauty, harmony, shared mutual love, etc.. Although this desire at some point was damaged and reshaped by tendencies of building Tower of Babel, by another desire, the desire of power, possession, pride, etc, the purity of soul is undamaged. We are baptised in Christ and led by the Holy Spirit. Being well supported by the Spirit we are given seven-fold gifts, which we are waiting to blossom in us. One of them is the availability to recognise again and treasure again that "Our true homeland is in heaven" (Philippians 3:20) and "the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. Not only so, but we ourselves, who have the first-fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption to sonship, the redemption of our bodies" (Romans 8:22-23).

Christ is the Ascended one who is seated at the right hand of God the Father who says: 'I go to prepare a place for you' (John 14:2), and He is going to take us where He is. Since our hope is placed not in this world but somewhere else, actually in the Heart of Jesus who is Ascended into heaven, from this perspective we are able to see everything in the right view. From this perspective we are able to love the world freely yet being rooted in heaven, where our hope comes from. 'Heaven must receive Christ until the time of restoring all things' (Acts 3:21).

Fr Stan

This exhibition was designed and created by St Carlo Acutis (1991-2006). The Relic of St Carlo Acutis will also visit the church on Saturday 30th & Sunday 31st May 2026. A number of events are planned for these 2 days. More details can be found on their website: www.corpuschristi-wokingham.org

Saturday 20th June at 11am: Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or anniversary over 60 years? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration at St Bede's church in Basingstoke followed by lunch. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage. Please contact your parish secretary for more information. Thank you.

Two Diocesan Pilgrimage with Bishop Philip. To Lourdes (from Monday 6th to Friday 10th July 2026): For more details, please e mail: lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

To Assisi & Turin (from Monday 20th to Sunday 26th July 2026): For more details, please follow the link [Portsmouth Diocese Pilgrimage to Turin and Assisi | JC Journey](#)

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. 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

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

Vocation: 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 or call 01329 318 869

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.

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.

| Date & Dedication | Time | Mass Intentions etc |
|---|---|--|
| Sun 17th May 2026 Seventh Sunday of Easter | 8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm | Rosary Bruno & Luzia Reiling RIP Rosary Sebastian's confirmation 1st anniversary thanksgiving For Parishioners |
| Mon 18th May St John 1 | 5.15pm 6.00pm 6.30pm | Adoration Rosary Tom & Carol Cookson RIP |
| Tues 19th May: Dedication of the Cathedral to St John, Portsmouth | 8.00am | Thyveetil family intention |
| Wed 20th May St Bernardine of Siena | 8.00am 4.15pm* 6.00pm | Fernandes family thanksgiving Rosary Holy Mass for Students |
| Thurs 21st May | No Mass | |
| Fri 22nd May St Rita of Cascia | 11.00am - 6.00pm 6.00pm 6.30pm | Adoration Rosary Hans Mueller RIP |
| Sat 23rd May | No Mass | |
| Sun 24th May 2026  Pentecost Sunday | 8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm | Rosary Confirmation Candidates Rosary Geoff Wilman RIP For Parishioners |

Sacrament of Reconciliation: On Mass days 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

17th May: Maria Filippo (1997); and Alfred Walsh (1984);
18th May: Anne Flannery (1979); Patrick Walsh (2001);
19th May: Charles Turner (1988);
20th May: Henrietta Jane O'Hara (1998); Lilian Ralph (2004);
21st May: Patrick McLoughlin (2001); Ted McGuirk (2013);
22nd May: Elizabeth Parker (2003);
24th May: Chris Waters (2005); Michael John Caruna (2019)

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

Second Collections: World Communications Day 17th May (mandatory): This Sunday marks the 60th World Day of Social Communications. This year's theme is "Preserving Human Voices and Faces". This 2nd collection assists the Church to support this theme and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with people throughout the world. For more information, and to read Pope Leo's message for World Communications Day 2026, please visit: cbcew.org.uk/wcd/. Donate via the collection basket on your way out or use our card machine in the Advent Room.

Novena to the Holy Spirit (Pentecost Novena) starts on Friday 15th May. This Novena is the first of all novenas, nine days of prayer that naturally fall between the Ascension of the Lord Jesus into heaven and the feast of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit came upon the apostles "together with several women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers". Importantly, there is a special link between the novena and Mary, between the Holy Spirit and Mary. If She were not in the Upper Room on the Pentecost Day, the Holy Spirit would not come. As Holy Spirit only comes through Mary, let us pray daily: *Come Holy Spirit, come through Mary!*



Saturday 30th May at 11.00am: Father Stan is celebrating his Pearl Jubilee (30th anniversary) of priesthood this year. All parishioners are warmly invited for a Thanksgiving Holy Mass at 11:00am followed by refreshments in the Parish Hall. Holy Mass with Students will be on Wednesday 20th May 2026 at 6.00pm

Weekday Mass: There will be no weekday Mass on Tuesday 26th May & Wednesday 27th May 2026.

Sunday 31st May at 8.30am & 11am Mass We are very pleased that the Knights of St Columba will bring the relic of St. Edmund Campion to our church. For more details, please visit <http://www.province30.co.uk/>.

Saturday 6th June Confirmation 2025-26. Please keep in your prayers our confirmation candidates, Anton Joseph, Ifeanyi John Onuama, Jan Piotr Gruba and Pola Gruba. They will receive their Sacrament of Confirmation at Christ the King Church on Saturday 6th June at 11.00am.

Saturday 6th June: 1st Saturday of every month (Dedication to Our Lady). **Please note change of time due to Confirmation Mass at 11.00am at Christ the King Church.* Holy Mass at 8.00am followed Adoration & Rosary from 8.40am till 9.40am

Sunday 7th June: Feast of Corpus Christi: after 11am Mass on this day, we will have a procession with the Blessed Sacrament. Children especially our First Holy Communion Children and other willing girls & boys will participate in the procession. Please bring petals and bells for the procession.

Sunday 14th June - 2nd Sunday of the Month – Divine Mercy prayers from 2.30 pm – 3.30 pm.

Parish Pilgrimage: Fr Stan would like to invite you all to our parish pilgrimage to Porto-Fatima-Lisbon, 22nd-29th September 2026. £900 bed & breakfast. (based on two people sharing a room), with single rooms available at a supplementary cost). Deposit of £250 payable now with balance due 26th June 2026. For booking and more information, please contact Wafaa on 07719 482059. Please note we are closing the trip for bookings on Friday 29 May 2026. See poster for more details.

Pastoral News

23rd May to 7th June 2026; International Exhibition of Eucharistic Miracles by Saint Carlo Acutis and First Class Relic of Saint Carlo Acutis at Corpus Christi. We warmly invite you to visit the exhibition. Bring your friends and neighbours. All are welcome. Free Entry.