

# St Joseph's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE

105 London Road Newbury Berkshire RG14 1JP

Reg. Charity No. 1199568 'Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth'

Telephone: 01635 40167

Email: [office@stjosephsnewbury.org.uk](mailto:office@stjosephsnewbury.org.uk)

Website: [www.stjosephsnewbury.org.uk](http://www.stjosephsnewbury.org.uk)

Safeguarding Minister: Mary Barnard: Telephone: 0777 616 3856

Email: [safeguarding@stjosephsnewbury.org.uk](mailto:safeguarding@stjosephsnewbury.org.uk)

St. Joseph's School Telephone: 01635 43455

Hall Bookings/Information email: [office@stjosephsnewbury.org.uk](mailto:office@stjosephsnewbury.org.uk)



## 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAYS OF EASTER - YEAR A

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April: 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR A.** 'Good Shepherd Sunday' (World Day of Prayer for Vocations). Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

**Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April: Monday of the 4<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter.** No Mass today.

**Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> April: Tuesday of the 4<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter** or St Peter Chanel, Religious, Martyr, or St Louis Grignion de Montfort, Founder, *optional memorials*. Mass at 10.00am.

**Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April: St CATHERINE of SIENA**, Religious & Doctor of the Church, Patron of Europe, *feast*. Mass at 10.00am.

**Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April: Thursday of 4<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter**, or, St Pius V, Pope, *optional memorial*. Mass at 10.00am.

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May: Friday of the 4<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter** or St Joseph the Worker, *optional memorial*. Mass at 10.00am.

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May: St Athanasius**, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, *memorial*. Mass at 10.00am followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions.

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May: 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR A.** Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May: THE ENGLISH MARTYRS (1535 – 1680)**, *feast*. No Mass today.

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May: Tuesday of the 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter.** Mass at 10.00am.

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May: Wednesday of the 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter.** Mass at 10.00am.

**Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May: Thursday of the 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter.** Mass at 10.00am.

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> May: Friday of the 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter.** Mass at 10.00am.

**Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> May: Saturday of the 5<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter.** Mass at 10.00am followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions.

### Mass Intentions:

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April: 8.30am for Jelly Williams RIP (Nicki Williams' Intention).

11am for Mary Kirk RIP (Kirk Family's Intention).

1<sup>st</sup> May: 10.00am for Joseph & Thomas Lee RIP (Family Intention).

Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May: 11am for Manuel Fernandes RIP (Fernandes Family's Intention).

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May: 10am for Court Granville RIP (Deidre McNair Wilson's Intention).

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May: 10am for Angela Rosa Fernandes-Pereira RIP (Fernandes Family's Intention).

### Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:

Chris Turner, Carol Bartlam, Graham Attridge, Angela Jordan, Elizabeth Skelton, Kate Kennington, Jonathan Sheridan, Deanna Knight, Eric and Beryl Thompson, Lesley Smith, Larry Bretz, Yvonne Bradley, Pat and Ron Bird, Theresa Cassidy, Joshua David, Marie O'Sullivan, Liliana Ramalingam, Terry Hamill, Rita Zollo. Additions - please inform Fr Michael.

**Collections:** 19<sup>th</sup> April 2026: Plate collection £660.28; Poor Box £16.10; Candles £36.58; Repository £13.70. Thank you for your generosity.

### Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> April: 4<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER (A) – 'Good Shepherd Sunday' (World Day of Prayer for Vocations):

We too are called to be good shepherds of God's flock and good sheep of his parishes, and to pray for vocations to the priesthood, the diaconate, and religious life. Scripture uses the image of a Shepherd and his flock to describe the unique relationship of God with Israel and of Christ with disciples. There will be a **second collection** at both Masses for the **Clergy Training Fund**. The Diocese is blessed to have 10 men in formation for the priesthood, but it takes between six to eight years at a cost of about £30,000 per year, and relies on the generosity of people to support the formation of our future priests. You can also donate at:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/clergy-training-fund-2026>

**11am Mass: Children's Liturgy** in the Hall for children of primary school age in Reception Class and above.

**2.00pm-4.30pm: 'The Repair Café'** in the Methodist Church Hall, Northbrook Street. In the last two years the Repair Café has saved over 1300 items from waste processing, continuing to reduce waste in West Berkshire

and helping many also to save money and revive well-loved items. Bring your items for repair!

**Open Church:** Many thanks to Rosie Byrne for kindly arranging and supervising the weekly Open Church sessions over the past few years. If you would like to volunteer to take over this important role, please speak to Fr Michael. For the time being, there will be no Open Church sessions on Wednesdays.

**Thursdays 30<sup>th</sup> April and 7<sup>th</sup> May: 10.30am Grand/Mothers' Prayers** every Thursday at *Newbury Grove Care Home*, 370 London Rd, Newbury RG14 2QH. For more information, speak with Fr Michael or Elizabeth Matias after Mass.

**Friday 1<sup>st</sup> May: 10.30am - Holy Rosary** will follow Mass.  
**N.B. 2.00pm – Film Matinée** in the Parish Hall – *'The Cardinal'*, 3 hour epic with interval. Note earlier start time!

**Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> May: 'A Day with Mary'** - 10.00am-5.30pm at Our Lady of Peace & Blessed Dominic Barberi Church, Earley, near Reading RG6 7DA. Procession; Confessions; Mass; Rosary; Exposition; Talk; Act of Consecration; Enrolment in the Brown Scapular. A day of instruction and intercession based on the message given at Fatima in 1917. Bring a packed lunch.

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> May: 5<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR A.** Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> May: 6<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR A.**  
**11am Mass: Children's Liturgy** in the Hall for children of primary school age in Reception Class and above.

**Prayer Petitions to Medjugorje:** Several parishioners are going to Medjugorje in May and are willing to take your prayer requests with them on pilgrimage. Please use the basket in front of the altar where you will find paper and envelopes, which will remain sealed.

**PARISH LOURDES PILGRIMAGE 2026:** Transport has been arranged to and from Stanstead. The cost is **£45** per person. Please pay cash or cheque payable to *"The Tea Bar"* and hand in to the Presbytery.

**SAVE THE DATE: Saturday 6th June: Family Quiz Night** at St Francis de Sales. Proceeds to Justice and Peace charities. For details please contact Trisha Craig (trishacraig@hotmail.com)

**PAPAL COMMUNICATION:** At the start of his journey to Algeria, Cameroon, Angola and Equatorial Guinea, Pope Leo responded to questions regarding US President Donald Trump's recent critical statements about him on the 'Truth Social' network. The Pope said: "I do not see my role as that of a politician. I am not a politician, and I do not want to enter into a debate with him." He continued: "I do not think the message of the Gospel

should be abused as some are doing. I continue to speak strongly against war, seeking to promote peace, dialogue, and multilateralism among states to find solutions to problems. Too many people are suffering today, too many innocent lives have been lost, and I believe someone must stand up and say there is a better way." The Pope then renewed the call for peace. "I say this to all world leaders, not only him [President Trump]: let us end wars and promote peace and reconciliation."

**St Joseph's Parish Administrator & Hall Manager.** St Joseph's is seeking to fill an expanded role of Parish Administrator and Hall Manager, providing administrative, IT, and organisational support to the Parish Priest, and the smooth day-to-day operations of the parish. The postholder is expected to foster a professional, welcoming, and efficient parish environment for parishioners, volunteers, and visitors. Contract: Permanent, Part-time Hours: 12 hours per week (flexible in line with hall bookings). As an employee of the Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth, a registered charity, applicants must comply with all diocesan policies and procedures, as well as those related to local arrangements specifically authorised by the Parish Priest.  
**How to Apply:** send a comprehensive and up-to-date CV, and covering letter outlining your suitability for the role and your motivation for applying (maximum two sides of A4), to [recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk). Please include 'Parish Administrator and Hall Manager NEWBJ' in the subject line of your email. Alternatively visit: <https://catholicdioceseofportsmouth.peoplehr.net/Pages/JobBoard/Opening.aspx?v=695969d2-c7e8-4783-83d1-c683673118ef>

The closing date is **29<sup>th</sup> April 2026**.

**From West Berkshire Foodbank:** Donated items can be left in the box at the back of church at any time, ready for collection on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> May. Your generosity is appreciated.

**St Joseph's Hall:** Interested in hiring St Joseph's Hall for an occasion or a class? Please contact the parish office to enquire about availability, and to book. A provisional cost of £25 per hour has been set at present, subject to confirming the new heating and utility costs following the hall's major refurbishment. Office Tel: **01635 40167**; E-mail [office@stjosephsnewbury.org.uk](mailto:office@stjosephsnewbury.org.uk)

**Contactless Donations:** Please use your debit/credit card or smart phone/device to donate your chosen amount on our digital collection pads for Sunday collections. Gift Aid details need only be entered once and will be retained for future donations.

If you would like to receive a copy of this newsletter by email each week, please contact the parish office.

**AND A FINAL THOUGHT:** Whenever you find yourself doubting how far you can go, remember how far you have come.