

St Joseph's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE

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SOLEMNITY OF ST PETER & ST PAUL

YEAR A

First Holy Communion Celebration (2)

Sunday 28th June: SOLEMNITY OF ST PETER & ST PAUL - YEAR A. Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 29th June: Feria of 13th Week of Ordinary Time. No Mass today.

Tuesday 30th June: Feria of 13th Week of Ordinary Time, or, First Martyrs of the Church of Rome, *optional memorial*. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 1st July: Feria of 13th Week of Ordinary Time, or, St Oliver Plunkett, bishop & martyr, *optional memorial*. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 2nd July: Feria of 13th Week of Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 3rd July: ST THOMAS, apostle, *feast*. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 4th July: Our Lady on Saturday, or, St Elizabeth of Portugal, *optional memorial*. Mass at 10.00am followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 28th June: 8.30am for Patrick & Mary Early RIP (Family intention).

11.00am for intentions of the First Holy Communion candidates 2026.

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:

Paula Holmes, Carol Bartlam, Joyce Delahunty, Graham Attridge, Angela Jordan, Elizabeth Skelton, 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: 21st June 2026: Plate collection £517.26; Second Collection (*Day for Life*) £149.26; Poor Box £1; Candles £31.31; Repository £21. Thank you!

Sunday 28th June: SOLEMNITY OF ST PETER & ST PAUL - YEAR A. We celebrate the two 'Princes of the Apostles'!

First Holy Communion Sunday (2). At 11.00am Mass our remaining 9 children will celebrate their First Holy Communion.

2.00pm-4.30pm – *'The Repair Café* in the Methodist Church Hall, Northbrook Street. Save your useful and much-loved items from waste land-fill!

First Holy Communion Cards & Gifts: these are available to purchase from our parish Repository after Masses. Please speak to Maureen Smith for more information.

Tuesday 30th June- 4th July: Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes.

For those parishioners travelling, the mini-bus for Stansted Airport will depart promptly at 7am from St Joseph's Church car-park. Please ensure that you bring all required travel documentation with you!

Thursday 2nd July: 10.30am - Grand/Mothers' Prayers for now will be held in members' own homes. If interested in attending, please speak with Fr Michael or Elizabeth Matias after Mass.

Friday 3rd July: Rosary next Friday due to Lourdes.

Saturday 4th July: Safeguarding Training Session 10am to 1pm at the Church of Our Lady of the Assumption in Thatcham. All those from St. Joseph's, who are required to complete the training every three years are either up to date or are registered to attend on that date. If any else would like to attend, please email Mary Barnard at the safeguarding email address on this newsletter.

Sunday 5th July: The Mayor of Newbury Summer Variety Concert 2pm at the Corn Exchange. Tickets £6.25 (per person). To book call 01635 522733, or go to cornexchangenew.com.

24th-27th July: THE 'WE BELIEVE' FESTIVAL at St Mary's College (Seminary), Oscott – outside Birmingham. The festival brings thousands together to encounter Jesus Christ in his Church, and is an unmissable opportunity to discover the traditions and charisms that flow through the Catholic Church, to grow in authentic community,

and to encounter the transforming love of God. It is a feast of the True, the Good and the Beautiful. Tickets provide access to all festival content, facilities and a pitch on the campsite - should you need it, but do not include food or accommodation. Go to the web-site <https://www.webbelievifestival.com/tickets>

If you would like to come, but are in need of a sponsored pass, please apply to info@webbelievifestival.com

12th-18th August – Pilgrimage to the Shrine of Banneux Notre Dame in Ardennes, Belgium for the Feast of the Assumption. Coach and ferry from London. Bookings by 30th June. Contact Lisa Pirie on 07500 288384 or email banneuxndgb@gmail.com for more information.

'Missio' Red Boxes: 2026 marks 90 years of a special partnership between Missio and the Mill Hill Missionaries, united through the Red Box. It is a powerful reminder that God is at work through hundreds of thousands of missionaries. More than a collection box, it is a symbol of faith, hope and love. Income from the Red Box is shared between Missio – the Pope's charity for world mission – and the Mill Hill Missionaries, Britain's own missionary society. The 60% share to Missio supports faith communities in mission territories overseas and the spread of the Gospel message in places where the Church is still new, young or poor. The 40% share to the Mill Hill Missionaries supports the formation and training of its future missionary priests.

A New Parish Administrator & Hall Manager for St Joseph's! Mrs Rachel Coutinho of our parish has been successfully recruited to fill this newly expanded role for the parish, and we greatly look forward to her beginning on 7th July. Welcome Rachel, and we all look forward to getting to know you better!

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2026 -2027: Our next Confirmation programme run together with St Francis de Sales' Parish will **begin on 14th September 2026** – open to those who are in year 9 or above (aged 14 – 18), and who are resident and participants in our Parish community. *Confirmation celebrates the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit on a baptised person, completing and strengthening the grace given by the Spirit in Baptism. It marks the Christian as a follower of Christ and a full member of the Church.* If interested, please contact the Parish Office at Wash Common as soon as possible giving your name, age and contact details. Information about the programme will be provided when we receive your application. Learning sessions will take place in St Joseph's Hall. **There is a payment of £126 which covers the entire cost of the retreat weekend (CORRECTION – 5th – 7th February 2027) at St Cassians in Kintbury.** Parish Office: washcommon@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Telephone: 01635 40332.

Bishops voice support for 'Time to Act' campaign: Bishops have voiced their support for the Just Peace

Coalition's 'Time to Act' campaign which launched on 22nd June. The campaign is organised by the Just Peace Coalition of churches and charities including CAFOD and Christian Aid and calls for "a just peace for all who call the Holy Land home." It encourages people to write to their MP to speak out against injustice and advocate for change. Bishop Jim Curry said: "The Holy Land is sacred to Jews, Christians and Muslims alike. It needs to be a place where the dignity of every person is recognised and protected for all." To support, go to www.justpeacecoalition.com

PAPAL RECOGNITION: Pope Leo has authorised the beatification of 20 diocesan priests martyred during the Spanish Civil War in 1936, and has also formally recognised the heroic virtues of five 'Servants of God' (male and female), marking a significant moment in the Catholic Church's process of honouring lives of faith, sacrifice, and service. The spiritual legacy of individuals killed in religious persecution whose lives were defined by missionary zeal, charity, and unwavering devotion must be recognised and honoured for future generations. Details at - www.indcatholicnews.com/news/55254

'ADOREMUS' - a National Eucharistic Congress on Saturday 10th October 2026, staged in London by the Catholic Bishops' Conference of England and Wales is set to deepen devotion to the Eucharist and encourage adoration of the Blessed Sacrament - with Mass, a Eucharistic Procession and Benediction. Individuals/Groups from parishes intending to attend should inform Canon Michael Dennehy (mdennehy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) by **Wednesday 1st July 2026**, so that places can be booked.

From West Berkshire Foodbank: Donated items can be left in the box at the back of church any time. Collections on alternate Wednesdays. Thanks for your generosity.

St Joseph's Hall: Interested in hiring St Joseph's Hall? 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

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: Kindness is the language the blind can see, and the deaf can hear.