

St Joseph's Catholic Church

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FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - **YEAR C**

Sunday 6th July: 14th Sunday - Year C. Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 7th July: Feria of the 14th Week in Ordinary Time. No Mass today.

Tuesday 8th July: Feria of the 14th Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 9th July: Feria of the 14th Week in Ordinary Time, or, St Augustine Zhao Rong, priest, optional memorial. N.B. No Mass at 10.00am – Requiem Mass at 11.00am for Ivy Cosh RIP.

Thursday 10th July: Feria of the 14th Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 11th July: ST BENEDICT, Founder & Patron of Europe, feast. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 12th July: Our Lady on Saturday. Mass at 10.00am. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions follow 10.00am Mass.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 6th July: 11.00am for Ann Gowing RIP (Hitchon Family Intention).

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:

Angela Jordan, Jonathan Sheridan, Philip Rowlands, 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: 28th June: Plate collection £517.66; Second Collection 'Peter's Pence' £234.57; Candles £20.60; Poor Box £24.41. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 6th July: 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C. Today's Scriptures are about announcing the Good News. They remind us that announcing the Good News of the Kingdom by words, deeds and life is not the task of only a few. Rather, it is a task for all baptised Christians. Canon John Cooke, Vocations Promoter for the diocese, will speak to us at both Masses today.

11.00am Mass. We welcome our 2025 First Holy Communion and Confirmation candidates to celebrate with us their recent reception of these sacraments.

Tea and coffee will be served in the church after 8.30am and 11.00am Masses. All welcome.

Monday 7th July: Called and Gifted Information Evening from 7.00pm – 8.30pm on-line. To register, please email calledandgifted@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk with your name and parish.

Wednesday 9th July: N.B. No Mass at 10.00am – Requiem Mass at 11.00am for Ivy Cosh RIP.

The church will be open today for quiet prayer during the usual Wednesday times of **12.30 – 2pm**. All are welcome to drop in.

Thursday 10th July: 10.30am Grand/Mothers' Prayers every Thursday at *Newbury Grove Care Home*, 370 London Road, Newbury RG14 2QH to pray for the needs of our children and grandchildren, and for a strengthening of faith. New attendees always welcome. For more information, speak with Fr Michael or Elizabeth Matias after Mass.

Also on 10th July - The Diocesan **Formation for Mission Team** would like to invite all catechists in the Diocese to a series of events in 2025 for prayer, formation and networking. The first, **Forming for Life in Christ**, is an opportunity to meet on-line and build a community of support with other Catechists. The session will run from **8pm – 9pm**. For further information and to register, please email ffm@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. An in-person **Diocese Catechist Day** will be held on **Saturday 11th October**.

Friday 11th July: 10:30am - 5:00pm: Leadership and Legacy: The Future of Women in the Church – a one-day conference at New Hall Boreham House, Chelmsford, hosted by New Hall School in collaboration with *The Tablet*. This event will bring together voices from across the Catholic tradition to reflect on the evolving role of women in the Church. For more information or to purchase tickets, please go to www.thetablet.co.uk/events

Saturday 12th July: 11.45am Baptism of Leon Wyplata. Congratulations.

Sunday 13th July: Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time: There will be the annual 2nd Collection today at Masses for the Apostleship of the Sea (Stella Maris). Offerings on-line can be made at:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/apostleship-of-the-sea-sunday-second-collection-2025>

11am: Children's Liturgy in the sacristy/outdoors.

Saturday 26th July: Jubilee Year Ecumenical Walking Pilgrimage. The walk will start at Burghfield Bridge, Theale at 10.00am, walking to St. James & St William of York Church, Forbury Rd, Reading for Mass at 1pm - preceded by Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation at 12.30pm. The walk will be led by Tony Vickers, currently the Chairman of West Berkshire Council. Afterwards, pilgrims will picnic in the park and visit nearby Reading Abbey where the last abbot, Blessed Hugh Faringdon, was martyred. More details to follow.

Sunday 27th July: Newbury & Thatcham Repair Café: 2.00pm – 4.30pm in the Methodist Church Hall, Newbury RG14 1AN. Bring along items to be repaired and stay to chat over coffee, tea & biscuits. Voluntary contributions welcome. Since starting in February 2024, the Repair Cafe have assessed over 1100 items and saved over 900 items from going to waste-processing or landfill; that's now approximately 2100kg. In particular, more and more electrical and electronic goods are being repaired which helps reduce costly e-waste-processing. The UK wastes over 100,000 tonnes of smaller electrical goods per year and there are estimated to be 880 million unused electrical items in UK homes. For more information visit www.repaircafe.org/en/cafe/newbury-and-thatcham-repair-cafe

From the Diocesan Vocations Team: "The harvest is abundant but the labourers are few." God's vineyard is overflowing with opportunities, and there's a heartfelt need for dedicated labourers. Could Christ be inviting you to join this vital work? Take a moment to consider a vocation to the priesthood or consecrated life. Your unique gifts could make a profound difference! Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke: vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869.

Thank you! Your donations for tea, coffee, and refreshments after Sunday Masses make a big difference to the parish. Over recent years these funds have paid for: the re-decoration and new flooring for our sacristies; purchased a freezer for the hall; helped paint and carpet the presbytery; and annually sponsor someone to enable them to attend the Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes. These are remarkable achievements, for which we are all hugely grateful!!

300 Club Lottery 2025/2026: Thank you to all participants in the 2024/2025 300 Club. The first draw of the 2025/2026 lottery will take place in September. From this Sunday, application forms are available to buy tickets for the coming year. To buy one or more tickets, please complete an application form before returning it, together with a cheque or cash (or ask for details to make an electronic bank transfer), to the parish office before the end of August.

NEW DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH WEBSITE! Our diocese has this week launched its new website. Please go to – <https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk>

Ecumenical Prayer Walks in Newbury: CTNA (Churches Together in Newbury Area) are doing Prayer Walks in Newbury on the following dates: Wednesday 9th July 7pm; Saturday 19th July 11am; Friday 25th July 2pm. Walks all begin at Newbury Baptist Church in Cheap Street. All welcome!

Catholic Response to the vote for Assisted Suicide Bill: To see the statement of Cardinal Vincent Nichols, and that of Archbishop John Sherrington (Bishops' Conference lead for Life issues), go to the Bishops' Conference website at: www.cbcew.org.uk

Abortion up to birth - how did your MP vote? Did your MP vote for abortion up to birth? Use this web tool to find out, and then send an email to encourage them to vote the right way if the amendment/other abortion amendments return from the Lords for votes in the Commons.

Please take action now and email your local MP: www.righttolife.org.uk/uptobirthvote

REFURBISHMENT OF THE PARISH HALL: Please allow priority for parking for older parishioners, the disabled and families with young children. N.B. If parking in Hawthorn Road, opposite the church, you may be subject to parking fines (please check parking signage carefully).

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: ... There are 1440 minutes in every day. Therefore, we have 1440 daily opportunities to make a positive impact.