

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

Website: www.stjosephsnewbury.org.uk

Safeguarding Minister: Mary Barnard, Officer for Children and

Vulnerable Adults in St Joseph's Parish. Telephone 0777 616 3856

Email: safeguarding@stjosephsnewbury.org.uk

St. Joseph's School Telephone: - 01635 43455

Hall Bookings/Information email: annepaice62@yahoo.co.uk



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

Sunday 20th July: 16th Sunday - Year C. Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 21st July: Feria of the 16th Week in Ordinary Time, or, **St Laurence of Brindisi**, Religious & Doctor of the Church, *optional memorial*. **No Mass today.**

Tuesday 22nd July: ST MARY MAGDALENE, *feast*. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 23rd July: ST BRIDGET OF SWEDEN, *Foundress & Patron of Europe, feast*. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 24th July: Feria of the 16th Week in Ordinary Time, or, **St Sharbel Makhluf**, Religious, *optional memorial*. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 25th July: ST JAMES, *Apostle, feast*. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 26th July: Ss Joachim and Anne, *Parents of Our Lady, memorial*. **N.B. No 10.00am Mass, Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament or Confessions** today due to **Pastoral Area Jubilee Walk**.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 20th July: 11.00am for Beryl Edwards RIP (Henry Family Intention).

Wednesday 23rd July: 10.00am for intentions of Simon Turner (Andrew Armour's Intention).

Friday 25th July: 10.00am for Anthony Baulk RIP (Liz Rees' 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: 13th July: Plate collection £406.05; Candles £33.30; Poor Box £2.02. 2nd Collection 'Apostleship of the Sea' £294.75. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 20th July: 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C. Today we learn of the importance of hospitality in

Christian life and the necessity of listening to God before acting.

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

Wednesday 23rd July: The church will be open today for quiet prayer during the usual Wednesday times of **12.30 – 2pm**. All are welcome to drop in.

Saturday 26th July: Jubilee Year Ecumenical Walking Pilgrimage. NO 10.00am MASS, EXPOSITION, or CONFESSIONS at St Joseph's today. Our Pastoral Area is taking part in a 4 mile walk starting 100 metres south of Burghfield Close, Theale, RG31 7ZU at 10.00am, walking to St. James & St William of York Church, Forbury Rd, Reading (our nearest Jubilee Pilgrimage church) for Mass at 1pm - preceded by Adoration and the Sacrament of Reconciliation at 12.30pm. The walk (mostly on the flat!) 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. Speak to, or email, Tony Vickers at 07413 480080, tonyvickers@phonecoop.coop to confirm your attendance, and for more details.

Sunday 27th July: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Year C. **8.30am Mass: Naomi Nair** will be baptised during today's early Mass.

The Repair Café, 2pm-4.30pm at the Methodist Church Hall, Northbrook Street RG14 1AN. What is the Repair Café? Fixing your broken household items for free; keeping stuff out of landfill; chatting over coffee, tea and biscuits. Voluntary contributions are welcome.

TWO NEW CATECHETICAL PROGRAMMES BEGINNING THIS AUTUMN:

1) FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2025-2026:

The parish's preparation programme for the Sacraments of Reconciliation and First Holy Communion will begin probably in October this year – depending on the completion of the hall refurbishment project. The programme is open to children in our parish community who will be in Year 4 or above in September 2025. To

register your child on the programme, please email the parish office to request an application form.

2) INVITATION - RCIA: Perhaps God is also calling you, or someone you know, to become a Roman Catholic. If you are interested in exploring the Catholic Faith with a view to being received into the Church, the **RCIA Programme** (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) will commence in September. Speak to Fr Michael, and also email Francis Connolly (fjcon@btinternet.com). The programme is run jointly for the Pastoral Area. Adult Catholics seeking Confirmation may also prepare for this sacrament via the RCIA programme.

A FLAG TO REPRESENT OUR HOME NATIONS: In the autumn a display will be created in St Joseph's Chapel to illustrate the many home nations from which our parish members originate. Can you please contribute a small flag (maximum size A4) from your home nation to form part of the display? Please hand in to Maureen Smith or Fr Michael.

300 Club July Winners: 1st Prize £100 to Monika Rackham; 2nd Prize £50 to Elaine Bird; 3rd Prize £25 to Fr Michael!

300 Club Lottery 2025/2026: The first draw of the 2025/2026 lottery will take place in September. 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.

CANONISATIONS: The Vatican has announced that **Blessed Carlo Acutis'** canonisation, following the initial postponement because of the death of Pope Francis, will be held on Sunday 7th September 2025, alongside that of **Blessed Pier Giorgio Frassati**, patron of youth for Portsmouth diocese. Further details are available at: www.indcatholicnews.com/news/52712

Congratulations! Congratulations to **Bishop Crispian Hollis**, our former Bishop of Portsmouth, who has just celebrated his Diamond Anniversary (60 years) of Priesthood on Friday, 11th July 2025. Please keep him in your prayers in his retirement.

CAFOD are hiring: Could you inspire Catholics to participate in the Church's mission, working to overcome poverty and injustice? Do you want to work for CAFOD and encourage support and partnership within the Church? We are looking for a Community Participation Coordinator to work in the Diocese of Portsmouth. Please go to cafod.org.uk/work-with-us for more details and please pass on to any friends or relatives who might be interested. Closing date 27 July 2025.

'The Pilgrimage of Hope': is a national walking pilgrimage for England & Wales with four main Ways converging at

Nottingham Cathedral on Saturday 13th September 2025 - an initiative of the *Hearts in Search of God* project. The Ways start at the Catholic cathedrals in Cardiff, Leeds, Norwich and London and will bless our nations with a Sign of the Cross. The routes use established hiking routes and off road as much as possible. Pilgrims can register for day stages at www.pilgrimways.org.uk/become-a-pilgrim-for-a-day

CARE NOT KILLING – APPEAL: The Assisted Suicide Bill comes to the Lords on 12th September. Disappointingly, MPs voted the Bill through the Commons by 314 to 291 at its Third Reading in June. The priority now is for a seasoned political adviser to operate at Westminster (£20,000) to walk peers through the Bill and alert them to its many pitfalls and dangers. 'Care not Killing' have therefore launched an Appeal to help inform supporters of assisted suicide of the troubling consequences of the new legislation, encourage them to change their minds and reject it. Donate at – <https://carenokilling.org.uk/donate/>

Formation at St Bede's Church, Basingstoke: A Formation morning for **Ministers of Children's Liturgy** will take place on **Saturday 6th September** from **10.30am – 1pm**. The programme will include prayer and reflection; sharing good practice; working collaboratively; how to grow and communicate as Liturgical Catechists; music suggestions and a wish list for future support, networking and how to find more helpers.

A Formation morning for **Readers** will take place on **Saturday 18th October** and all readers, experienced and new, are very welcome to attend. This day will include a session on Lectio Divina. Please register for either day via liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Medjugorje Pilgrimage in October Half Term: 25th Oct to 1st Nov - £799 to include flights, transfers, 7 nights half board - breakfast and a 3 course meal, a fully guided itinerary, staying at a visionary's Pensione. Please email susan.smith313@ntlworld.com or info@discovermedj.com and state it is Sue Smith's group. WhatsApp number is **07418610725**. Please let Sue Smith know by 27th July if you are interested.

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).

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

AND A FINAL THOUGHT: ... an optimist will tell you the glass is half-full, the pessimist will tell you it's half-empty, and the engineer will tell you the glass is twice the size it needs to be.