

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'

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Safeguarding Minister: Mary Barnard, Officer for Children and

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

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22nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – YEAR B

Sunday 1st September: 22nd SUNDAY OF THE YEAR B.
Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 2nd September: Feria of 22nd Week in Ordinary Time. No Mass.

Tuesday 3rd September: St Gregory the Great, Pope & Doctor of the Church, feast. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 4th September: Feria of 22nd Week in Ordinary Time, or, St Cuthbert, Bishop, optional memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 5th September: Feria of 22nd Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 6th September: Feria of 22nd Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 7th September: Our Lady on Saturday, or Feria of 22nd Week in Ordinary Time. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions follow 10.00am Mass.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 1st September: 11am for James Hitchon RIP (James Hitchon's Intention)

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:

Geoff and Kathleen Wain, Lesley Smith, Joyce Delahunty, Larry Bretz, Yvonne Bradley, Pat and Ron Bird, Theresa Cassidy, James Pringle, Joshua David, Colin Devery, Marie O'Sullivan, Kathleen Fitzsimmons, Liliana Ramalingam, Terry Hamill, Rita Zollo. Additions - please inform Fr Michael by phone or email.

Collections: 25th August: Plate collection £719.21; Candles £42.54; Poor Box £44.00. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 1st September: 22nd Sunday of the Year: True religion is not simply a scrupulous, external observance of rules, laws, traditions and rituals. It is, instead, a loving, obedient relationship with God expressed in obeying his Commandments, worshipping him, recognising his presence in other human beings and rendering them loving and humble service.

Tea and coffee will be served in the hall after both Masses. All are welcome. If you would like to join the

rota for tea/coffee preparation, please sign up on the sheet in the hall or let Fr Michael know.

Wednesday 4th September: 12.30-2pm: The church will be open for an hour and a half on Wednesday afternoon for quiet prayer and reflection. All are welcome to come along at any time whilst the church is open.

Thursday 5th September: Grand/Mothers' Prayer Group
10.30am – 12 noon at Newbury Grove Care Home, 370 London Road, RG14 2QH. Mothers and Grandmothers!! Are you sometimes free on Thursday mornings? If so, our **Mothers' and Grandmothers' Prayers Group** would love to include more members. The group meets at 10.30 am at Newbury Grove Care Home to pray for the needs of our children and grandchildren and for a strengthening of faith. Refreshments are always provided and we have good chats afterwards. To hear more, contact Elizabeth after 11 am Mass or call her on 07880663462. Better still, just come along to 370 London Road - just past The Swan Pub.

2.30pm: FILM MATINÉE in St Joseph's Hall. *'The Nun's Story'*, starring Audrey Hepburn.

Friday 6th September: (First Friday) **Recitation of the Rosary** follows after 10.00am Mass today.

Saturday 7th September: Altar Server Training: 11.30am – 12.30pm in church. Refresher session for those children who have previously attended training and an introductory session for all others who would like to undertake this important role. Open to all who have already made their First Holy Communion. Please let Fr Michael know that your child will be attending by emailing the parish office. Children attending should be accompanied by a parent or carer.

Sunday 8th September: EDUCATION SUNDAY: Pupils of our parish school, St Joseph's Catholic Primary, and their families will join us to celebrate both Masses today.

Tuesday 10th September: 7.00pm: To commence the **2024-25 First Holy Communion Programme** there will be a **Briefing Meeting for Parents** in St Joseph's Hall. To

register your child (year 4 or above), please email the parish office to request an application form

Thursday 12th September: 7.30pm 'Living Your Faith Group' meets on alternate Thursdays to reflect on the Sunday readings at Chris and Teresa's house - 7 Rupert Rd Newbury RG14 7EQ. All are welcome to come along.

Sunday 22nd September: Concert – '**The Road to Mozart**', 3pm St John's Church, Newbury. Free Entry - retiring collection for Christian Aid. Features Mozart Horn Concerto No 3, & works by Handel, Telemann and Haydn.

Education Opportunity: A new bursary is offered for an MA in Chaplaincy and Pastoral Care at the Margaret Beaufort Institute, Cambridge, providing theological education rooted in the Catholic tradition. This bursary offers a 50% fee reduction for the two-year MA program, accessible to both lay and religious individuals. Further details via: www.mbit.cam.ac.uk/apply/

Douai Abbey Employment: The Abbey is seeking a **Guest House Administrative Assistant** to work three mornings a week at Douai Abbey, Upper Woolhampton, near Reading, RG7 5TQ. Applications close midnight, Sunday 15th September 2024. Further details from the Bursar on 0118 971 5319 or email bursar@douaiabbey.org.uk

Informative Reading: At a time when truth is ever harder to distinguish from lies, Father Robert Spitzer SJ takes his mastery of the inextricable ties between science and faith to a new level in his new book: "*Christ, Science and Reason: What we can know about Jesus, Mary and Miracles*", published by Ignatius Press, which lays out scientific evidence for Christ as well as affirming the inexplicable miracles at major faith sites around the world such as Fatima and Lourdes. Purchasing information at: www.ignatius.com/christ-science-and-reason-csrp/

300 Club Lottery – 2024/2025 Lottery: The first draw of the 2024/2025 Lottery is in September. To subscribe, please complete an application form (available from the back of church) and return it, together with a cheque or cash, to the parish office in the presbytery. To pay by electronic bank transfer, please contact the parish office.

CTNA (Churches Together in Newbury Association) Prayer Week: You are invited to participate in the Newbury week of prayer 8th - 14th September. Daily events planned, open to everyone, to join, watch or listen. The formats and venues are varied, with different topics and focuses for each meeting, but the churches are all united in wanting to seek God together and bless the local area. On **Friday 13th September** the **Midday Prayer for the Environment** will take place at St Joseph's Church between **12.30 – 2.30pm**.

CARITAS: "To Hope and Act with Creation" As part of the Season of Creation, Caritas is holding an environmental conference at St Peter's and Winchester Martyrs, Jewry Street, Winchester SO23 8RY on **Saturday 14th September**. John Paul de Quay from the Ecological Conversion Group will speak on '*Fellowship of believers, how faith should motivate us in caring for our common home.*' There will also be updates from COP28, preparation for COP29 and practical actions for parishes. All welcome. The conference **10am-1pm**; Mass at 9am; coffee available from 9:45am. Bring lunch if you would like to stay and chat. For more information visit www.caritasportsmouth.org.uk.

Invocation at Adoremus: St Mary's College, Oscott (Birmingham) on Sunday 15th September 10am-5.30pm: 'Adoremus' is the National Eucharistic Congress which will be held on Saturday 14th. However, on Sunday 15th September the Bishops' Conference is hosting a national discernment event called 'Invocation at Adoremus'. This is an opportunity for any discerners to meet with the seminarians and others from across the country. There will be workshops, keynote speakers, Adoration, opportunities to discern vocation. Please get in touch if you would like to be a delegate to attend this event. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

West Berks Foodbank has sent its thanks to the parish for the generous response to their request for support for the Hungry Holidays Initiative. 'We are incredibly grateful for your continued support of West Berks Foodbank. Ongoing support from churches like yours is vital in helping us in the fight against hunger and poverty locally.' For details of how to support the Foodbank's **Harvest Appeal**, please see posters and shopping lists by the church doors.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2024-2025: Confirmation preparation begins with a **Briefing Meeting for Parents and Candidates at 7.30pm on Monday 16th September** in St Francis de Sales' Hall, Wash Common.

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH HALL: The hall is often available for your bookings for social events, classes, or activities. Reasonable hire rates. Please contact Anne Paice to book on email: annepaice62@yahoo.co.uk

Contactless Donations: Please use your debit/credit card or smart phone/device to donate on our *Digital Collection Pads* for Sunday collections. Simply choose the amount you wish to donate and hold your card onto the reader. Gift Aid details need only be entered once and will be retained for future donations.

AND A FINAL THOUGHT: If we get in front of the sun, we get suntans...but when we get in front of Jesus in the Eucharist, we become saints. (**Blessed Carlo Acutis, 1991-2006**)