

St Joseph's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE

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25th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – YEAR B

Sunday 22nd September: 25th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR B.
Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 23rd September: St Pio of Pietrelcina, Religious, memorial. No Mass.

Tuesday 24th September: OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM, feast. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 25th September: Feria of 25th Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 26th September: Feria of 25th Week in Ordinary Time, or, Ss Cosmas & Damian, Martyrs, optional memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 27th September: St Vincent de Paul, Founder, memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 28th September: Our Lady on Saturday or St Wenceslaus, Martyr, optional memorial or St Laurence Ruiz & Companions, Martyrs, optional memorial. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions follow 10.00am Mass.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 22nd September: 08.30am for Maura Clarke RIP (Deidre Surtees' Intention)

11am for a Private Intention.

Tuesday 24th September: 10.00am for a Private Intention.

Friday 27th September: 10.00am for the Intentions of Francisco Fernandes.

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:

Danielle Simpson, 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: 15th September: Plate collection £680.85; Candles £38.37; Poor Box £14. Second collection for Home Mission Sunday £282.22; Hall hire £144. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 22nd September: 25th Sunday of the Year: Today's readings invite us to become great in the sight of God by

doing God's will, as Jesus did, surrendering our lives to Him in the service of others.

Mass Count: Today is the first of **four** Sundays when we make a count of those at Masses. The figures are submitted to ultimately inform statistics about Mass attendance around the world at present.

11.00am Mass: Our children preparing for 1st Holy Communion will take part in Mass today.

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.

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

Tuesday 24th September: FEAST OF OUR LADY OF WALSINGHAM

Our Lady of Walsingham this year is now upgraded as a new Feast in the dioceses of England. The Shrine of Our Lady of Walsingham in Norfolk was established in 1061 when Our Lady appeared to Richeldis de Faverches. Speaking of the new feast, Cardinal Roche said: "May this yearly celebration be a source of renewed grace and evangelical endeavour for the Church in England and Wales, as, imitating Mary, the faithful may ever more become disciples of her Son, receive the message of the Gospel, treasure it in their hearts and reflect on it in their minds". **Mass at 10.00am**

Wednesday 25th 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 26th September: 10am-12 noon: COINS (Christian Outreach for Newbury Schools)

Coffee Morning: St Nicolas' Church Hall, Northbrook St, Newbury. Donations of cakes and tombola prizes would be very much appreciated, or if you are able to help on the day, please contact hello@coinsnewbury.org. Or just simply come along to enjoy a friendly gathering, a welcoming cuppa and a tasty treat whilst raising funds to *take Jesus into school*. Come and see our latest resources and current activities.

10.30am – 12 noon Grand/Mothers' Prayer Group at Newbury Grove Care Home, 370 London Road, RG14 2QH. Ladies, are you sometimes free on Thursday mornings? The **Mothers' and Grandmothers' Prayers Group** would love to see you. Meet 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 provided and good chats afterwards. Contact Elizabeth after 11 am Mass or call 07880663462. Better still, just come along to 370 London Road - just past The Swan Pub.

7.30pm 'Living Your Faith Group' meets on alternate Thursdays to reflect on the Sunday readings at Chris and Teresa's house – 7 Rupert Road, Newbury RG14 7EQ. All are welcome to come along.

Saturday 28th September: 12 noon – Baptism of Christopher Avery. Congratulations!

Sunday 29th September: 11.00am Mass: **Children's Liturgy** will take place in the hall for those of primary school age. Also, the **Music Group** will assist in the celebration of Mass.

Friday 4th October: CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day. Envelopes will be available for you next Sunday.

Saturday 19th October: A Diocesan Formation Day for Readers run by Fr Anthony Fyk, Director of Liturgy Formation, will take place at St Bede's Church/Hall in Basingstoke from 10.30am – 2pm. To register, please email: liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

N.B. There will also be a local **Parish Readers Training Course: Saturday 9th November 2024** at St Francis de Sales, Wash Common. Starting with Mass at 10am and finishing at 2pm after a bring-your-own lunch in the Parish Hall. The course will be led by Claire Tickell and will focus on the practical aspects of reading at Mass. Please email Toby Tyler at rts.tyler@gmail.com to confirm your attendance. **All our readers are asked to attend one or other of these training opportunities to enhance their crucially important ministry.**

'Understanding the Old Testament Course': Over 6 weeks learn via Zoom meetings from biblical experts and deepen your faith and knowledge of God's word with the God who reveals Himself through the scriptures – offered by the Centre for Applied Carmelite Spirituality, Oxford. Begins Wednesday 16th October and finishes on Wednesday 20th November. Register at – <https://www.carmelite.uk.net/courses/school-of-scripture-2024/>

PAPAL COMMUNICATION: Pope Francis has said that it would be fitting to celebrate the Jubilee Year in 2025 by cancelling all or most of the debts of the world's poorest countries. The full text of the Papal Bull announcing the Jubilee Year is available on the Vatican website.

NEWS FROM OUR DIOCESES IN ENGLAND AND WALES:

Pope Francis has appointed **Bishop Philip Moger** as the new **Bishop of Plymouth**. A Leeds priest for over 40 years, Bishop Philip has, until now, served as an Auxiliary Bishop for the Archdiocese of Southwark.

Archbishop Mark O'Toole of Cardiff has announced the creation of the united Archdiocese of Cardiff-Menevia in a pastoral letter following promulgation from Rome, and the decision of Pope Francis.

Opposing Assisted Suicide: Bishop John Sherrington, Lead Bishop for Life Issues for the Bishops' Conference, is encouraging Catholics to unite in prayer and action as Parliament prepares to renew the debate around assisted suicide, and support an assisted suicide bill to be progressed swiftly through the House of Commons – possibly before Christmas. Legal, state-sanctioned assisted suicide would be the most profound ethical change in our legislation for decades. Many MPs will not have considered deeply the profound implications of such a change in law which is why it is vital MPs hear from constituents who can graciously articulate the key arguments against it. If assisted suicide is legalised, it will fundamentally alter the ethical fabric of our society and change the doctor/patient relationship, as well as pressurising the vulnerable to end their lives for fear of being a burden. Go to the following site to email your MP -<https://care.org.uk/takeaction/write-to-your-mp-about-assisted-suicide>

300 Club Lottery September Winners: 1st Prize £100 – Rebecca Couzens; 2nd Prize £50 – Brendan & Tina Kindlon; 3rd Prize £25 – Edel Hoey. Thank you to everyone who has bought tickets for the coming year's lottery. If you have bought tickets, please collect them from the front of church after Mass.

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.

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 only two days in the year when nothing can be achieved; one is called yesterday, and the other is called tomorrow. Today, therefore, is when to love, and believe, and do, and live.