

St Joseph's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE

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TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY

TIME - YEAR C

Sunday 28th September: TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME. Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 29th September: THE HOLY ARCHANGELS MICHAEL, GABRIEL & RAPHAEL. Feast. No Mass today.

Tuesday 30th September: St Jerome, priest & Doctor of the Church, memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 1st October: St Teresa of the Child Jesus, religious & Doctor of the Church, memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 2nd October: The Holy Guardian Angels, memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 3rd October: Feria of the 26th Week in Ordinary Time, (Autumn Fast Day), Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 4th October: St Francis of Assisi, Founder, memorial. Mass at 10.00am followed by Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 28th September: 8.30am for Maura Clarke RIP (Deidre Surtees' Intention).

11am for Mateo Sammartino RIP (Sammartino Family Intention).

Wednesday 1st October: 10.00am for Denis Ignatius Dougan RIP (Denise Dougan's Intention).

Saturday 4th October: 10.00am for Eric Nicholls RIP (Andrew Armour's Intention).

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:

Philip Rowlands, Jonathan Sheridan, Angela Jordan, 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 September: Plate collection £629.31; Candles £25.30; Poor Box £12.60; Second Collection (Home Missions) £328.95. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 28th September: TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C. Today's readings warn that the selfish and extravagant use of God's blessings, like

wealth, is a serious sin deserving punishment, if not shared with the poor and needy. The rich have responsibility for the poor, and so wealth without active mercy for the poor is destructive. Money is not the goal of our existence.

The Music Group will sing at this Mass. There will be a talk about CAFOD's Harvest Family Fast Day Appeal at both Masses.

N.B. This Sunday is the second of four when, annually, we are obliged to take a '**Mass Count**' of attendees as required by the diocese to feed into national statistics which are then submitted to the Vatican.

Tea and coffee will be served in the church after the **8.30am and 11am Masses**. All welcome.

The Repair Café, 2pm - 4.30pm at the Methodist Church Hall, Northbrook St, RG14 1AN. Broken household items repaired for free; coffee, tea and biscuits. Voluntary contributions are welcome.

Tuesday 30th September: 10.00am Mass as normal; 11.00am **Funeral Service** for John Letters RIP.

Wednesday 1st October: 12.30pm – 2pm: The church will be open for quiet prayer and reflection. All are welcome at any time whilst the church is open.

7.00pm: Introductory Parents' Meeting in St Joseph's Church. All parents for children registered on this year's First Holy Communion Preparation programme are asked to attend this short meeting to be briefed on the forthcoming programme. The first **Children's Preparation Session** will be held on Saturday 11th October.

7.30pm: Choir Rehearsal in the church. Newcomers are welcome to attend without commitment, if interested.

Friday 3rd October: CAFOD AUTUMN FAMILY FAST DAY. The Holy Rosary will be recited after 10.00am Mass today.

Saturday 4th October: 'A Day with Mary': 10.00am – 5.30pm at Our Lady of Peace & Blessed Dominic Barberi Church, Wokingham Rd, Earley, Reading RG6 7DA. Bring packed lunch. Programme includes Marian procession and Litany, Mass, Exposition, Rosary, talk on Our Lady, Act of Consecration, Benediction, enrolment in the

Brown Scapular. Email adwmary.uk@gmail.com. Poster at back of church.

Our Lady of Fatima – Relics visit to England and Wales.

The World Apostolate of Fatima (WAF) have organised the visitation of the two National Pilgrim Statues and the Relics of Saint Jacinta and Saint Francisco to all Cathedrals and Catholic shrines in England and Wales between May 2025 and October 2026. The statue and relics will reside in our own diocesan Cathedral of St John, Portsmouth, from 3rd to 4th October. You are invited to visit on these days and to spread the message of Fatima.

Stop assisted suicide - further action needed! As the assisted suicide Bill progresses through the Lords, Peers have made it clear that receiving physical letters will have the most influence at this stage of the process. **Right To Life UK** has launched a new **EasyAction** tool that creates a personalised letter to be sent in the post to a Peer highlighting a key concern with the Bill, selects a Peer to receive it, and customises the letter so that it is addressed from you. **Please take action now** and visit **www.righttolife.org.uk/aspeersletter** to send a letter to Peers asking them to oppose assisted suicide.

Saturday 18th October: Formation Day for Readers: The Liturgy Project team invites you to a formation day for Readers from 10am to 2pm at St Bede's, Basingstoke on Saturday 18th October. All readers, experienced and new, are welcome to attend. This day will include a session on Lectio Divina. Register attendance at **liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk**

Also, 18th Oct: 7.30pm CANTEMUS CHOIR CONCERT at St Joseph's Church. The programme includes 'Five Days that Changed the World' by Bob Chilcot, John Rutter's 'Requiem', and lighter pieces including 'Blue Moon'; 'In the Mood'; and 'Scarborough Fair/Sound of Silence'. Tickets £10 on the door. Interval Refreshments. Proceeds to St Joseph's Church.

Saturday 25th October: Douai Abbey Autumn Pastoral Programme: *Ecumenical Council of Nicaea AD 325* - A Day of information & discussion. The Council of Nicaea took place in Asia Minor in the year 325AD, the first time that the whole Church was summoned in consultation. It produced the creed which has become the distinctive expression of the Church's faith in Jesus Christ. Led by Br Simon Hill OSB, a monk of Douai Abbey. **10.30am to 4pm, with arrivals and coffee from 10am.** Please bring own lunch. For bookings and further enquiries, email pastoral@douaiabbey.org.uk or visit the Abbey website. A contribution of £20 is payable on the day. Coffee and tea are provided.

BAMENDA AUTUMN UPDATE: Please go to <https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/Bamenda-quarterly-update-Sept-2025.pdf> for the Autumn Update on Parishioner-Funded projects in Bamenda.

Radio Maria: Radio Maria England, run by the Dominicans in London, is a 24hr Catholic Radio Station broadcasting programmes promoting and expressing the Christian Faith. It supports Catholics and others in their spiritual life and witness and those who wish to learn more about the Catholic Faith. It is part of the World Family of Radio Maria, formed in 1998 and currently has 77 radio stations across 5 continents with 500 million listeners world-wide.

Radio Maria England is a non-profit organization run by a mixture of professionals and volunteers, lay people, clergy and religious.

Radio Maria England can be accessed through various platforms: DAB+ Digital Radio; Smart-Speakers: ask for 'Radio Maria England'; Radio Maria Play App: available for smartphones and tablets; Website: **RadioMariaEngland.uk**; Podcasts: Anchor, Spotify, Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts and others.

CSSA PUBLIC CALL FOR INFORMATION: The Catholic Safeguarding Standards Agency (CSSA) is inviting everyone engaged with the Catholic Church to contribute their experiences of how the Catholic Church engages with Survivors. Please go to portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/cssa-public-call-for-information to complete a survey. The survey is anonymous unless you choose to provide your name or a contact number.

A FLAG TO REPRESENT OUR HOME NATIONS: A display has been created in St Joseph's Chapel to illustrate the many home nations from which our parish members originate. Contributions of a small flag (maximum size A4) from your home nation to form part of the display, can still be added. Please hand in to Maureen Smith or Fr Michael.

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).

CURRENT VACANCIES: Please visit **portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about/careers** to find out about job opportunities across the Diocese.

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: Dreams are the seeds of change. Nothing ever grows without a seed, and nothing ever changes without a dream.