

St Joseph's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE

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26th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR – YEAR B

Sunday 29th September: 26th SUNDAY OF THE YEAR B.

Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 30th September: St Jerome, Priest, memorial. No Mass.

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

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

Thursday 3rd October: Feria of 26th Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 4th October: St Francis of Assisi, Founder, memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 5th October: Our Lady on Saturday or St Faustina Kowalska, religious, optional memorial. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions follow 10.00am Mass.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 29th September: 11.00am for Lucinda Texeira RIP (Alexandra Texeira's Intention)

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

Saturday 5th October: 10.00am for a Private Intention

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: 22nd September: Plate collection £750.47; Candles £32.44; Poor Box £8; Donation £100. Totals for August - Contactless £1328.33, plus £325 for 'Lepra' second collection; Standing Orders: £1550.50. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 29th September: 26th Sunday of the Year: (Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees) Today's readings teach us that we must not imagine that we are the only

ones representing God in this world. God is not interested in labels, but in ensuring that we understand the great truth that the essence of following Jesus is found in the way we live a life of love.

The World Day of Prayer for Migrants and Refugees is celebrated today. The Holy Father has chosen the theme 'God Walks with His People'. In his message, Pope Francis reminds us that all of us, God's people, are migrants on this earth, on our way to the "true homeland", the Kingdom of Heaven.

Mass Count: Today is the second 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: 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.

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.

Tuesday 1st October: 7.30pm Meeting of the Parish Finance Committee in the Parish Hall.

Wednesday 2nd October: 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.

7.30pm: The Adult Formation Talks resume after the summer in St Joseph's hall – topic tonight '**The Sacrament of Holy Orders**'.

Thursday 3rd October: 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.

2.30pm: Film Matinée in the hall. Comedy, *'The Out of Towners'* with Jack Lemon.

Friday 4th October: CAFOD Harvest Family Fast Day. Please ensure you collect a CAFOD donation envelope in order to return your offering on Sunday 6th October.

10.30am The Holy Rosary is recited after Mass today which is the first Friday of the month.

10.30am-12.30pm 'Friendship Café' at Newbury Grove Care Home, 370 London Road RG14 2QH. A monthly initiative to invite the community to visit Newbury Grove and its amenities, to meet people, and to enjoy freshly baked treats – all are welcome. For catering purposes, RSVP by calling 01635 896105 or email coral.elvin@careuk.com if attending. Extra parking is available if needed by agreement with the *Swan Pub*, a short walk away on London Road.

Saturday 5th October: 11.30am-12.30pm New Altar Servers Training in the Church. The new servers will be fitted for their cassocks. Children attending should be accompanied by a parent or carer.

Thursday 10th October: Renewal Evening on Zoom, 7.30pm-9.45pm. Guest speaker is Ros Powell who will speak on preparation for the Jubilee Year 2025 - a Holy Year of Hope. An evening of praise, prayer and blessing. To participate please go to - [https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsdeCvrzlqHNao-OWyO55qSVS_gRpHnX-y#/registration](https://us06web.zoom.us/join/https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsdeCvrzlqHNao-OWyO55qSVS_gRpHnX-y#/registration)

Friday 18th October: 6pm-8pm Youth Group St Francis de Sales' Hall, Wash Common. Children who made their First Holy Communion this summer, and their parents, are invited to meet the Youth Group and enjoy fun, food, and fireworks. Parents, especially, are invited tonight to meet other parents and youth leaders over a cup of tea/coffee and cakes. Experience and enjoy the community spirit that the Youth Group is striving to build in our children and Youth. If your child has a specific dietary requirement /allergy please let Ann know in your response.

RSVP: by Wednesday 16th October to Ann Haynes Email: Annhaynes07@hotmail.co.uk Mobile: 07791258363.

Parish Supper and Film Night: All of the tickets for this event have been sold! Doors open at **6.30pm**. The film screening of *'The Duke'* will start promptly at 7pm with an interval for supper and choc ices. Please bring your own drinks.

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.**

Opposing Assisted Suicide: Bishop John Sherrington, Lead Bishop for Life Issues for the Bishops' Conference, is encouraging Catholics to unite in prayer and compassionate 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>

MEDJUGORJE: The Dicastery for the Doctrine of the Faith, with the formal assent of Pope Francis, has granted approval for devotion linked to Medjugorje, the popular Marian shrine in Bosnia, recognising the 'abundant spiritual fruits' received at the Sanctuary of the Queen of Peace without making a declaration on the supernatural character of the Marian apparitions. More detail can be found on the Vatican website.

"Would that all the Lord's people were prophets..." All Catholics share the prophetic ministry of the Lord through baptism. Is He calling you to bear witness to Him in the consecrated life? Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke. vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk or call 01329 318 869.

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: Always do what you can, with what you have, where you are.