

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



SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – **YEAR C**



Sunday 19th January 2025: 2nd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C. Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 20th January: Feria of the 2nd Week in Ordinary Time, or St Fabian, Pope, Martyr, or St Sebastian, Martyr, optional memorials. No Mass today.

Tuesday 21st January: St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr, memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 22nd January: Feria of the 2nd Week in Ordinary Time or St Vincent, Deacon, Martyr, optional memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 23rd January: Feria of 2nd Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 24th January: St Francis de Sales, Bishop, Doctor of the Church, memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 25th January: THE CONVERSION OF ST PAUL, feast. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions follow 10.00am Mass.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 19th January: 8.30am for Christie Dullea RIP (Jane Dullea's Intention).

11am for John and Ella Herbert RIP (Carol Irlam's Intention).

Wednesday 22nd January: 10am for Nicholas May RIP (Debbie Armour's Intention).

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:

Eric and Beryl Thompson, Geoff and Kathleen Wain, Lesley Smith, Joyce Delahunty, 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: 12th January: Plate collection £633.71; Candles £39.29; Poor Box £37.00; Crib Offerings £50.75. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 19th January: PEACE SUNDAY (2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time C) Pope Francis' theme for 'Peace Sunday' is '*Forgive us our trespasses: Grant us your peace*'. The message speaks of how we must listen to the 'pleas of an endangered humanity', how the year of Jubilee inspires us to seek the liberating justice of God in our world and how by '*opening our hearts to our brothers and sisters, we will restore God's justice on earth*' and '*move forward to achieve the goal of peace*'.

This week (2nd Sunday) the Gospel is about the wedding in Cana where Jesus reveals Divine power by transforming water into wine. In the Bible, marriage is the symbol of the Covenant relationship between God and his chosen people. God is the faithful bridegroom, and humanity is his beloved bride.

Response to today's psalm: Proclaim the wonders of the Lord among all the peoples.

11am Mass: Children's Liturgy in the hall for all children of primary school age (in Reception class and above).

Tea and coffee served in the hall after both Masses. All welcome.

Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 18th-25th January:

Jesus makes it very clear that unity is His will. This year we are invited to commemorate the 1,700th anniversary of the Council of Nicaea. It was at this Council, held in modern-day Turkey, in 325 AD that the early Church Fathers agreed a statement of belief that we now call '*The Nicene Creed*' and which we say at Sunday Mass – it encompasses all that we believe and share. Let us pray for a return to unity.

Monday 20th January: 7.30pm Confirmation Preparation Session at St Francis de Sales Parish Hall, Wash Common, for all enrolled in the programme. Please remember to bring your Bible!

Wed 22nd January: 12.30 – 2pm: The church is open on Wednesday afternoon for quiet prayer and reflection. All

are welcome at any time whilst the church is open.

Saturday 25th January: The Great Story of Jesus Day Retreat. New Year retreat delivered by Sr Margarida Mondral (Verbum Dei Community), and others. Revisit the core of our faith: the life, death and resurrection of Jesus, and new life with the Holy Spirit (helpful for newly received Catholics). **10am-4pm** at St Peter's Pastoral Centre, St Peter's Church, Jewry Street, Winchester SO23 8RY. To book, go to <https://bit.ly/4gJcBIO> - if you have enquiries, please contact lnahajski@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Sunday 26th January: The annual Second Collection for St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth, Mother Church of our Diocese, is taken at Masses today.

11am Mass: Children's Liturgy. The Music Group will play at Mass.

2pm – 4.30pm: Repair Café at Methodist Church Hall, Newbury RG14 1AN.

Friday 7th February: St Joseph's Quiz Night: All are welcome to join our fun quiz night in St Joseph's Parish Hall. Tickets are £8 per person, doors open **6.30pm**, quiz starts promptly at **7pm**. Bring your own drinks and glasses, plus nibbles. Tea/coffee and homemade fruit scones on sale during the interval. Come as a team of 6, or join others on the night. Please book your tickets via <https://shorturl.at/ZAo7O> or contact Kay Binns kaylbinns@gmail.com

6th - 11th April 2025 - Holy Year 2025 Pilgrimage to Rome: We are invited to join the parish of St Mary's, Hampstead, on this pilgrimage the week before Holy Week. Full programme includes General Audience with Pope Francis, visits to the major basilicas, catacombs, the Venerable English College and its villa at Palazzola, Castel Gandolfo (the papal summer residence) etc. Flights, full board approx. £1400. Email Fr Michael for more details. **N.B. Fitness priority outlined in instructions for the pilgrimage: FITNESS:** Rome, a city built on seven hills, is best seen on foot so a reasonable level of fitness is required for sightseeing. Also due to the number of steps in and around the major attractions of Rome, **this tour is unfortunately not suitable for those with walking difficulties.**

12th - 19th May 2025 - Medjugorje Pilgrimage. £749 including flights, transfers, 4 star accommodation near the centre. Svetlana, an experienced guide, will conduct pilgrims in the town between two hills where it is believed The Virgin Mary has appeared daily to 3 of the original 6 visionaries since June 1981. Many pilgrims describe it as 'Heaven on earth'. Sue Smith agrees, and so has arranged this trip with the ATOL protected company used previously. For more information email info@discoveredmedj.com or Sue Smith on susan.smith313@ntlworld.com

Pope Francis Autobiography Published – 'Hope'. Pope Francis' greatly anticipated autobiography 'Hope' was published on 14th January by Viking. The text is written firsthand by the Pope but with the collaboration of Italian writer Carlo Musso. Written over six years, this complete autobiography starts in the early years of the 20th century, with Pope Francis' Italian roots and his ancestors' migration to Latin America. It continues through his childhood, the enthusiasms and preoccupations of his youth, his vocation, adult life, and the whole of his papacy up to the present day. The Holy Father addresses crucial moments of his papacy and various important and controversial questions of our present times.

Marriage Difficulties? 'Retrouvaille' (means - to rediscover love or relationship) is a Catholic ministry for marriages in difficulty. Retrouvaille helps couples through difficult times in their marriages. There is no group therapy or group work. This programme has helped 10s of 1000s of couples experiencing difficulties in their marriage. For confidential information about Retrouvaille, or to register for the next programme commencing via Zoom (27th February to 2nd March 2025) call or text 07887296983 Email info@retrouvaille.org.uk. Website: www.retrouvaille.org.uk

From Bishop Philip: On Saturday **8th February**, to mark Valentine's Day, Bishop Philip invites all engaged couples of our Diocese – those being married in a church either here or abroad – to a Valentine's Day Breakfast at St John's Cathedral. 9.15 am start with breakfast; followed by presentation from a newly married couple about their wedding; a break; then a short Service of Blessing, in which each couple will be blessed individually by the Bishop and their engagement rings will be blessed. The service will finish by 11.45 am. If you would like to attend, please let Fr Michael know, or contact Kirsten McGuire (kmcguire@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) by Monday 27th January.

300 Club – January draw: 1st prize £100 – Margaret Bolam; 2nd prize £50 – Margaret Bolam; 3rd prize £25 – Deidre McNair-Wilson. Congratulations!

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH HALL: The hall is available for 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 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.

AND A FINAL THOUGHT: ... It is said that people generally fall into three categories: those who learn by reading, those who learn by observation, and those who have to touch the electric fence for themselves to make sure!