

# St Joseph's Catholic Church

**Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE**

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## **SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER –** **YEAR B**

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May: 7<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER – Year B.**  
**Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.**

**Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May: Monday of the 7<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter, or, Our Lady of Fatima, optional memorial. No Mass.**

**Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> May: St Matthias, Feast. Mass at 10.00am.**

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May: Wednesday of the 7<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter. Mass at 10.00am.**

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May: Thursday of the 7<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter. Mass at 10.00am.**

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May: Friday of the 7<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter, or St Dunstan, Bishop, optional memorial. N.B. No 10.00am, but Requiem Mass for Margaret McCarthy at 11.30am.**

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May: Saturday of the 7<sup>th</sup> Week of Easter, or St John I, Pope & Martyr, optional memorial. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions follow 10.00am Mass.**

### **Mass Intentions:**

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May: 08.30am for Darren Pemberton RIP (Penny Kain's Intention).

11am for Karen Butler RIP (Debbie Armour & Alison Skye's Intention).

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May: 10.00am for intentions of Joseph Thomas (Rosie Byrne's Intention).

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May: 10am in thanksgiving for night adoration.

### **Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:**

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:** The plate collection for 5<sup>th</sup> May was £870.54; Candles £21.46; poor box £41.50. Thank you for your generosity.

**Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> May: 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (Year B)** Love resulting in Christian unity is the theme of the

readings. The first, from Acts, tells how the eleven apostles as one unit, relying on the power of God, elected Matthias to replace Judas. This appointment was made by the community under the leadership of Peter, choosing Matthias by lot – whose feast is tomorrow. In the Gospel Jesus prays for those disciples who share the meal with him, urging genuine acts of love that bind them together in one community.

**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.

**8.30am** Baby and Toddler Group in the Parish Hall after Mass.

**11am: Children's Liturgy** will take place in the hall for all those of primary school age. **Second Collection** at both Masses today for **World Communications Day**. Pope Francis' message for the day follows the theme 'Artificial Intelligence and the Wisdom of the Heart: Towards a Fully Human Communication'. He asks how we can remain fully human and guide this cultural transformation to serve a good purpose? You can read the full message via this link:

<https://www.cbcew.org.uk/wcd24-papal-message/>.

This second collection assists the Church to support this theme and to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with people throughout the world.

**12<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> May: CHRISTIAN AID WEEK:** The annual fundraising drive by the charity **Christian Aid** enlists thousands of volunteers to raise funds to support work in tackling poverty and promoting social justice worldwide. Donations can be made via the envelopes in church or online at <https://www.christianaid.org.uk>

**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> May: 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.

**7.15pm: Bible Study** with Fr Peter Codd at Our Lady of Lourdes, Hungerford. All are welcome.

**7.30pm: Adult Formation Group** this evening in St Joseph's Hall, continuing the topic: 'The Eucharist/Mass'.

**7.30pm: Bible Society Romans Course:** The seventh session of this 10-week course looking at St Paul's letter

to the Romans at Newbury Methodist Church. Everyone is very welcome. If you are interested in attending, please contact Rosie Greenhalgh ([rosie.greenhalgh@ntlworld.com](mailto:rosie.greenhalgh@ntlworld.com)).

**Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May: Grand/Mothers' Prayer Group 10.30am – 12noon (Note: New time!)** at Newbury Grove Care Home, 370 London Road RG14 2QH to pray for the needs of our children and grandchildren, and for a strengthening of faith. Refreshments provided. If interested, please just come along.

**Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May: N.B. No 10.00am Mass today, but 11.30am Requiem Mass.**

**10.30am-12.30pm 'Friendship Café'** at Newbury Grove Care Home, 370 London Road RG14 2QH. A new 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](mailto: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.

**11.30am Requiem Mass for Margaret McCarthy RIP.**

**Youth Club:** The Youth Club has booked a paddle boarding evening at The Waterside Centre, Newbury, from 5.45pm to 8pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> May. The cost is £12, which includes tuition and use of equipment. Places are limited so please contact Ellen to reserve a place or for more details: [ellenmclinch@gmail.com](mailto:ellenmclinch@gmail.com)

**Saturday 18<sup>th</sup> May: 10.00am-12noon First Holy Communion Preparation Session** in St Joseph's Hall. The children and their families will take part in tomorrow's 11.00am Mass – 19<sup>th</sup> May, '**PENTECOST SUNDAY**'.

**12.30pm: Baptism** of Benoit Richon. Congratulations!

**10.00-1pm "TEMPLES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT – surrendering to God's will."** (Spiritual mini-retreat on Zoom includes Mass, Adoration, Praise, Prayer for the gifts of the Holy Spirit and guest speaker Gary Stephens. Register for the Zoom meeting in advance at [bit.ly/ADOREMAY2024](https://bit.ly/ADOREMAY2024) More information at [www.altonrenewal.com](http://www.altonrenewal.com)

**THANKS!** to Marion, Maureen, Annette, and Anne for arranging last Sunday's parish **Tea Party** so successfully. Their efforts raised £290 for St Josephs!

**St Joseph's Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> July 2024:** Transport to, and from, Stansted Airport has been confirmed for those attending. Cost per person for the return journey to Stansted is £50. Please pay by cash or cheque, payable to '**THE TEA BAR**' and post through the Presbytery letter box.

**SUDAN EMERGENCY:** Sudan's war is a forgotten conflict with no winners, triggering the world's largest hunger and worst displacement crisis. 10.5 million people are displaced, with over 25 million people in need of

humanitarian aid. Nearly 15,000 have already been killed, and 26,000 more injured. Most people, however, are unaware of the world's largest humanitarian crisis. Donate at – <https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/sudan-crisis-appeal>

**Stop DIY abortion up to birth:** MPs Diana Johnson and Stella Creasy have both tabled amendments to the Government's Criminal Justice Bill that will potentially legalise DIY abortion up to birth, for any reason. The Bill is debated on 15<sup>th</sup> May. Contact your MP urging opposition to these extreme proposals using SPUC's webtool, at <https://www.spuc.org.uk/abortionamendments>.

**Youth Pilgrims for Lourdes: 22<sup>nd</sup> July – 26<sup>th</sup> July 2024.** Give something back by joining the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, leaving on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> July and returning on Friday 26<sup>th</sup>. You could help by assisting pilgrims by pushing wheelchairs, offering a steadying arm and a warm smile! Youth pilgrims are an essential part of the pilgrimage serving our pilgrims, and hugely enjoy the experience. For details about joining, contact [lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk). The pilgrim fare is £780 but there is the potential for funding.

**TEACHING POINT: 'ASCENSIONTIDE'** - The total length of Paschaltide (the Easter season) from Easter Sunday to the end of the celebration of Pentecost is fifty-six days inclusive. This season shows us the joy of Easter has eclipsed the time of Lenten penance. Ascensiontide lasts 10 days and is part of the Paschal Season. The first 9 days of Ascensiontide include the traditional Octave (8 day celebration) of the Ascension. The last day of Ascensiontide is the Vigil of Pentecost. Pentecost Sunday, which has its own octave, follows – as does the season of 'Ordinary Time'.

**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](mailto: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:** The Ascension of Jesus teaches us that in Christ, our humanity was taken to God. Christ opened the path to us. He is like a roped guide climbing a mountain who, on reaching the summit, pulls us up to him and leads us to God. *Pope Francis*