

# St Joseph's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE

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Reg. Charity No. 1199568 'Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth'.

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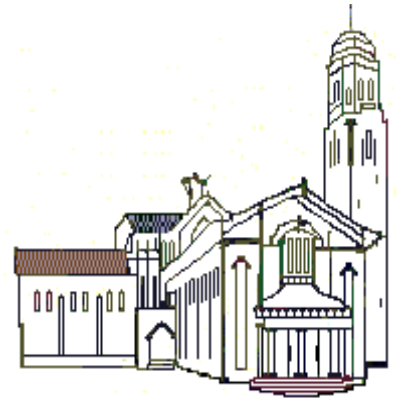
Safeguarding Minister: Mary Barnard, Officer for Children and

Vulnerable Adults in St Joseph's Parish. Telephone 0777 616 3856.

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St. Joseph's School Telephone: - 01635 43455

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## 7<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2025: 7th SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR C. Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.**

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February: Feria** of 7<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time. **No Mass today.**

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February: Feria** of 7<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time. **Mass at 10.00am.**

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February: Feria** of 7<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time. **Mass at 10.00am.**

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February: Feria** of 7<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time, or, **St Gregory of Narek**, Religious, Doctor of the Church, *optional memorial*. **Mass at 10.00am.**

**Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February: Feria** of 7<sup>th</sup> Week in Ordinary Time. **Mass at 10.00am.**

**Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> March: ST DAVID**, Religious & Bishop, *feast*. **Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions** follow **10.00am Mass**.

**Mass Intentions:** Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February: 8.30am for Antonio Albanese RIP (Valentina Albanese's Intention).

11.00am Batty Murphy RIP (Oliver Conway's Intention).

Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February: 10.00am for Vi Welch RIP (Anne Robertson's Intention).

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February: 10.00am for Pat Saunders RIP (Margaret Saunders' Intention).

Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February: 10.00am for Daniel (Jim) O'Sullivan RIP (Marie O'Sullivan's Intention).

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> February: 10.00am for Fr Jeremy Corley.

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

Eric & Beryl Thompson, Geoff & Kathleen Wain, Lesley Smith, Joyce Delahunty, Larry Bretz, Yvonne Bradley, Pat & Ron Bird, Theresa Cassidy, Joshua David, Marie O'Sullivan, Liliana Ramalingam, Terry Hamill, Rita Zollo, Kevin McCormack. Additions - see Fr Michael.

**Collections:** 16<sup>th</sup> February: Plate collection £881.89; Candles £66.91; Poor Box £1.00; Hall hire £40.00. Thank you for your generosity.

**Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> February: SEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Year C** – Today's Gospel – there are three choices in life: to love our enemies; to choose unconditional love

in our relationships; to choose merciful forgiveness – not revenge or retaliation.

This weekend we welcome Fr Brian Oswald MHM to give a Red Box Presentation. Thanks to parishioners who already give to 'Missio', the Pope's charity for World Mission. Your generous donations through Red Boxes or Direct Debit support the needs of the Church around the world. There will not be a second collection as the appeal is for membership to the Red Box scheme. Please keep the work of 'Missio' and the Mill Hill Missionaries in your prayers. To find out more: [www.missio.org.uk](http://www.missio.org.uk)

**11am Mass: Children's Liturgy** in the hall for all children of primary school age (in Reception Class and above). The **Music Group** play at this Mass today.

**Tea & coffee** in the hall after both Masses. All welcome.

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February: 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!

**Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> February – CHARIS Portsmouth:** CHARIS Portsmouth invites you to an online evening – Theme: **'Hope in this Jubilee Year,'** on Tuesday 25th February at 7.30pm on Zoom. Speaker - Rosanne Walker, Children and Youth Worker in St Peter and the Winchester Martyrs parish. To register, go to link: <https://bit.ly/40iXWY8> To build up a picture of prayer groups in Portsmouth Diocese, please mention if you are a member of a prayer group when registering.

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February: 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.

**7.30pm: Evangelisation Strategy Committee Meeting** at St Joseph's.

**Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> February: 2.30pm Film Matinée** in St Joseph's Hall. All welcome.

**Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> March: 11am Mass: Children's Liturgy.** The **Music Group** will play at this Mass.

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March: WOMENS WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - 10.30am Service** at Newbury Methodist Church, 56 Northbrook Street, Newbury, RG14 1AN. All are most welcome.

**CAP (Christians Against Poverty) Money Coaching**

**Course:** CAP Newbury Debt Centre announce CAP Money Coaching courses in Newbury in March - a free service designed to empower all ages with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to better manage their finances. Anyone can benefit – from seasoned budgeting experts to those struggling to get to grips with their spending as families, students, pensioners. Hosted at St. Nicolas' Church Hall, on **Wednesday 19th and 26th March at 7pm**. To book a free place or for further information contact Colin Cunningham at [colincunningham@capuk.org](mailto:colincunningham@capuk.org) or on 07393 496480.

**Saturday 29th March: Pastoral Area Lent Retreat** 11am to 3pm at Our Lady of Lourdes, Hungerford led by Fr. Francis Preston SDB assisted by 2 seminarians and including a programme for young parishioners. All are most welcome.

**'CAFOD's Big Lent Walk 2025':** You are invited to join CAFOD's Big Lent Walk and journey together with Catholics in England, Wales and Scotland as Pilgrims of Hope in this Jubilee Year - walking 200km over 40 days during Lent. Journey to one of the churches or shrines designated as places of pilgrimage in our diocese as part of your Big Lent Walk. Every £1 you raise will support communities in Kenya, experiencing the worst impact of the climate crisis, to rebuild their lives in hope. Sign up here: <https://walk.cafod.org.uk/>

**Walkers!** A selection of walking/rambling books is available in the hall after 11.00 Mass – please just make a small contribution in the tea/coffee collection.

**PARISH PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 30<sup>th</sup> June – 4<sup>th</sup> July 2025:** £839 including flights (Heathrow to Toulouse), transfers, full board, and daily programme of events. (£39 per night single supplement; 10 Euros Sanctuary supplement). Please speak with or contact Anne Paice for further information or to book - email: [annepaice62@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:annepaice62@yahoo.co.uk)

**World Youth Day Pilgrimage to Rome - 28th July to 4th August.** Join Bishop Philip and young people aged 17+ in Rome at the invitation of the Holy Father. Includes the Mass and ceremony at which Bl. Pier Giorgio Frassati, diocesan Patron of Youth, will be canonised a saint. The cost (£1,350) includes flights, 7 nights hotel accommodation half board, travel in Rome, entrance and participation fees and more. For more information and pre-booking, contact [youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk).

**Certificate in Catechesis:** The Dominican Sisters of St Joseph in our diocese are offering a 2-year Certificate in Catechesis to equip parish catechists, parents, and grandparents to transmit the Catholic faith to others. This Certificate is approved by the Bishop's Conference, and offers a formation developed from the 2020 Directory for Catechesis, relevant to the pastoral context we face in our parishes. It is delivered **online in weekly sessions** with notes, and presentations made available to the students. It is comprehensive in its overview of the Catechism of the Catholic Church, and in its practical application to all forms of catechesis. 2 in-person days are offered each year to build up the students community and fellowship in faith. Apply to begin Sep 2025 at <https://www.lightoftruth.uk/certificate>

**Assisted Suicide Bill Bias:** The Committee stage of MP Kim Leadbeater's Assisted Suicide Bill has begun, raising serious concerns about its conduct.

- \* The Committee has been 'stacked' with a higher number of MPs who support the Bill.

- \* Nearly twice as many witnesses supported assisted suicide than the number who opposed it.

- \* Important voices have been excluded, e.g. the Government's chief Suicide Prevention Strategy Advisor, the British Geriatrics Society, and a number of disability rights groups, senior palliative care doctors and legal experts with relevant expertise. MPs must be aware of the serious issues in the scrutiny of Kim Leadbeater's Bill. It is vital they know our concerns and vote against it at Third Reading. Please write to your MP or go to [www.righttolife.org.uk/ASBillAction](http://www.righttolife.org.uk/ASBillAction)

**The Diocesan Vocations Team:** "Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you." Priests, religious, and married couples are called to live out a vocation rooted in love and forgiveness. Is God calling you to witness his mercy and compassion through a religious vocation? Talk to your priest or Canon John Cooke (call 01329 318 869 or go to [vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk](mailto:vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk)

**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](mailto: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.

If you would like to receive a copy of this newsletter by email each week, please contact the parish office.

**AND A FINAL THOUGHT:** Few things in life are more dangerous than sincere ignorance, and conscientious stupidity.