

St Joseph's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE

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CHRIST THE KING – YEAR B

Sunday 24th November: CHRIST THE KING YEAR B.
Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 25th November: Feria of 34th Week in Ordinary Time or St Catherine of Alexandria, Virgin, Martyr, optional memorial. No Mass.

Tuesday 26th November: Feria of 34th Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 27th November: Feria of 34th Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 28th November: Feria of 34th Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 29th November: Feria of 34th Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 30th November: ST ANDREW, Apostle, feast. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions follow 10.00am Mass.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 24th November: 08.30am for Tom Clarke RIP (Deidre Surtees' Intention).

11.00am for the Holy Souls RIP.

Tuesday 26th November: 10.00am for the Holy Souls RIP.

Wednesday 27th November: 10.00am for James Pringle RIP (Denise Dougan's Intention); 1.30pm Requiem for Sarah Apicella RIP.

Thursday 28th November: 10.00am for Paul Chittilappilly RIP (Family Intention).

Friday 29th November: 10.00am for Frances Dougan RIP (Denise Dougan's Intention).

Saturday 30th November: 10.00am for Lucinda Texeira RIP (Alexandra Texeira's Intention).

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:

Diana Amesbury, Angela Saguez, Geoff and Kathleen Wain, Lesley Smith, Joyce Delahunty, Larry Bretz, Yvonne Bradley, Pat and Ron Bird, Theresa Cassidy, Joshua David, Colin Devery, Marie O'Sullivan, Kathleen Fitzsimmons, Liliana Ramalingam, Terry Hamill, Rita Zollo. Additions - please inform Fr Michael.

Collections: 17th November: Plate collection £840.76; Candles £28.27; Poor Box £32; Repository £155. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 24th November: Christ The King (B) We need to accept and surrender our lives to Christ the King as our Lord, King, and Saviour. In other words, we must give Christ sovereign power over our bodies, our thoughts, our heart, and our will.

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

Christmas Cards will be on sale in the parish hall after Masses from today.

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

Sale in aid of Aid to the Church in Need today in the hall after 11 o'clock Mass.

Tuesday 26th November: 4.30pm Reception of the body of Sarah Apicella into church. All welcome.

Wednesday 27th November: 10.00am Mass as usual, then **1.30pm: Requiem Mass** for Sarah Apicella RIP.

The church will be open from 12.30pm but **N.B.** Requiem Mass at 1.30pm taking place. It will be open again between 12.30pm and 2pm as normal next week.

N.B. No Adult Formation Talk tonight.

Thursday 28th November: 2.30pm Film Matinée in the Parish Hall, 'The Apartment' with Jack Lemmon. All welcome.

Friday 29th November: Today Parliament meets to debate the Assisted Suicide Bill. Please make a point of praying during your day for its defeat.

10.30am – 12 noon 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 to coral.elvin@careuk.com or 01635 896105 if attending.

Saturday 30th November: West Berks Pastoral Area Advent Retreat at Our Lady of Lourdes, Hungerford RG17 0AF starting at 10am and concluding with Mass at 4pm. Led by Fr Francis Preston SDB, assisted by two religious brothers. A programme of talks and

reflections with a separate programme for our young parishioners and with the opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. All are welcome. Please bring your own lunch.

Sunday 1st December: 1st Sunday of Advent: The New Lectionary comes into use today.

11am Mass: Our candidates preparing for Confirmation are invited to attend Mass today.

Monday 2nd December: 7.30pm Confirmation Preparation Session for all enrolled in the programme at St Francis de Sales Parish Hall, Wash Common. Please remember your Bible!

Newbury Room to Rent? A professional carer is seeking a room only (no meals) for occasional nights to facilitate shift care role of a local person receiving care assistance. £25 per night offered. For more details, please contact Marie Rodican at email mariarodican@gmail.com

Compassionate Assistance: The Disasters Emergency Committee (DEC) has launched its Emergency Middle East Appeal. The DEC members provide lifesaving aid in Gaza, Lebanon and the West Bank, but now urgently need more funds. Further details and information at: www.dec.org.uk

APPEAL FROM THE BISHOPS' CONFERENCE!: "We believe that genuine compassion is under threat because of the attempts in Parliament to legalise assisted suicide. 'Compassion' means to enter into and share the suffering of another person. It means never giving up on anyone or abandoning them. It means loving them to the natural end of their life, even if and when they struggle to find meaning and purpose. Compassion means accompanying people, especially during sickness, disability, and old age. This kind of genuine compassion is witnessed through the care and respect we show to people with terminal illness as they complete their journey in this life. We appeal to those who share our Catholic belief [...] to join with us in defending the weakest and most vulnerable who are at risk through this proposed legislation." **PLEASE** email your MPs - <https://care.org.uk/takeaction/write-to-your-mp-about-assisted-suicide> or write using the template still available in the church.

Blessed Carlo Acutis: The London-born teenager who died at 15 years old, and who has been hailed by Pope Francis as "God's influencer" for his work through the internet, is to be canonised a saint during the weekend of 26th April 2025 in Rome.

CAFOD's WORLD GIFTS 2024: Choose an ethical charity gift this Christmas and make a life-changing difference to people living in poverty. World Gifts are CAFOD's range of virtual charity gifts that will please friends and family but are also a great way of rediscovering what it really

means to share the love, peace and joy of Christmas. See the CAFOD gift catalogues in church.

New Sunday Missal: The CTS New Sunday Missal (People's Edition) with the new translation of The Lectionary containing the readings and Order of Mass for every Sunday and solemnity of the liturgical cycle from 1st December, is available to purchase direct from CTS for £19.95 (hard-back edition) at www.ctsbooks.org or from Pilgrim Gifts based in Walsingham via www.pilgrimgifts.co.uk.

West Berks Foodbank: 12 Gifts of Christmas Appeal: In December, as well as providing essentials, the Foodbank would like to provide some treats in food parcels so that Christmas will be a little more special. Would you consider donating any, or all, of the following 12 items? Tub of sweets; Yule Log or Xmas Cake; selection box; Christmas pudding; stuffing or gravy; cranberry sauce; savoury biscuits; mince pies; luxury biscuits; Pringles or crisps; small box of crackers; Christmas surprise of your choice. Putting your donation in an Xmas Gift bag will make it even more special. Thank you for your kindness and support. Please ensure that your donations are brought to St Joseph's by Sunday 1st December or the Foodbank Warehouse (80 Greenham Business Park) by Friday 6th December.

Community Help Needed: School Runs: A family requests help with school runs for wife and 4 children - morning drop-offs at 8:45am and afternoon pick-up at 3:15pm, Monday to Friday. 7-seater car available for 9-minute drive between Shaw Valley and Curridge School. Pay: £400-500 a month. Only during school term until wife obtains driving licence. If you can help, please contact 07548958375. Thank you!

Keyholders' Register: This register is being updated. If you hold a key for the parish, but have not yet confirmed your details for the register, please contact the parish office.

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 on our *Digital Collection Pads*. 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: Individuals don't inspire others by being perfect, but by showing how they acknowledge and deal with their own imperfections.