

St Joseph's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE

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EASTER SUNDAY – YEAR C **CHRIST IS RISEN. ALLELUIA!!**



Sunday 20th April: EASTER SUNDAY - YEAR C. Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 21st April: Monday within Octave of Easter. No Mass today.

Tuesday 22nd April: Tuesday within Octave of Easter. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 23rd April: Wednesday within Octave of Easter. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 24th April: Thursday within Octave of Easter. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 25th April: Friday within Octave of Easter. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 26th April: Saturday within Octave of Easter. Mass at 10.00am. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions follow 10.00am Mass.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 20th April: 11am for the Intentions of Katarzyna Fraza & Family.

Tuesday 22nd April: 10am for the Intentions of Angela Jordan.

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:

Angela Jordan, Jonathan Sheridan, Eric and Beryl Thompson, 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, Kevin McCormack. Additions - please inform Fr Michael.

Collections: 13th April: Plate collection £820.30; Candles £43.62; Poor Box £4.74. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 20th April: EASTER SUNDAY: Year C: Christ has risen, alleluia! No longer will he be walking around Galilee or Jerusalem. But he will come to his disciples spiritually – and he even comes to us. This is the good news bringing us joy.

Tea and coffee will be served in the hall after 11.00am Mass. All welcome. **N.B.** Tea & coffee **will not** be served after 8.30am Mass today.

Wednesday 23rd April: 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 26th April: 10am to 12 noon Preparation session for the **First Holy Communion Group** children in St Joseph's Hall. The children participate in the 11.00am Mass tomorrow, Sunday 27th April.

3pm: Baptism of Peregrine Carrelet. Congratulations.

Sunday 27th April: 2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER – 'DIVINE MERCY' SUNDAY. 3pm **Divine Mercy Service at Our Lady of Lourdes, Hungerford, for the Pastoral Area, with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, the Divine Mercy Chaplet, and opportunity for Confession with priests from our parishes. All Welcome.**

Blessed Carlo Acutis (born in London, died 2006 – aged 15) will be canonized a saint today during the Church's Jubilee of Teenagers, which takes place from April 25–27, 2025. He will become the first millennial saint of the Catholic Church at this solemn canonization Mass in St. Peter's Square. The canonization was approved by the College of Cardinals after a second miracle attributed to his intercession was recognized.

Monday 28th April: 7.30pm Confirmation Preparation Session at St Francis de Sales' Parish Hall for all enrolled in the programme. Please remember to bring your Bible, as well as any details of the distance you walked for the **Big Lent Walk**.

From the Diocese – Easter Offerings: Offerings for your clergy can be made directly through the plate collection on Easter Sunday, or via the following link specifically for St Joseph's, Newbury:

<https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/fundraising/newbury-st-joseph-catholic-parish-easter-second-collection>

REFURBISHMENT OF THE PARISH HALL: Thanks to the generosity of three local families (who wish to remain anonymous) and some local charitable trusts, we are now fully funded to start work on refurbishing the Hall. The contract is scheduled to start on 6th May, and should be completed by late October. The Hall will not be available for functions during that time. The works will require external scaffolding and excavation which will reduce the spaces available in the church car park. The contractors will minimise disruption, but the goodwill and cooperation of parishioners is needed. At weekends and on Holy Days younger members of the congregation and those with teenage children will be asked to park in neighbouring streets and nearby car parks, leaving the reduced parking spaces at Church for older parishioners, the disabled and families with young children.

CAFOD Myanmar Earthquake Appeal: Following the earthquake in Myanmar, CAFOD is responding through the Catholic Church to support families affected. Donations will provide water, food, solar lights, and mosquito nets. Please give to the Earthquake Appeal in church or donate online at cafod.org.uk/myanmar or by calling 0303 303 3030. You can also text EARTHQUAKE to 70450 to donate £10.

Saturday 3rd May: 9.00am – 3.00pm ‘Come and See’ Diaconate Information Day at The English Martyrs Church, Didcot. Fr Dominic Adeiza, Diocesan Director of the Permanent Diaconate asks, "have you ever wondered what it's all about but something has held you back from finding out more about it? Is there a little voice in your head, that can't be silenced? If that's YOU, why not 'Come & See' for yourself without committing to anything further?" You'll get to hear first-hand from those who are involved and what it's been like for them. If you'd like to attend, please call Pam Darroch on 07883 059529 to book a space and to help with catering requirements. If you can't make it on the day, but would like to know more, please also contact Pam or email diaconate@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Also on Saturday 3rd May: Diocesan Formation Day for Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion from 10am – 2pm at St Bede's Church, Popley Way, Basingstoke RG24 9DX. Talks and reflections, including a session on taking Holy Communion to the sick and housebound. Please bring your own lunch; tea and coffee will be provided. Anyone interested is encouraged to register via liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. There will also be a day for Ministers of Children's Liturgy on Saturday 7th June and a Readers' Day on Saturday 18th October, further details to follow.

Saturday 10th May: 10am – 1pm: LAUDATO SI' 10TH ANNIVERSARY: Join CAFOD and Caritas in a joint

celebration for the 10th anniversary of the publication of Laudato Si' at St Peter's, Winchester. The session will be packed with practical information and opportunity to ask questions on how we can make a difference in our lives and that of our parish, including CAFOD's LiveSimply Award. More information and to register visit <https://caritasportsmouth.org.uk>. Everyone welcome

Saturday 21st June: SIGNIFICANT WEDDING ANNIVERSARY MASS: Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or anniversary over 60 years? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration. This will take place at St Bede's Church in Basingstoke on Saturday 21st June at 11am. This will be followed by a buffet lunch. It is a wonderful occasion to celebrate and witness to Marriage. If you would like to attend, please contact the St Joseph's parish office or send an email to anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

The Jubilee Year 2025: View our Diocesan website for Bishop Philip's Video Message for the Jubilee Year; details about the six Jubilee diocesan shrine churches in Portsmouth, Reading, Bournemouth, Southampton, Jersey and Guernsey; e-books of Bishop Philip's meditations for the Stations of the Cross, and his prayer book, 'Lord, I am not Worthy'; and lots more. Go to - <https://portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/jubilee-year-2025/>

BILL ON ASSISTED SUICIDE: Cardinal Vincent Nichols has urged Catholics to contact their MP to ask them to stop the Bill to legalise assisted suicide being rushed into law. Please contact your MP ahead of the Bill's Third Reading and vote, likely on or around Friday 25 April. The charity **Right to Life** has a simple online mechanism to do this.

300 Club – April Draw: 1st prize £100 – Catherine Barnard; 2nd prize £50 - Jeremy Smith; 3rd prize £25 – Ron Bird. Congratulations!

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: Easter is a time when life, love, and peace are all newborn, and joy has triumphed over loss and pain.