

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



THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY – YEAR C

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL!

Sunday 29th December: THE FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

- YEAR C. Feast. Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 30th December: Liturgy of Sixth Day within Octave of Christmas. No Mass today.

Tuesday 31st December: Liturgy of Seventh Day within Octave of Christmas. No Mass today.

Wednesday 1st January 2025: MARY, THE HOLY MOTHER OF GOD, solemnity. N.B. Mass at 11.00am.

Thursday 2nd January: Ss Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 3rd January: Liturgy of Friday of Christmastide before Epiphany. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 4th January: Liturgy of Saturday of Christmastide before Epiphany. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions follow 10.00am Mass.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 29th December: 8.30am for Maura Clarke RIP (Deidre Surtees' Intention).

11.00am for Terry Dixon RIP (Maureen Dixon's Intention).

Wednesday 1st January: 11.00am for a Private Intention.

Thursday 2nd January: 10.00am for the Intentions of Marcia Morel.

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: 22nd December: Plate collection £754.83; Candles £38.55; Repository sales £126; Hall hire £60. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 29th December: The Feast of the Holy Family (C)

On the last Sunday of the calendar year, we celebrate the Feast of the Holy Family. On this feast day we are offering our own families and all their members on the altar to ask

God's blessing on them and to obtain for them the guidance of the Holy Family.

Response to today's psalm: Blessed are they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

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

Rite of Opening of the Holy Year of 2025: The Jubilee Holy Year 2025 was opened by Pope Francis on Christmas Eve. Diocesan bishops throughout the world, including Bishop Philip, will inaugurate it their dioceses today. Celebration of Mass, constituting the high point of the Rite of Opening of the Jubilee Year in our diocese, will take place at **12 noon** in St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth.

Wednesday 1st January: Feast of Mary Mother of God.
11.00am Mass at St Joseph's.

12 noon: Mass of Healing with Anointing and Blessing of the Sick at St Francis de Sales, Wash Common. All are welcome and please invite any who are sick.

Friday 3rd January: The recitation of 'First Friday' Rosary will follow after the 10.00am Mass today.

Sunday 5th January: THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD
(transferred from 6th January).

The Christmas Crib Collection 2024: Offerings this year go to support the work of the *Knights of the Holy Sepulchre*. The KHS is believed to date back to 1099 A.D., and their mission for centuries has been to support the Christian community in the Holy Land. Today, made up of 30,000 members from 40 countries, lay people, priests and religious, they financially support Christians across the Middle East, and in the Holy Land, helping with projects to stabilise Christian communities, and so ensuring they survive and that the holy sites are still populated by Christians and do not become museums.

A Thank You: Danielle Simpson would like to thank everyone who supported her stall in the hall over recent weeks. A total of £70 was raised (£40 for Christian Aid and £30 for Aid to the Church in Need).

Tuesday 14th January: Come to Work in Our Catholic Schools: If a Catholic currently teaching in a

non-Catholic setting, have you thought of applying to work in one of our schools? If unclear about how a Catholic school might differ, or how to apply, questions will be addressed in an hour-long online webinar presented by Catherine Hobbs, Director for Education and Robert Dare, Diocesan Schools Support Officer, starting at **7.00pm**. Register your free place, via this link: <https://bit.ly/4gPWB2>

Sunday 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

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**. Please 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://donate.giveasyoulive.com/charity/st-joseph-newbury-catholic-parish/event/st-josephs-quiz-night> or contact Kay Binns (kaylbinns@gmail.com).

From Bishop Philip: On Saturday **8th February 2025**, I will mark Valentine's Day by inviting all the 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. Couples are invited for a 9.15 am start, coffee and doughnuts, after which follows a presentation from a newly married couple, talking about their wedding day and how it went. After a break, a speaker from our Marriage and Family Life team, will talk about the joy of Catholic marriage. The morning ends with a short liturgy in the Cathedral, at which couples will receive the bishop's blessing and the blessing of their engagement rings. Pray for all those marrying in our Diocese in 2025, for all married couples, and our families. *For now, save the date!*

Holy Year 2025 Pilgrimage to Rome 6th - 11th April 2025: 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.

Calling all knitters! Stella Maris, the worldwide Catholic seafarers charity, is asking knitters to make hats for them to distribute to the seafarers arriving in our local

ports. Working in cold and difficult conditions, and away from families for up to 9 months, this gift not only keeps seafarers warm but shows them that they are remembered and cared for. For patterns and instructions visit <https://stellamaris.org.uk/knitting/> and when finished send to Stella Maris Southampton, c/o St Joseph's and St Edmund's Parish Office, St Edmund's Lodge, The Avenue, Southampton SO17 1XJ. Hats welcomed all year round! Thank you.

From the Diocesan Vocations Team: "Mary kept all these things, reflecting on them in her heart." As Mary reflected, we too are invited to discern His will for our own life. Ask Him to place His desire for your vocation on your heart. Talk to your priest or contact Cn. John Cooke by email (vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk) or call 01329 318869.

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

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

AND A FINAL THOUGHT: There is only one person in all humanity of whom God has one picture, and in whom there is a perfect conformity between what He wanted her to be and what she is, and that is His own Mother. *The Ven Fulton Sheen*



Carol of the Holy Family
Kevin Nichols

(Tune: *In the Bleak Midwinter*)

Saint in the shadows
always out of sight,
Joseph, just and steadfast
lead us to the light.
Saint of anxious caring,
bread-winner and guide,
still be our guardian
always at our side.

Bright flower of Juda,
girl of Galilee,
Mother of our Saviour
star of the sea.
Mary the handmaid
of God's holy Word.

Keep our hearts faithful
to your Son and Lord.

Sure Key of David,
opening every door.
King of the nations
born among the poor.
Hidden in a stable
hope of Israel,
always stay with us
Lord Emmanuel.

Father, Source of being,
everlasting One;
Saviour and brother
sole-begotten Son.
Life giving Spirit,
Wind and Fire and Dove
Praise to you always,
Trinity of love.