

St Joseph's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE

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Sunday 13th April: PALM SUNDAY - YEAR C. Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 14th April: Monday of Holy Week. **No Mass today.**

Tuesday 15th April: Tuesday of Holy Week. **Mass at 10.00am.**

Wednesday 16th April: Wednesday of Holy Week. **Mass at 10.00am.**

Thursday 17th April: HOLY THURSDAY. No 10am Mass. Mass of the Lord's Supper at 7.30pm.

Friday 18th April: GOOD FRIDAY. No Mass. Stations of the Cross at 10am. The Celebration of the Lord's Passion at 3.00pm.

Saturday 19th April: HOLY SATURDAY. No 10am Mass. 11.30am: Polish Service of the Blessing of Bread. 8pm: **EASTER VIGIL (first Mass of Easter).**

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 13th April: 11am for Arthur Rackham RIP (Monika Rackham's Intention).

Wednesday 16th April: 10am in Thanksgiving for Night Adoration.

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: 6th April: Plate collection £592.80; Candles £30.86; Poor Box £17.71; Repository £20. Monthly totals for March - Standing Orders £1742.50; Contactless £2184; Walsingham £66; Clergy Assistance Fund £76. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 13th April: PALM SUNDAY: Year C: Weather permitting, Masses will commence outside the church

with the blessing of palms to mark the start of Holy Week. Attentive participation in all the Holy Week liturgies will deepen our faith and relationship with God as we strive to be good disciples.

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 this Mass.

Tea and coffee will be served in the hall after both Masses. All welcome. **NB:** Tea & coffee will not be served after 8.30am Mass on Easter Sunday as many are involved in family gatherings.

HOLY WEEK MASS TIMES & LITURGIES for all of the churches in our Pastoral Area can be found on the parish website and on posters at the church entrances.

Tuesday 15th April: 11.00am CHRISM MASS at St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth at which all ordained clergy renew their ordination vows. The bishop also blesses the holy oils (the Oil of the Sick, the Oil of Catechumens and Sacred Chrism) to be used in all the sacraments such as Baptism, Confirmation and the Anointing of the Sick. The Sacred Chrism is breathed upon by the Bishop in an act emulating Christ's actions as He breathed upon His apostles to "receive the Holy Spirit." The oils are then used in our parishes for the coming year. All welcome.

7.30pm: LENT PENITENTIAL SERVICE at St Joseph's for the parishes of our Pastoral Area, offering the opportunity to make your Easter Confession. Priests will be present from all local parishes to hear Confessions.

Wednesday 16th 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.

Thursday 17th April: HOLY THURSDAY - No 10am Mass. 10.30am: **'The Wonder of the Shroud'**, a showing in the parish hall of the video lecture by Fr Martin Haigh OSB on the Shroud of Turin exploring the compelling evidence for its authenticity, and what it reveals about Our Lord's crucifixion and death.

7.30pm: MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER.

Friday 18th April: GOOD FRIDAY: 10am: Stations of the Cross in church.

10.30am: CTNA (Churches Together in Newbury Area) Ecumenical Service at St. Nicolas' Church, Northbrook St followed by a Walk of Witness through Northbrook Street to the Methodist Church. All are welcome.

3pm: SOLEMN CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S PASSION. The annual collection today is for the *Holy Places* to support the Christian community in the Middle East. Give on-line at <https://donate.giveasyoulive.com/campaign/holy-places-second-collection-2025>

Saturday 19th April: HOLY SATURDAY: No 10am Mass. 11.30am: Polish Service of the Blessing of Bread and Easter Food. All welcome.

8pm: THE EASTER VIGIL (first Mass of Easter). Join us for the most important Liturgy of the Church year.

Sunday 20th April: EASTER SUNDAY: Masses at 8.30am and 11am. N.B. There will be no Tea/Coffee after the 8.30am Mass on Easter Sunday.

From the Diocese – Easter Offerings: Offerings 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>

NEW ROLE FOR FR MICHAEL: Bishop Philip has announced the appointment of Fr Michael as the new 'Episcopal Vicar for Religious' for Portsmouth diocese. This role involves liaison on behalf of the bishop with members of all Religious Orders in the diocese, especially where they undertake pastoral activity for the diocese.

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 early 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.

THANK YOU: Fr Peter would like to sincerely thank everyone who so kindly offered him best wishes, cards and gifts on his birthday, as well as those who organised and joined him in the celebrations.

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: 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. For more information and to register visit <https://caritasportsmouth.org.uk>. Everyone welcome.

'CARE – NOT KILLING' PETITION: Assisted dying may not be available in England and Wales until at least 2029 after MPs approved an extension of the rollout period. An initial two-year "backstop" will now increase to four years after the change was proposed by Kim Leadbeater, the Labour MP behind the Assisted Dying Bill. The four-year delay, passed by the committee scrutinising the legislation, now means the law is unlikely to be operational until at least 2029 – the year by which the next general election must take place. The threat the Bill poses, however, is still very real.

By signing this Petition, Catholics in England and Wales can impress upon their MPs how dangerous this Bill is while there's still time. Sign the petition at: <https://carenotkilling.org.uk/petition/>

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.

AND A FINAL THOUGHT: Wherever you go, go with all your heart.

