

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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PENTECOST SUNDAY – YEAR B

Sunday 19th May: PENTECOST SUNDAY – Year B. Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 20th May: ORDINARY TIME RESUMES. The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, memorial. No Mass.

Tuesday 21st May: Feria of the 7th Week of Ordinary Time, or St Christopher Magallanes & Companions, Priests, Martyrs, optional memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 22nd May: Feria of the 7th Week of Ordinary Time, or St Rita of Cascia, Religious, optional memorial or Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 23rd May: OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, the ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST, feast. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 24th May: Feria of the 7th Week of Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 25th May: St Bede the Venerable, Religious, Doctor of the Church, memorial. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions follow 10.00am Mass.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 19th May: 08.30am for Pam Thompson RIP (Anne Thompson's Intention).

11am for Arthur & Mary Fullerton RIP and Mark Fullerton RIP (Maureen Smith's Intention).

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:

Yvonne Bradley, Pat and Ron Bird, Theresa Cassidy, James Pringle, Joshua David, Colin Devery, Marie O'Sullivan, Kathleen Fitzsimmons, Liliana Ramalingam, Terry Hamill, Rita Zollo. Additions - please inform Fr Michael by phone or email.

Collections: The plate collection for 12th May was £1007.10 (includes Parish Tea Party £291); World Communications Day £226.57; Candles £25.69; poor box £1.54. Totals for April: Standing Orders £2235.50; Contactless £1368.00. Second collection donations via Contactless £70 (Holy Places), £140 (Clergy Training). Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 19th May: Pentecost Sunday (Year B) 50 days after Easter, the feast celebrates the descent of the

Advocate Christ promised, the Holy Spirit. The Spirit blows where He wills but at Pentecost that Spirit descended upon Our Lady, St. Peter and the Apostles to initiate the life and mission of the Church. At Pentecost we celebrate the Church's birthday!

Tea and coffee will be served in the hall after both Masses. All are welcome. If you would like to join the rota for tea/coffee preparation, please sign up on the sheet in the hall or let Fr Michael know.

8.30am Baby and Toddler Group in the Parish Hall after Mass.

11am Our children preparing for **First Holy Communion** will take part in this Mass today.

Wednesday 22nd May: 12.30-2pm: The church will be open for an hour and a half on Wednesday afternoon for quiet prayer and reflection. All are welcome to come along at any time whilst the church is open. (**N.B.** this week there is a possibility of occasional noise as plumbers will be working to resolve a blockage in the heating system.)

7.15pm: Bible Study with Fr Peter Codd at Our Lady of Lourdes, Hungerford. All are welcome.

N.B.: The next **Adult Formation Group** meeting will be at 7.30pm on Wednesday 29th May in St Joseph's Hall.

7.30pm: Bible Society Romans Course: The eighth session of this 10-week course looking at the theme of 'Devotion' in St Paul's letter to the Romans at Newbury Methodist Church. Everyone is very welcome. If you are interested in attending, please contact Rosie Greenhalgh (rosie.greenhalgh@ntlworld.com).

Thursday 23rd May: Grand/Mothers' Prayer Group **10.30am – 12noon (Note: New time!)** at Newbury Grove Care Home, 370 London Road RG14 2QH to pray for the



needs of our children and grandchildren, and for a strengthening of faith. Refreshments provided. If interested, please just come along.

Sunday 26th May: 11am Mass: Children's Liturgy will take place in the hall for those of primary school age. Also, the **Music Group** will assist in the celebration of Mass.

Saturday 8th June: The Diocesan Vocations Promotion team is inviting all young adults (18 - 35'ish') to a Summer Retreat Day with the theme: "God's Call to Missionary Discipleship and Living Our Vocation" from 10.30am at St Philip Howard Church/Hall, Fareham, PO14 1ND. The day will feature talks, testimony, prayer and fellowship. After our Sunday Vigil Mass at 6.30pm we will close the retreat day with an evening meal. Booking is required and for information please email: vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2024 -2025: Our next Confirmation programme for the West Berkshire Pastoral area will begin in September 2024. It will be offered to young parishioners, who are in year 9 or above, and who are resident and participants in our Parish community. *Confirmation celebrates the full outpouring of the Holy Spirit on a baptised person, completing and strengthening the grace given by the Spirit in Baptism. It marks the Christian as a follower of Christ and a full member of the Church.*

If you are interested, please contact the Parish Office as soon as possible giving your name, age, and contact details. Information about the programme will be provided when we receive your application. Email: office@stjosephsnewbury.org.uk

St Joseph's Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes 1st-5th July 2024. Transport to, and from, Stansted Airport has been confirmed for those attending. Cost per person for the return journey to Stansted is £50. Please pay by cash or cheque, payable to 'THE TEA BAR' and post through the Presbytery letter box.

TEACHING POINT: The words that the priest says quietly prior to receiving Holy Communion are 'May the receiving of your Body and Blood, Lord Jesus Christ, not bring me to judgement and condemnation, but through your loving mercy be for me protection in mind and body and a healing remedy.' Whilst undertaking the ablutions of the sacred vessels following Communion he says: 'What has passed our lips as food, O Lord, may we possess in purity of heart, that what has been given to us in time may be our healing for all eternity.'

SUDAN EMERGENCY: Sudan's war is a forgotten conflict with no winners, triggering the world's largest hunger and worst displacement crisis. 10.5 million people are displaced, with over 25 million people in need of humanitarian aid. Nearly 15,000 have already been killed, and 26,000 more injured. Most people, however, are

unaware of the world's largest humanitarian crisis. Donate at – <https://cafod.org.uk/give/donate-to-emergencies/sudan-crisis-appeal>

Youth Pilgrims for Lourdes: 22nd July – 26th July 2024. Give something back by joining the Diocesan Pilgrimage to Lourdes, leaving on Monday 22nd July and returning on Friday 26th. You could help by assisting pilgrims by pushing wheelchairs, offering a steadying arm and a warm smile! Youth pilgrims are an essential part of the pilgrimage serving our pilgrims, and hugely enjoy the experience. For details about joining, contact lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. The pilgrim fare is £780 but there is the potential for funding.

300 Club May Winners: 1st Prize £100 – Richard Almond; 2nd Prize £50 – Elaine Bird; 3rd Prize £25 – Joyce Agar. Many congratulations!

Job opportunity: Caritas Portsmouth Project Development Officer - Caritas Portsmouth, part of the Diocese of Portsmouth, is looking for a self-motivated, compassionate individual to join their team. Based in the Southampton and Havant region, this role is central to the development of predominantly parish-based social and environmental projects that support those in need in our local communities in line with the Charity's mission. **Fixed term contract** until end of June 2025. **Salary:** £25,000-26,000 depending on experience. For further details, please visit: <https://www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/about-us/people/careers/>.

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH HALL: The hall is often available for your 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* for Sunday collections. Simply choose the amount you wish to donate and hold your card onto the reader. 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: A smile is a facelift in everyone's price range.

