

St Joseph's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE

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PENTECOST SUNDAY – YEAR C

Sunday 8th June: PENTECOST SUNDAY - YEAR C. Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

(ORDINARY TIME RESUMES.)

Monday 9th June: The Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church, memorial. No Mass today.

Tuesday 10th June: Feria of the 10th Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 11th June: St Barnabas, Apostle, memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 12th June: OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, the ETERNAL HIGH PRIEST, feast. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 13th June: St Anthony of Padua, Religious, Doctor of the Church, memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Saturday 14th June: Our Lady on Saturday or Feria of the 10th Week in Ordinary Time. Mass at 10.00am. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions follow 10.00am Mass.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 8th June: 8.30am for intentions of Benjamin David (Vijay Samuel's Intention)

11.00am for Giulia Columbro RIP (Vito Columbro's Intention).

Please Pray for the Sick and Housebound of the Parish:

Angela Jordan, Jonathan Sheridan, Philip Rowlands, Eric and Beryl Thompson, Lesley Smith, 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: 1st June: Plate collection £879.53; Candles £26.74; Repository £50.00. Second Collection for Catholic Communications Service £301.28. May totals: Standing Orders £1,657.50; Contactless £1,357.00; £376 for Clergy Training. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 8th June: PENTECOST SUNDAY The feast celebrated on the 50th day after the feast of the Resurrection of Jesus by Christians marking the coming of the Holy Spirit.

At the **11.00am Mass** this Pentecost Sunday, Fr Michael has been authorised to give the Sacrament of

Confirmation to Nilton and Walkiria, parents of Sophia who will herself also be confirmed – together with 31 others by Bishop Philip in our church on Tuesday 10th June. It is a joy and privilege to witness this special occasion today. Congratulations to the family!

Also, today, Pastoral Area Youth Group Afternoon Retreat at St Cassian's, Kintbury, 1pm-4pm, theme 'Friendship'. Bring a packed lunch and water. Those attending will hopefully have informed Ann Haynes - Mobile: 07791258363. **NB:** Parents who wish to remain in the grounds of St Cassian's for the afternoon are welcome to do so. Please bring a packed/shared lunch for you to enjoy with the children, and after lunch enjoy the grounds of St Cassian's whilst they are having their retreat in the centre and grounds.

Tea and coffee will be served in the church after 8.30am and 11.00am Masses. All welcome.

Tuesday 10th June: 7pm: CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

for the West Berks Pastoral Area, in St Joseph's Church – administered by Bishop Philip. Congratulations our young people!

Also, **7pm** - join with *Missio, Aid to the Church in Need* and *Stella Maris* in this Jubilee Year to pray the "**Rosary of Hope**" online (the Joyful Mysteries). Pope Leo XIV said, "Our blessed mother Mary always wants to walk with us, be close to us, she always wants to help us with her intercession and her love." He invites us to pray together, "for all of the Church, and for peace in the world." You can register for the Zoom link at https://cafod.formstack.com/forms/jubilee_year_rosary_of_hope

Wednesday 11th June: The church will be open today for quiet prayer during the usual Wednesday times of **12.30 – 2pm**. All are welcome to drop in.

7.00pm – 8.30pm: Choir rehearsal in church.

Thursday 12th June: 10.30am Grand/Mothers' Prayers every Thursday at *Newbury Grove Care Home*, 370 London Road, Newbury RG14 2QH to pray for the needs of our children and grandchildren, and for a strengthening of faith. New attendees always welcome. For more information, speak with Fr Michael or Elizabeth Matias after Mass.

Sunday 15th June: FIRST HOLY COMMUNION SUNDAY (1) and TRINITY SUNDAY. There will be a second collection for **Day for Life**.

Volunteering: Volunteering is central to the Catholic Church. Pope Francis said that “volunteering is a grace from God” and that “volunteers are the strength of the church”. Across the UK, however, the volume of people who volunteer has been in long term decline. The sense of well-being derived from volunteering is profound for recipients and volunteers alike. It helps recognise the dignity and gifts of every human being; and it builds a sense of community. It can unify people of all ages. When asked why they do not volunteer, over a third of people say they are concerned about making a long-term commitment. Many projects do not ask of this. Would you please consider volunteering in some aspect of our parish life?

Retrouvaille: What is it? ... a marriage ministry, run by Catholics, to support marriages in trouble. Alone or bored in your marriage? Considering separation or are already divorced? If you are open to try again – Retrouvaille could be the solution. They have helped thousands of couples get back on track. Call to find out more on – 07973 380443 or search www.retrouvaille.org.uk

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 to request a form for you to complete and return.

Wednesday 25th June: 6.45pm – 8.45pm 'Come and Sing' Choir Session in church. All welcome. Further details next week.

Saturday 28th June: Save the Date: SAFEGUARDING TRAINING at St. Francis Hall from 10am until 12.30pm. If those with a DBS have not done any training since the session at our hall in September 2023, they will be asked to attend. The local parish safeguarding ministers are delivering the training.

Also on Saturday 28th June: SEEKER SATURDAY 'Discerning God's will' 11am - 3pm at Sacred Heart Church, Fareham PO16 0NQ. Fellowship, Formation and Food. Booking required. For info please email: vocations@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Sunday 29th June: St Francis de Sales Parish Garden Picnic. This will take place in the garden at St Francis de Sales at 12.30pm, after the 11am Mass. Please bring

along your own picnic, soft drinks are provided. All are welcome.

Monday 7th July: Called and Gifted Information Evening from 7.00pm – 8.30pm on-line. To register, please email calledandgifted@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk with your name and parish.

Hungry Holidays: For the 10th year, West Berks Foodbank is addressing this issue – no school meals available to children outside term time. The Foodbank will be providing support to at least 478 households with 1026 under 18 year olds. **This is a major undertaking needing your support to make it successful.** Donations of any of the items on the Foodbank Hungry Holidays Shopping List (available at the entrances to church) will make a BIG difference. Items can be left in the collection box at the back of church or at collection points in local supermarkets. Please drop off any donations by Sunday 29th June to allow time for the Foodbank to deliver the food to the schools, who will distribute it before the end of term. Thank you for your on-going support.

Jubilee 2025 – Youth Pilgrimage to Rome. To celebrate Jubilee Year Youth Week 2025, Bishop Philip invites anyone 17+ to take part in the Diocese of Portsmouth Youth Pilgrimage to Rome - **28 July and 04 August**, coinciding with the World Youth Day. A full programme in Rome led by Bishop Philip; visits to the Vatican; World Youth Day Jubilee events. Cost - £1,350 per person for a shared room (b'fast & evening meal); includes flights; transport in Rome; and 20kg of luggage. For more information, see poster in church or email youth@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk. Book soon as places are limited.

DIOCESAN ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2023/24: The Diocese's annual report and annual set of accounts for 2023/24 have now been published on the Diocesan website.

REFURBISHMENT OF THE PARISH HALL: Please allow priority for parking for older parishioners, the disabled and families with young children. N.B. If parking in Hawthorn Road, opposite the church, you may be subject to parking fines (please check parking signage carefully).

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: A pessimist is somebody who complains about the noise when opportunity knocks.