

St Joseph's Catholic Church

Parish Priest: Fr. Michael Fava CBE

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SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER – YEAR C

(Divine Mercy Sunday)

CHRIST IS RISEN. ALLELUIA!!

Sunday 27th April: 2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) - YEAR C. Masses at 8.30am and 11.00am.

Monday 28th April: St George, Patron of England, Solemnity (transferred). No Mass today.

Tuesday 29th April: St Catherine of Siena, Religious & Doctor of the Church – Patron of Europe, feast. Mass at 10.00am.

Wednesday 30th April: Wednesday of the 2nd Week of Easter. Mass at 10.00am.

Thursday 1st May: Thursday of the 2nd Week of Easter, or, St Joseph the Worker, optional memorial. Mass at 10.00am.

Friday 2nd May: St Athanasius, Bishop & Doctor of the Church, memorial. N.B. No 10.00am Mass today – 11.00am Requiem Mass for Alan Hobbs RIP.

Saturday 3rd May: Ss Philip & James, Apostles, feast. Mass at 10.00am. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and Confessions follow 10.00am Mass.

Mass Intentions:

Sunday 27th April: 11am for Yvonne Berrington RIP (Family intention).

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: 19th and 20th April: Plate collection £2363.71; Candles £35.48; Poor Box £24.29; Holy Places 2nd Collection £651.18; Repository £52; Hall hire £144. Thank you for your generosity.

Sunday 27th April: 2nd SUNDAY OF EASTER (DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY) - YEAR C. The readings for this Sunday are about God's mercy, the necessity for trusting Faith,

and our need for the forgiveness of our sins. The opening prayer addresses the Father as "God of everlasting Mercy."

11.00am Mass is a celebration for our **First Holy Communion candidates.**

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

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.

The canonisation of **Blessed Carlo Acutis** has been postponed due to the funeral of the late Holy Father, Pope Francis.

Following the death of the Holy Father, Pope Francis, Bishop Philip has written a Pastoral Letter which will be read out at Masses this Sunday (a copy of the letter is available for reference on the parish website). We join with Bishop Philip and the diocese in mourning the death of Pope Francis and give thanks for his life of great service.

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*.

Wednesday 30th 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 1st May: 4pm Reception into the church of the body of Alan Hobbs. All are welcome to attend this brief rite.

Friday 2nd May: No 10.00am Mass or recitation of the **Holy Rosary** today.

11.00am Requiem Mass for Alan Hobbs RIP.

REFURBISHMENT OF THE PARISH HALL: The building works are scheduled to start on 6th May. Please be aware that the number of parking spaces at Church will

be reduced until the work is completed in the autumn. At weekends and on Holy Days younger members of the congregation and those with teenage children are 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

Douai Abbey Pastoral Programme: REFLECTION DAY: The Sabbath Day and the Lord's Day. 10.30am to 4pm (arrivals & coffee from 10am). Led by Caroline Farey. The day will focus on bible texts to see how links with the Lord's Day open up unexpected riches to the Sunday

Mass. For anyone interested: no previous knowledge needed. Contribution £30 made on day please (lunch, coffee & tea incl.) or £15 bring own lunch. All booking & enquiries: Email: pastoral@douaiabbey.org.uk. How to arrive see: <https://www.douaiabbey.org.uk/contact-us.php>

Quiet Garden Days: Tithe Barn Quiet Garden offers you the opportunity to come away from the bustle of normal life and spend a day of peace in contemplation and stillness in a lovely local garden, on one of three days this summer, hosted by Penny Lovelock at Tithe Barn, Stroud Green RG14 7JA. 10 people limit on any one day. With short introductions by a leader, the day is spent in silence around the garden or house. £20 for full day; £10 on Penny's day (5th Sept). A good lunch is provided! Friday 30th May: 10.00am - 4.00pm Lead by Fr Peter Bowe; Friday 4th July: 10.00am - 4.00pm Lead by Revd Pat Bhutta; Friday 5th Sep: 10.00am - 4.00pm Lead by Penny Lovelock To book: pennylovelock44@gmail.com or mobile 07913 358068

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/>

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: The joyful news that Christ is risen does not change the contemporary world; still before us lie work, discipline, sacrifice. The fact of Easter, however, is what gives us the spiritual power to do the work, accept the discipline, and make the sacrifice.