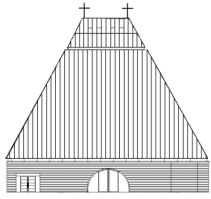


# THE MESSENGER

Serving the Churches of Holy Ghost, St. Bede and Sacred Heart

A PUBLICATION OF PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE TRUST REGISTERED CHARITY No. 246871



**St. Bede**  
 Popley Way  
 Basingstoke  
 RG24 9DX  
 01256 465214

**Parish Priest:**

Rev. Christopher Rutledge:  
 Coordinating Pastor and Dean

**Assistant Priest:**

Rev. Gerry Onyejuluwa  
**01256 951134**

**Parish Administrator:**

Mrs Liz Murphy  
 Office Open: Monday, Wednesday,  
 Thursday and Friday,  
 9 am - 2 pm (Tuesday - Admin day)

**Email:**

stbedes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

**Website:**

www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

**Facilities Manager:**

Dr Stephen Flitcroft (Parish Office)

**Treasurer:** Mrs Jan Hughes

**Safeguarding:**

Angela McGrory (Diocese)  
 07554427064

Diocesan Office 023 92816396  
 Jan Hughes (Parish) 07719012955

**Holy Ghost Church Address**

Sherborne Road,  
 Basingstoke,  
 Hants. RG21 5TD



**Christmas Blessings  
 on behalf of  
 Fr. Chris, Fr. Gerry  
 and the Parish Staff**

**MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS**

**Fourth Sunday of Advent**

**Saturday 23rd** 6.00 pm SB Brenda Corr RIP (Corr)  
**Sunday 24th** 10.00 am SB Dec. Mbrs Hynes Family

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**Christmas Eve—24th December**

**Syro Malabar Mass** 3.30 pm HG  
**Carol Service** 5.30 pm SB  
**Vigil Mass** 6.00 pm SB People of the Parish  
**Polish Mass** 9.00 pm HG  
**Carol Service** 9.30 pm SB  
**Mass during the Night** 10.00 pm SB People of the Parish

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**Christmas Day—25th December**

**Christmas Day** 8.00 am SB People of the Parish  
 10.00 am SB People of the Parish

**No Evening Mass**

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**Tues 26th Dec—St. Stephen's Day**

10.00 am SB Intentions of our Altar Servers  
 Wed 27th 10.00 am HG Yvonne Rutledge RIP  
 Thur 28th 10.00 am SB Joe Murphy RIP (Luker)  
 Fri 29th 10.00 am HG Int Getrude Wang  
 Adoration after Mass at Holy Ghost Church until 11.30  
 Sat 30th 10.00 am SB In thanksgiving for  
 50th Wedding Anniversary  
 Alison & Richard Luker

**Sunday 31st Dec The Feast of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph**

9.00 am SB Int Tony & Jan Cullinane (O'Brien)  
 11.00 am SB People of the Parish  
 6.30 pm SB Margaret & Michael Attard RIP  
 (Sammut)

Mon 1st Jan 2018 12 noon at St. Bede's Dec Mbrs Holy Ghost Parish

Tues 2nd No Mass

Wed 3rd 9.30 am HG Joe Murphy RIP (Fitzpatrick)

Thurs 4th 9.30 am SB Nancy O'Neill RIP (Fond)

Fri 5th 9.30 am HG Billy Murphy RIP (P Murphy)

Adoration after Mass at Holy Ghost Church until 11.

Sat 6th 9.30 am SB Dec. Mbrs Colella & Bibbo  
 Families (Fond)

Sunday 7th January 9.00 am SB Sean McNamara RIP (Fond)

11.00 am SB Josephine Brown RIP

6.30 pm SB Joseph & Celestina Sammut RIP



'Mankind is a great,  
 an immense  
 family.... This is  
 proved by what we  
 feel in our Hearts at  
 Christmas'

St. John Paul XXIII



## **Celebrating Christmas**



***We welcome  
all Visitors to our  
Parish over the Christmas Season who  
are visiting Family and Friends.  
Thank you to everyone who contributed  
of their time and talent in preparing the  
Churches and helping in our  
Worship of God.  
May Christ the Saviour whose coming  
we now celebrate Bless you and all your  
loves ones now and in the  
New Year ahead.  
Thank you also for the many cards and  
gifts which are being eaten/drank and  
enjoyed.***

### **CHRISTMAS COLLECTION**

It is the custom of this Diocese that the collections taken at the Christmas Masses are given to the Priests of the Parish for their personal use. It forms a significant part of their annual income.

### **CHRISTMAS CRIB OFFERINGS**

The Christmas Crib Offerings during Christmastide are for Christian Communities in the Holy Land, via the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre.

The Holy Land is a very troubled area of the Middle East and The Christians are very appreciative of our support and prayer. Jesus was born in a stable in Bethlehem 2000 years ago and today Christians in the Holy Land, including Bethlehem, are experiencing extreme difficulties and dangers of peace and stability and the absence of justice.

### **GIVING TREE 2017**

Thank you so much to everyone who took the many gift labels and responded with returning the gifts in time to give to local children and families in need this Christmas. The gifts have been collected by Social Services.

### **BAPTISM**

Welcome to Rosemary Enid Melham who will be baptised during the Christmas Vigil Mass.

### **PARISH PILGRIMAGE**

We are organising a Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes led by Fr. Chris between 10th—15th June 2018. More information to follow in the New Year.



### **PARISH DIARY:**

**Sun 24th: Music:** 6 pm and 10 am—Quiet

**Vigil Mass 6 pm:** Piano and Cantorg

**Mass during the Night 10.00 pm** Choir

Toddler Group will resume on 16th January 2018

**Wed :** Choir practice: 7.30 pm at SB

**Thurs:** Church Cleaning on Thursday 4th January 2018 after the 9.30 am Mass (We would appreciate as many people as possible, as the Church will need a good clean after the Christmas and New Year Celebrations. Thank you to Joan Rhodes and her team who turn up fortnightly During the course of the year to keep our Church clean.

### **EUCCHARISTIC CONGRESS**

Bishop Philip invites you to join him at the Eucharistic Congress between 7-9th Sept 2018 in Liverpool. The Theological Symposium is planned to consist of workshops for Parish Catechists, (especially for those involved in FHC programmes) RE Teachers, Hospital and Prison Chaplains, Seminary Communities and Extraordinary Ministers. Participation in the procession is by ticket only. So if you wish to attend, please let the Parish Office know asap.

### **IF YOU ARE GOING INTO HOSPITAL**

If you wish to receive Holy Communion whilst in Hospital, please contact Liz Murphy in the Parish Office. The Hospital Volunteer Chaplains visit the hospital on a Wednesday to give Holy Communion to those who request it.

### **CHRISTMAS GIFT FROM THE BISHOP**

"A Christmas gift from the Bishop! Thanks to a generous donor, this Christmas the Bishop wants to give everyone (all adults and children) coming to Mass on Christmas Day

A copy of Matthew Kelly's best selling book. 'Rediscover Jesus'. Bishop Philip hopes you enjoy it.



### **COLLECTIONS**

Sunday collection amounted £2,373.98p. Second collection for Christmas Flowers amounted to £363.04p. Grateful thanks.

**AND FINALLY:** Thank you to all involved in music for our Sunday Masses and Celebrations throughout the year, from Musicians and Singers, to Cleaners, Flower Arrangers, Tea-Coffee Rotas, Hospital Volunteer Chaplains, those who plan the Liturgies, Altar Servers, Crib and Christmas tree builders, the Webteam and not forgetting the Parish Staff.

**PARISH OFFICE** will reopen on Tuesday 2nd January 2018.

