

THE MESSENGER

Serving the Churches of Holy Ghost and St. Bede

A PUBLICATION OF PORTSMOUTH DIOCESE TRUST REGISTERED CHARITY No. 246871



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Coordinating Pastor and Dean

Parish Administrator:

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(Tuesday: Office closed)
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Dr Stephen Flitcroft (Parish Office)
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07554427064

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Holy Ghost Church Address

Sherborne Road,
Basingstoke, Hants. RG21 5TD

PASTORAL AREA CLERGY

St. Joseph, Basingstoke 01256 323595

Fr. Chris Whelan

Fr Emmanuel Rinda

Deacon Patrick O'Connell

Sacred Heart, Hook 01256 577007

Fr. Paul Leonard

St Michael, Tadley 0118 981 4572

Fr. Patrick Tansey

Deacon Anthony Cairns

St. John the Baptist, Andover

Fr. Austin Gurr 01264 352829

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

11th November 2018

Year B Psalter Week IV—Page 154

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

In our First Reading, the prophet Elijah encounters a widow during a terrible famine. She is preparing to make one last meal for herself and her son before their supply of food runs out. Elijah, acting as God's messenger, tells her not to be afraid and asks her to give him something to eat before preparing a meal for herself and her son. In an extraordinary act of trust — and heroic hospitality — she agrees to Elijah's request! Again speaking as God's own messenger, Elijah assures her of God's special provision for her, telling her that her "jar of flour shall not go empty, nor the jug of oil run dry, until the day when the Lord sends rain upon the earth." Sure enough, the widow and her son were able to eat for a year, just as God promised.

In the Gospel, Jesus observes the crowd as they make their offerings to the synagogue treasury. He sees the wealthy people putting in large sums, while a poor widow contributes only two small coins. Seizing on this teachable moment, Jesus calls His disciples to Himself and tells them that according to *His* calculations, it is the widow who has made the most pleasing offering. Unlike the rich, who gave a portion of their surplus, the widow gave all she had, "her whole livelihood."

In the eyes of the world, particularly in Biblical times where there was no life insurance or Social Security, these widows were weak and dependent on others to take care of them. They each found themselves in desperate situations — one in the midst of famine with a child to care for, and the other clearly impoverished. Yet each demonstrated strength and generosity that distinguished them from those around them. From where did this strength come?

It came from knowing who they are, and *Whose* they are. These women must have known that their security would not come from a good life insurance policy or connections to someone with a hidden storehouse of flour.

MASS TIMES AND INTENTIONS

11th Nov	9.00 am	SB	People of the Parish
	11.00 am	SB	In thanksgiving Mahdavi Family
	6.30 pm	SB	Fr. Joseph Vempeny RIP
Mon 12th	12 noon	HG	Holy Souls
Tues 13th	No Mass		
Wed 14th	9.30 am	HG	Dec. Mbrs Murphy Family
Thurs 15th	9.30 am	SB	Thanksgiving for Friends at SB's
Fri 16th	10.15 am	SB	Requiem Clive Marrison RIP
Sat 17th	9.30 am	SB	In thanksgiving Armelina Vergara
			Confessions after Mass till 10.45 am

18th Nov :

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

Year B Psalter Week I

9.00 am	SB	Tito Gomes RIP
11.00 am	SB	People of the Parish
6.30 pm	SB	Veronica & Robert Leckie RIP

ADVENT GIVING TREE

Advent Giving Tree will be up in the Cloister Area from Saturday 24th Nov. This is an opportunity to give Christmas presents for the children in the care of Social Services. Take a label and return the presents wrapped and labelled to us by Sunday 9th December.



EXTRAORDINARY MINISTER

If you are an Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion to the sick/housebound, will you kindly sign the book in the Sacristy before Mass, this will enable us to know who is receiving Holy Communion. This applies also to the Holy Ghost Church.

LIFE LINE FOR THE HOMELESS

Next Sunday 18th November in the cloister we shall be holding our "Life Line" appeal for items for the homeless, who we will be helping during this year's Night Light Winter Shelter project between 1st December and 28th February 2019.

Each label on the Life Line will have an item of basic human need, e.g. socks, underwear, woollen hat, gloves, scarf, toiletries, etc. Last year the support from St Bedes was overwhelming.

Unfortunately, this year, we have just as many rough sleepers in Basingstoke to look after as in 2017, so we hope we can count on your support again this year.

Life Line table, take a label and return the item the next time you come to Sunday Mass. No need to wrap the donated item!

BISHOP CHALLONER PTA

Bishop Challoner PTA will be holding a Christmas Shopping Extravaganza Evening on Thursday 29th November from 6:30pm to 9:00pm.

There will also be a glass of something nice and a mince pie, which is included in the price, along with other refreshments available during the evening.

Tickets are now on sale from the school office at Bishop Challoner for £3.00 per person in advance or £3.50 on the night.

CAFOD

Sheila Farrelly will be selling raffle tickets next weekend (25th November) after all Masses of Knitted items, all proceeds go towards Water aid. Please support Sheila who has knitted all these items.



LOURDES 2019

Date for your diary

Parish Pilgrimage to Lourdes in 2019, will take place between 9th—14th June. More details will follow as soon as we have them. (Our Lady of Lourdes: pray for us)

SCHOOLS ADMISSIONS

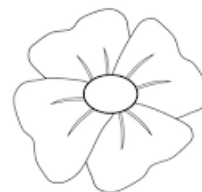
There is no need to have the attendance card signed for school admissions as I will be signing you SIP forms very shortly. A few more stamps in the card is not going to make much of a difference. School Admissions Forms will be signed on Thurs 29th November at 10.30 am and Sat 5th January 2019 at 11am.

DIARY:

Sunday 11th Nov : Music: 9 am Choir: 11 am Cantorg:
6.30 Quiet
Refreshments after the 9 am Mass
BACCA/Café meeting after 11 am Mass
Tues 13th Toddler group meet SB 1.30—3.15 pm
Wed 14th Choir practice SB 7.30 pm
Thurs 15th Repository open 9.00—3.15 pm
Please note that the Repository will now be open on a Thursday in the run up to Christmas

TODAY IS REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY

Today we remember and pray for those who died during the war, especially the two World Wars, and for those who are still dying daily in Wars around the World.



BLESSING OF GRAVES

TODAY in Worting Road Cemetery at 2.30 pm on This short service reminds us to honour the graves of our loved ones, and to pray for their souls hoping they are now with the Lord sharing His promise of eternal life. There will also be a Blessing of the Graves in Holy Ghost Cemetery on Wednesday 14th November after 9.30 am Mass.

NOVEMBER

November is the Month of the Holy Souls, there will be a basket in front of the Altar at Holy Ghost Church, and in front of the Blessed Sacrament Burning Bush in St. Bede's Church. Please place all the names of members of your Family and Friends you wish to remember. May they Rest in Peace. (do not put money into the envelopes)

FUNERAL

Requiem for Clive Marrison RIP on Friday 16th November at 10.15 am at St. Bede's Church. We remember Clive's family and friends at this sad time, may he Rest in Peace.

ADORE (Alton Day Of REnewal)

Saturday 24th November 11.00-4.00

You are warmly welcome to a mini-retreat day (or morning/afternoon) of spiritual refreshment and renewal, focussing on Renewal and Mission. At Alton School, Anstey Lane, Alton GU34 2NG. 11.00am *Rosary*; 11.30am *Mass*; 12.15 *Adoration* of the Blessed Sacrament; 1.00pm Shared lunch (please bring finger food to share); 2.00pm *Praise & Worship*; 2.30 *Talk "Liberty for Captives - Mission and deliverance."*— David Matthews; 3.30 *Prayer for healing*. We end about 4pm.

For more information and directions, see poster or website: www.altonrenewal.com Or telephone Alastair Emblem on 01252 714809.

COLLECTIONS

Collection last week Parish Collection £3,276.03p.
Second collection for Bamenda £1,035.00p.
Grateful thanks and blessings upon you.