

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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Holy Ghost Church Address

Sherborne Road,

PASTORAL AREA CLERGY

St. Joseph, Basingstoke 01256 323595

Fr. Chris Whelan

Fr. Gaston Forbah

Deacon Patrick O'Connell

Sacred Heart, Hook 01256 577007

Fr. Paul Leonard

St Michael, Tadley 0118 981 4572

Fr. Patrick Tansey

St. John the Baptist, Andover

Fr. Austin Gurr 01264 352829

THOUGHT OF THE WEEK

Sunday 1st December 2019

Advent

Terrible things have happened in history, and they will happen again, but actually in today's Gospel, which can rightly be called "apocalyptic", Jesus is saying something rather different about the end of the world. He is saying that when it happens, not much will have changed: "As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes." Life goes on, and good people and bad people will be sharing in the same ordinary tasks that we need to do throughout our lives, right up until the last day. Perhaps especially in our modern world, the way we live might seem to change radically. New technologies bring in new challenges and new temptations. Deep down, people will remain people. The ordinariness of life is the challenge for us, the believers and the hoppers, who need to understand that in the ordinary ways of life, deep down, something extraordinary is happening. The little kindnesses we show to each other, as well as the petty little acts of meanness we are too often prone to in our lives, say something about the way we are to live in eternity. Every moment of our lives, we are choosing for or against heaven.

Taken from The Living Word, Redemptorist Publications

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year A, Psalter Week I — Parish Mass Book Page 82

Morning Prayer before all weekday Masses

Sun 1st Dec	9.00 am	SB	Int. Bishop Philip & Clergy of the Diocese
	11.00 am	SB	Goder & Sauleek Families
	6.30 pm	SB	People of the Parish
Mon 2nd	12 noon	HG	In Thanksgiving Rebecca Appiyah <i>Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament from 11 am</i>
Tues 3rd	9.30 am	HG	<i>St Francis Xavier, Priest</i> Charles Armstrong RIP
Wed 4th	9.30 am	HG	<i>St John Damascene, Priest, Doctor</i> Dec Mbrs Carr & Sadler Families
Thur 5th	9.30 am	SB	Int. Brown Family
Fri 6th	9.30 am	SB	<i>St Nicholas, Bishop</i> Irene Fleming RIP
			Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament until 11 am
	7.15 pm	HG	Maureen Hanafee RIP
Sat 7th			No Mass at St. Bede's—First Holy Communion Session
	12 noon	HG	<i>St Ambrose, Bishop, Doctor</i> Int. Betty Lawlor

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

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Sun 8th Dec	9.00 am	SB	Ned Fagan, Maureen McCauley RIP
	11.00 am	SB	Salvatore Agro RIP
	6.30 pm	SB	People of the Parish

"Advent is a journey towards Bethlehem. May we let ourselves be drawn by the light of God made man." — Pope Francis



WELCOME TO BISHOP PHILIP



Welcome to Bishop Philip who will be making his Parish Visitation to us this weekend. We thank God for our Bishop and pray for him and all the Clergy of our Diocese. Refreshments will be available after 9 am and 11 am Masses, do come along to have an opportunity to meet Bishop Philip.

ADVENT STARTS TODAY

The season of Advent is a time of preparation before Christmas. The word Advent comes from the Latin *Adventus* which means coming. Here are some thoughts to help us to prepare for Christmas. Consider ...



- * A place to go to get away from all the adverts
- * A day of silence to just be with the Mystery of the Incarnation
- * A chance to be of service to the poor
- * A little more time to be with Family and Friends
- * Some time to meditate on the fact that Jesus was born
- * Why not call into Holy Ghost Church or St. Bede's Church, just to sit in silence with the Lord

ST. BEDE'S CHURCH

It is rather appropriate that Bishop Philip should be visiting our Parish this weekend, as it is twelve years since Monsignor Canon Vincent Harvey celebrated the First Mass here at St. Bede's Church on Saturday 2nd December 2007. We thank God for our Parishioners, for all the Priests who have celebrated Mass here, to our present Parish Priest, Fr. Christopher Rutledge, and of course Bishop Philip.

ST. BEDE'S SCHOOL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Stamps are no longer needed as this year's school applications are now being processed. The next date that Fr. Chris and Liz will be available to sign Supplementary Information Forms is Thursday 9th January 2020 after 9.30 am Mass. Please remember to bring your Child's Baptismal Certificate and Mass Attendance Card.

WINTER SHELTER "LIFE LINE" APPEAL

The Winter Shelter will open its doors again on 1st December, providing friendship, a hot evening meal and a warm and dry bed. We will be holding our annual "Life Line" appeal in the Cloister on Sunday 8th December. Please take a card from the line, buy the item shown on the card and return it the next week. It costs approx. £15 per bed per night to provide the shelter for 3 months. Could you sponsor a bed for 1 or more nights? Further info from Pat Murphy: pfm190654@outlook.com



WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTER

Bishop Philip invites you to sign up for his FREE weekly e-newsletter to keep in touch with the latest news and forthcoming events around the Diocese. Please visit: www.portsmouthdiocese.org.uk/enews to sign up.

DIARY:

Sunday 1st Dec: Music: 9 am Choir: 11 am Popley: 6.30 pm Lord's Flock
Refreshments after 9 am & 11 am Mass
Polish Rosary at 4 pm SB
Adoration and prayer for Vocations 5pm
Toddler Group 1.30 pm — 3.15 pm SB
Choir 7.30 pm SB
Tues 3rd
Wed 4th
Thur 5th
Sat 7th

Sunday 8th Dec: Music: 9 am Choir: 11 am Cantorg: 6.30 pm Quiet
Polish Rosary at 4 pm

ENGAGED COUPLES EVENT

Bishop Philip would like to invite all engaged couples of our Diocese who are getting married in 2020 to a special Engaged Couples Breakfast and Blessing at the Cathedral on Saturday 15th February 2020 at 9.45 am. Please contact the Parish Office for further details.



THE IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

The solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, usually celebrated on 8th December, this year is transferred to Monday 9th December.

CAKE SALE FOR THE REFUGEE RESETTLEMENT PROJECT

There will be refreshments and a cake sale after 11 am Mass on Sunday 8th December to raise funds for the Refugee project. Donations of mince pies, cakes (large and small), would be very welcome. Enjoy the refreshments whilst you decide which cake you would like to buy! Please come and support the sale and raise funds for the project.

KNIGHTS OF ST COLUMBA

There will be a Mass for Deceased Members of the Knights of St. Columba on Monday 9th December at Sacred Heart Church Hook at 7.30 pm. All are welcome to attend, there will be light refreshments afterwards in the hall.

ST. BEDE'S KNEELER GROUP DRAW

The following winning tickets have not yet been claimed :- 92,107,108,111,323,344 and 710. Please contact Susan Beard on 01256 417764 to claim. If not claimed by 8th December these prizes will be entered into next year's draw or donated to another cause. Many thanks to everyone who purchased tickets.

FUNERALS

Funeral Service for Lorraine Kirby RIP will take place on Tuesday 3rd December in Basingstoke Crematorium at 1.15 pm. Requiem Mass for Mary Johnson RIP at St. Bede's Church on Friday 13th December at 10.30 am. May They Rest in Peace.



SUNDAY COLLECTION

Parish Collection amounted to £2,440.49p. Grateful thanks. Next week 8th December: Collection for flowers for Xmas.