

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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Rev. Leo Odomeja

Tel: 01256 320246

Permanent Deacon:

Rev. Tony Darroch

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Mrs Liz Murphy

Mon, Wed & Fri 9 am to 12 noon. For enquiries please phone or email

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www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

Facebook:

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Holy Ghost Church Address

Sherborne Road, Basingstoke RG21 5TD

PASTORAL AREA CLERGY

St. Joseph, Basingstoke 01256 323595

Rev. Chris Whelan

Sacred Heart, Hook 01256 577007

Rev. Paul Leonard

St Michael, Tadley 0118 981 4572

Rev. Patrick Tansey

St. John the Baptist, Andover

Rev. Austin Gurr 01264 352829

Sunday 14th March 2021

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT (LAETARE)

Year B, Psalter Week IV

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before all weekday Masses

Sun 14th Mar	9.00 am	SB	Mass: Margaret McNamara RIP
	11.00 am	SB	Mass: All Mother's in the Parish
	12.30 pm	SB	Baptism: Elias De Sousa
	6.00 pm	SB	Mass: People of the Parish
Mon 15th	12 noon	SB	Mass: Int. Cathy & Joan O'Brien
	6.00 pm	HG	Mass: Int. Margaret McMahan
Tues 16th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Int. Gerard & Lettie Murphy
Wed 17th			ST PATRICK, Bishop, feast
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Joe Murphy RIP
	6.00 pm	HG	Mass: Bridget Mullally RIP
Thur 18th	6.30 am	SB	Mass: Int. Kinge & Duffy Families
Fri 19th			ST JOSEPH, Solemnity
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Int. Billy, Kitty Lloyd
	6.00 pm	HG	Mass: Holy Souls
Sat 20th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Susana Estrada Manzano RIP

Confessions after 9.30 am Mass until 10.45 am

All evening Masses from Holy Ghost Church are also live-streamed via Zoom

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Year B, Psalter Week I

Sun 21st Mar	9.00 am	SB	Mass: People of the Parish
	11.00 am	SB	Mass: Michael & Vivianne Colley RIP
	6.00 pm	SB	Mass: Allie Joseph RIP

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Today's second reading reminds us that Jesus came not simply to save us from something, but to save us for something. That something is life as a son or daughter of God. Through the mercy, the goodness and graciousness of God we are transformed: we become, in the incredible words of St Paul, "God's work of art" destined to live "the good life as from the beginning (God) had meant us to live it". Perhaps we tend to think of ourselves more as disaster areas than work of art. But today we are being asked to think again. We are assured by God's word that we are "God's work of art". If that is God's vision, then can it inspire us, in our own small way, to live up to God's expectations? Again, when we see goodness not in terms of keeping commandments but rather in terms of making a return of love to a God who first loved us, then what could give us greater joy than trying to live "the good life" as God has always meant it to be? If Sunday by Sunday we could bring to mind these truths, wouldn't every Sunday be a "Laetare Sunday", a day filled with gratitude and rejoicing for all that the Lord has done, is doing, will do in order to turn us into "God's work of art"?

Taken from The Living Word, Redemptorist Publications

NEW PARISHIONERS

A very warm welcome to new parishioners who have moved to the area. To register as a member of our parish, please complete the new parishioner form on our website.

ATTENDING MASS DURING LOCKDOWN

Please continue to follow the guidance on the safe use of places of worship. We must not mingle with anyone outside of our household or support bubble and we must maintain strict social distancing at all times. Please continue to;

- * Wear a face mask at all times except when receiving Holy Communion
- * Apply hand sanitizer when entering and leaving the church
- * Toilets remain closed and the Cloister must be kept clear
- * The number of parishioners at each Mass will be limited and the maximum stated when you book tickets
- * Please do not enter the Sacristy area via the side door in the Church as this is an emergency exit only
- * QR Codes are displayed in the entrance to the church for you to scan using your mobile for Track and Trace.

BOOKING TO ATTEND SUNDAY MASS

To book tickets for Mass on Sunday 21st March go to our website <https://www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk>

LET'S DO AFTERNOON TEA

Deacon Tony and Pam invite you to join them for afternoon tea via Zoom on Sunday 14th March from 3.00pm to 4.30pm. Join parishioners for conversation, a quiz and prayer. Please email stbedesocial@gmail.com for meeting details.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MARCH

Intention for evangelization - Sacrament of reconciliation
Let us pray that we may experience the sacrament of reconciliation with renewed depth, to taste the infinite mercy of God.



SAINT OF THE DAY

We now have a Saint of The Day feature on our website. Learn about the lives of the ordinary women and men, called by God to inspire us on our journey of faith [Saint of the Day – St Bede's, Basingstoke](#) Look out for more new features on our website in the coming weeks.

STUDY GROUP

Judith Aylmer is starting a study group looking at the Sunday readings beginning on Thursday 8th April at 7.30pm via Zoom. If you would like to join this group, you are asked to make a weekly commitment. For joining instructions, please contact her on jaylmer9@gmail.com. Places will be limited.

FORTHCOMING FEAST DAYS

Happy St. Patrick's Day to all our Irish parishioners on Wednesday 17th March, and happy St. Joseph's Feast Day to our neighbouring parish St. Joseph's in South Ham on Friday 19th March. For more on the Year of St. Joseph, go to www.yearofstjoseph.org

SIGN LANGUAGE

Are you, or anyone you know within the parish, able to do sign language? If so please contact the parish office.

LENT 2021

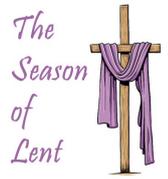
Lent is a time to prepare for Holy Week's commemoration of Our Lord's Passion, Death and Resurrection. Lent is a time of:

Prayer: *we are encouraged to pray more.*

Fasting: *we give up the food we enjoy as a sacrifice.*

Almsgiving: *we give more to those who are in need.*

During Lent, rise early and come to the 6.30 am Mass at St. Bede's Church every Thursday morning.



FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT 'LAETARE SUNDAY'

Bishop Philip writes "This weekend is the Fourth Sunday of Lent. It's mid-Lent Sunday: traditionally, Laetare Sunday ('Rejoicing Sunday') from the words of the Introit Laetare Jerusalem, 'Rejoice, Jerusalem, and all who love her; be joyful all who were in mourning'. As Pope Innocent III said: Today is the middle of Lent, so some relaxation ought to be provided, lest the faithful break down under the severity of their Lenten fasts. So rose vestments can be used, flowers too. Simnel cakes were often baked for the day. But next Sunday in England is also Mothering Sunday – and we wish all mothers a very happy day! In mediaeval England, today was a holiday from work when people went home to the mother church in which they were baptised. As families gathered, they gave gifts to their mothers, hence Mothering Sunday, a day we pray for our mothers too. Please remember to say a prayer to the Blessed Virgin Mary next Sunday for your mother and grandmother."



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

At the current time we are not able to come to church for Stations of the Cross. However members of the Core Group have put together a version for you to pray along with at home. Click on the link <http://bit.ly/StationsoftheCrossHolyGhostParish>



CONFESSION

Confession will be available after 9.30 am Mass during the week, please approach Fr. Dominic or Fr. Leo after Mass.

CAFOD WALK FOR WATER CHALLENGE



The Walk for Water Challenge has now reached Week 3. A big thank you to everyone who has sponsored our clergy and parishioners taking part in the challenge. Your support really will make a difference to people's lives.

ALTAR SERVER MEETING

The next Zoom meeting will take place on 20th March from 3 - 4.30 pm. To register and receive the link details please send an email to stbedes@portsmouthdiocese.co.uk All servers are invited.

PARISH COLLECTION

Collection for week ending 7th March was £1,952. **Thank you for your generous support to the parish.** The easiest way to donate is via BAC's, Standing Order (forms are available on our website) or via our donate button at [Virtual collection basket – St Bede's, Basingstoke](#)