

THE HOLY GHOST PARISH

Serving the Churches of Holy Ghost and St. Bede

A PUBLICATION OF THE CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PORTSMOUTH REGISTERED CHARITY No. 1199568



St. Bede
Popley Way
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Parish Priest:

Rev. Fr. John Lee
Parish Priest of Holy Ghost Parish;
Coordinating Pastor for Basingstoke
Pastoral Area and Dean of Blessed John
Body Deanery
jlee@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Hospital Chaplain:

Rev. Fr. Jean-Patrice Coulon

Permanent Deacon:

Rev. Tony Darroch
adarroch@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Parish Administrator:

Mrs Liz Murphy
Mon, Wed, Thur & Fri 9 am to 2 pm
Tel. No. 01256 465214 - Ext 1
office@stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

Website:

www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

Facebook:

facebook.com/stbedesbasingstoke

Treasurer:

Mrs Faye Lyons (Parish Office)
accounts@stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

Safeguarding:

Safeguarding Officer: Maria Mahdavi
Parish Office: 01256 465214
Diocesan Office: 023 92816396
safeguarding@stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

St Vincent De Paul Society (SVP):

Confidential mobile phone line for
assistance & help 07434 773219

Holy Ghost Church Address:

Sherborne Road, Basingstoke
RG21 5TD

PASTORAL AREA CLERGY

St. Joseph, Basingstoke 01256 323595
Rev. Paul Leonard
Sacred Heart, Hook 01256 577007
Rev. John Chadwick
St Michael, Tadley 0118 981 4572
Rev. Patrick Tansey

Sunday 26th November 2023

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE

Year A, Psalter Week I

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before all weekday Masses

Sun 26th Nov	9.00 am	SB	Mass: Vocations
	11.00 am	SB	Mass: People of the Parish
	6.00 pm	SB	Mass: Adolf Muller RIP
Mon 27th	12 noon	SB	Mass: Michael Devanney RIP
Tues 28th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Edward James O'Brien RIP
Wed 29th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Int. past/present Clergy of HG Parish
Thur 30th	ST ANDREW, Apostle, feast		
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Antonina Bogacka RIP
Fri 1st	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Dec Mbrs Goder & Sauleek Families (Fond)
Sat 2nd	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Charles Armstrong RIP (Fond) <i>Sorry, no Confessions after Mass today</i>

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year A, Psalter Week I

Sun 3rd Dec	9.00 am	SB	Mass: Maureen McCauley RIP
	11.00 am	SB	Mass: People of the Parish
	2.30 pm	SB	Syro Malabar Rite
	6.00 pm	SB	Mass: Joe Murphy RIP

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

The account of the last judgement given towards the end of Matthew's Gospel is interesting in both its contemporary use of example and its offering of a clear moral imperative for the future. The separating of sheep from goats would have been a frequent task for the shepherds of Christ's day; the animals were herded together and separated when it came time for market or stocktaking. Matthew uses an everyday image to convey an easy to understand principle to his hearers. We too shall face judgement; it is a certainty of our faith. It is a simple judgement, not complicated by questionnaires or examinations; the Lord—to whom all hearts are open—will point us one way or the other. Matthew reminds us in the story that when that separation of the "sheep" from the "goats" takes place, it will be too late to do anything about it. There is no opportunity to put our side of the story, no bargaining or appeals process, no jury of our peers. If we want to influence the decision, we had better do it now, while we still have the chance. St Benedict puts it eloquently in his Rule: "Run while you still have the light of Christ!" The celebration of Christ the King is far from cosy and comfortable; it is a renewed challenge for us to act now, through our lives of service, for the building of God's kingdom, a kingdom of truth, love and peace.

Taken from The Living Word, Redemptorist Publications

WELCOME

A very warm welcome to all parishioners and visitors who join us for Mass whether in our Church or via the livestream. If you are new to the Parish, we welcome you, and ask that you complete a new parishioner form on our website.

NEXT WEEKEND

Welcome to Fr Peter Codd who will be celebrating Masses on Friday 1st and Saturday 2nd December and to Fr JP who will be celebrating all Masses on Sunday 3rd December.

ST. BEDE'S SCHOOL SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORMS (SIF)

Fr John will sign forms on 9th December from 11.15am – 12.15pm in St. Bede's large meeting room. For those who cannot attend this date, he will also do so on Saturday 6th January 2024 from 11.15am – 12.15pm. Please remember to bring a copy of your child's Baptismal Certificate.

MASS INTENTIONS

Please note, we do not have any Mass Intentions available now until mid February 2024. We try very hard to honour all Mass intentions as they come in, but they may need to move to another date/time and we ask for your patience and understanding when this happens.

CHRISTMAS HAMPERS FOR FAMILIES

There are some local families that we would like to support through the Christmas holidays by giving them some supermarket vouchers with a small hamper of luxury foods. If you feel that you could spare £10 to buy a Lidl or Tesco voucher, please can you get it and put it in the collection or through the letter box at church. *Food items can now be left in the designated box in the Cloister.* Thank you for your support.

CHRISTMAS KARAOKE NIGHT!

Gather your loved ones for an evening of festive celebration! Whether you're an experienced vocalist or simply enjoy singing in the shower, everyone is invited to join in the merriment and sing their favourite Christmas carols and tunes. Join us on Saturday 9th December in St. Bede's Church Hall from 7.00 to 9.30 pm! All ages are welcome! As we come together in the spirit of joy, let's also share the gift of food, just as the Wise Men brought gifts to the newborn King, please bring a dish or your preferred party food to share. Come, sing, and feast in honour of our Lord and Saviour!

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAMME

The next Baptism programme will take place on Sunday 14th and Sunday 21st January at 1.30pm. Please email: baptism@stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk for more details.

CHRISTMAS POT OF GOLD

St Bede's Family Association will be selling tickets for their Christmas Pot of Gold after each Mass on Sunday 26th November, raising funds for St Bede's Catholic Primary School. Tickets cost £1 each. Payment for tickets will be cash only. The winner wins half the money raised. The draw will take place on 8th December.

LAST SUNDAY IN THE CHURCH YEAR

This Sunday, 26th November, is the last Sunday of the liturgical year, which is the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe; commonly known as Christ the King. This week, our Diocesan Liturgy Project website features Mgr Canon Paul Townsend's Commentary on this Solemnity. Click the link to read the commentary: [The Liturgy Project](#)

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

We are delighted to announce that we have now secured £321,745 in pledges for the ***Closer to Christ*** Campaign, surpassing our goal of £255,000. My heartfelt thanks to each and every one of you. I know there are some families out there who are still considering their pledge and I would be delighted to have your support. While we are guaranteed to receive one third of the initial £255,000 raised, the parish will receive 50% of everything raised over this and so we have much to benefit from. Thank you for your support and please pray for the continued success of the ***Closer to Christ*** Campaign in our parish.

CHRISTMAS TOY APPEAL

The Community Furniture Project will be hosting the Basingstoke Christmas Toy Appeal this year. They are collecting new and unwrapped gifts for children of all ages, and young people up to the age of 19 years old. If you are able to supply gifts unwrapped, please take them to the Community Furniture Store at 6, Joule Road, Basingstoke. RH21 6XH. Tel. No. 01256 320700

BASINGSTOKE FOOD BANK CHRISTMAS VOLUNTEERING

The Foodbank will be packing Christmas Hampers in Festival Place opposite the Apple shop again from 1st - to 23rd Dec including Saturday's. For information please email: hampers@basingstoke.foodbank.org.uk

FUNERALS

Funeral Service at Basingstoke Crematorium on 4th December at 2pm for Yvonne Beaumont RIP. Funeral Service at Holy Ghost Church on Tuesday 5th December at 12 noon for Barbara Patrica Smallbone RIP. Funeral Service at West Berkshire Crematorium on Friday 15th December at 9.15am for Danuta Zofia Krzysztofit RIP. We remember their families and friends at this sad time. May they Rest in Peace.

PARISH COLLECTION

Collection for week ending 19th November amounted to £2,146.28. Thank you for your generosity.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

Next weekend, Sunday 3rd December, there will be a second collection for Christmas Flowers. We thank 'Mary O'Connor and the flower team' who work tirelessly to create beautiful displays in the Church throughout the year.

DONATIONS TO THE PARISH

The easiest way to make a donation to the Parish is online at: [Donate to Basingstoke St Bede's Church | Give as you Live Donate](#) or via our contactless terminal by the hall.



Bishop of Portsmouth
Rt Rev Philip A Egan BA, STL, PhD

Bringing all people closer to Jesus Christ through His Church



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15th November 2023

Dear Father John,

I wanted to send my congratulations to you and your parishioners for the wonderful response in Holy Ghost and St Bede to the **Closer to Christ** Campaign – raising 124% of your goal to date. Thank you for your leadership and commitment. I have been very encouraged by the success, hard work and the sacrificial generosity of your parishioners.

The **Closer to Christ** Campaign is a significant undertaking for our Catholic community. Through this initiative, we will continue to develop the support needed for our clergy at all stages of ministry and provide the resources needed for your parish to thrive.

Your parish is certainly leading the way for others to follow.

My deep and heartfelt thanks to you and your parishioners on this inspiring accomplishment.

In Corde Iesu

+ Philip
Bishop of Portsmouth