

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
Basingstoke
RG24 9DX
01256 465214

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. Paul Nwune

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 6th April 2025

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Year C, Psalter Week I

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before all weekday Masses

Sun 6th Apr	9.00 am	SB	Mass: Ronnie Norris RIP
	11.00 am	SB	Mass: People of the Parish
	2.30 pm	SB	Syro Malabar Rite
	6.00 pm	SB	Mass: Birthday Int. James Appiyah
Mon 7th	12 noon	SB	Mass: Dec Mbrs Flitcroft Family
Tues 8th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Fr Michael Coles RIP (Dio)
	7.30 pm	SB	<i>Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
Wed 9th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Ana Stoyan de Oliveira RIP
Thur 10th	6.30 am	SB	Mass: Allie Joseph RIP
Fri 11th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Ann Edwards RIP
			<i>Stations of the Cross after 9.30 am Mass</i>
Sat 12th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: In thanksgiving Joel
			<i>Confessions after 9.30 am Mass until 11.00 am</i>

PALM SUNDAY of the Passion of the Lord

Year C, Psalter Week II

Sun 13th Apr	9.00 am	SB	Mass: Reg Smart RIP
	11.00 am	SB	Mass: Joseph Anomah RIP, Papa Alphons Boma RIP
	1.30 pm	SB	Syro Malabar Rite
	6.00 pm	SB	Mass: People of the Parish

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

What did the unnamed woman think as she stood before Jesus and heard the crowd's condemnation? Did she wonder where her partner had gone and why she had bothered associating with someone who had abandoned her? Was she just scared or was she also very angry with him and with the authorities to whom she was merely a weapon against Jesus and not a person with rights and dignity? If she was accused of adultery, she was married; was her husband in the crowd, demanding that she should die so that he might receive justice? Had Jesus heard the approaching crowd and wondered what all the fuss was about? He probably knew some of the men who pushed the woman before Him. Jesus didn't ask the woman if she was guilty as charged. The crowd had already judged her and even if she escaped stoning, she would live with her sin's consequences - including the gossip. Nobody would accuse the man of selfish cowardice, whereas the woman's husband could divorce her, something she could neither prevent nor refuse. She would be economically, physically and psychologically vulnerable - and Jesus understood this. That's why He showed His mercy and compassion. "Go now and sin no more." Make a fresh start.

Taken from The Living Word, Redemptorist Publications

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to any visitors who join us for Mass. Welcome also to all who join us for our Liturgies live-streamed via our webcam: www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

THE EASTER TRIDUUM

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Syro Malabar Rite	SB	3.30 pm
The Lord's Supper	SB	8.00 pm

Followed by watching at the Altar of Repose

GOOD FRIDAY

Syro Malabar Rite	SB	10.30 am
The Lord's Passion	SB	3.00 pm

HOLY SATURDAY

Święconka (Blessing of Polish Food)	SB	10.00 am
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Easter Vigil	SB	8.30 pm
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EASTER SUNDAY

Syro Malabar Rite	SB	4.30 am
Mass	SB	9.00 am
Mass	SB	11.00 am

There will be no Evening Mass

LENT 2025

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



- Every Tuesday during Lent
Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at 7.30 pm in St. Bede's Church
- Every Thursday during Lent
There will be a 6.30 am Mass in St. Bede's Church followed by breakfast in the Hall afterwards
- Every Friday morning during Lent
Stations of the Cross after the 9.30 am Mass

During Lent we do not sing or say either the Gloria or the Alleluia, flowers do not decorate the Church and Baptisms are held over until Easter.

LENTEN LUNCHESES

Lenten lunches will take place in St. Bede's Church Hall during Lent after the 12 noon Mass. All money raised will go to CAFOD. Please sign up using the forms in the cloister area.

SCRUTINIES

The Scrutinies are three special rites for adults who will be Baptised at the Easter Vigil. The third Scrutiny will take place at the 9.00am Mass this Sunday, and the Readings used will be taken from Year A. Please keep in your prayers all who are preparing to be received into full communion with the Catholic Church.

CHRISM MASS

On Tuesday of Holy Week (15th April at 11 am), there is a special Mass at St. John's Cathedral. Here, all our ordained clergy are called to attend and will renew their ordination vows.

SIGNIFICANT WEDDINGS ANNIVERSARY MASS

Are you celebrating a 25th, 30th, 40th, 50th, 60th or anniversary over 60 years? If so, Bishop Philip would like to invite you to a Mass of celebration.



This will take place at St Bede's Church on **Saturday 21st June at 11am** and be followed by a buffet lunch. Please contact Liz Murphy in the Parish Office or email: anniversaries@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

A NEW APPROACH TO CONFIRMATION

Matt Lyons from our Confirmation Team will be speaking at all Masses on Sunday about his experience at Flame, and our exciting plans for the next Confirmation Programme.

ADORE SPIRITUAL MINI-RETREAT

Join us on 26th April for a mini-retreat morning of spiritual renewal on Zoom. Through our worship at Mass, Adoration, Prophetic reflection, Praise, Testimony and inspiring talk, we will travel together as Pilgrims, moving forward with the guidance of the Holy Spirit; a firm trust in the victory of Christ; and joy in the blessings and gifts of the Holy Spirit for revitalising the Church. This month's guest speaker is Catholic Evangelist John Hesketh, who will encourage us to consider how we respond to God's call to us to "act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with Him" on our pilgrimage through life. Please register for the free Zoom meeting at: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

CAFOD MYANMAR EARTHQUAKE APPEAL

Following the devastating earthquake in Myanmar, CAFOD is responding through the Catholic Church there to support families affected by the disaster. Please give to CAFOD's Myanmar Earthquake Appeal online at cafod.org.uk/myanmar or by calling 0303 303 3030. You can also text EARTHQUAKE to 70450 to donate £10.

GIFT AID ENVELOPES

If you use numbered envelopes to Gift Aid your weekly donation, boxes are now available to collect in the Cloister.

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAMME

The next Baptism Preparation sessions will be held on Sunday 11th and Sunday 18th May at 1pm. To register please email: baptism@stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

FUNERALS

Funeral Service for Paddy Corr RIP on Tuesday 22nd April at 1 pm in St. Bede's Church. May he Rest in Peace.



THANK YOU

Last weekends second collection for the Clergy Assistance Fund raised £402.40. Many thanks for your support.

PARISH COLLECTION

Collection for week ending 30th March amounted to £3,081.81. Many thanks for your generosity.

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.

Dear Friends,

Journeying together, becoming one in mind, heart and vision

My prayerful best wishes to one and all for this holy season of Lent.

In these days we share the company of Our Lady and the disciples journeying towards Jerusalem with Our Lord. In a few days' time we will recall again the saving events of Our Lord's mission and ministry culminating with the triumphal entry into Jerusalem; the betrayal; the institution of the Eucharist at the Last Supper; the washing of the feet; the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus. Always a momentous, sacred journey and one that involves each one of us.

With this message I want to announce to you that we have begun to implement our Local Mission Plan for Basingstoke Pastoral Area. The plan is entitled Journeying together, becoming one in mind, heart and vision. Our Local Mission Plan (LMP) is closely aligned with the Diocesan Mission Plan You Will Be My Witnesses. Bishop Philip Egan has directed each Pastoral Area to produce plans promoting personal renewal, conversion and a new energy for evangelization and the making of disciples. The communities that make up our Pastoral Area – Holy Ghost & St Bede's, Basingstoke; St Joseph's, Basingstoke; Sacred Heart, Hook; St Michael's, Tadley and St Oswald's Burghfield Common – will in time merge to become a new Parish with a new name. The new name will be decided on in time following a process of consultation with the clergy and laity of our Pastoral Area.

I want to assure everyone that the word 'merge' is not one to be feared. As Bishop Philip has said: 'Its easy to change the structures, and structural change is one part of the plan. But You Will Be My Witnesses is about the hardest change of all: changing ourselves'. This renewal will be brought about partly through a greater sharing of resources and giftedness resulting in our communities merging to form one parish, a community of communities.

Our Local Mission Plan which is rooted in You Will Be My Witnesses will become our 'guiding star' for the next few years. This project will afford us some wonderful opportunities to share faith and experience more powerfully renewal at a personal and parish level. Let us remember the words spoken repeatedly to us by Almighty God in the sacred scriptures: Do not be afraid.

I will keep you updated on the progress of our Local Mission Plan. For now, in these early days can I ask you please to pray for the success of our Local Mission Plan. Pray too for myself, brother clergy and those others who are assisting me with this work of rolling out and progressing our LMP. To quote our Shepherd Bishop Philip once again: Pray for renewal in our Church, talk about your faith and what it means to you, give some time to serve those in need to truly be the Church beyond walls, serve in one of the many ministries on which your parish depends, welcome new people and get to know others in your local community to build the family of faith.

Please take some time to read You Will Be My Witnesses. You will find the link on the diocesan website. Happy Easter!

With my prayerful best wishes

Fr John Lee

Coordinating Pastor for Basingstoke PA
Dean of Blessed John Body Deanery