

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
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Rev. Fr. John Lee
Parish Priest of Holy Ghost Parish;
Coordinating Pastor for Basingstoke
Pastoral Area and Dean of Blessed John
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Parish Administrator:

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Safeguarding:

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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. Stephen Vooght

Sunday 23rd November 2025

**OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST,
KING OF THE UNIVERSE**

Year C, Psalter Week II

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before all weekday Masses

Sun 23rd Nov	9.00 am	SB	Mass: Michaela Waterfield RIP
	11.00 am	SB	Mass: People of the Parish
	2.00 pm	SB	Syro Malabar Rite
	6.00 pm	SB	Mass: Dec Members Broadbent Families (Fond)

Mon 24th	St Andrew Dung-Lac & Companions, memorial		
	12 noon	SB	Mass: Cecily, Jacob Peter RIP

Tues 25th	St Catherine of Alexandria, Martyr, optional memorial		
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Joe Murphy RIP

Wed 26th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Peggy & Joe White RIP
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Thurs 27th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Holy Souls RIP
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Fri 28th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Donna Ryan RIP
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Sat 29th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Efren Cacayorin RIP
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Confessions after 9.30 am Mass until 11.00 am

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year A, Psalter Week I

Sun 30th Nov	9.00 am	SB	Mass: Eulogio Ramos Jr RIP
	11.00 am	SB	Mass: Int Daniel Woode
	6.00 pm	SB	Mass: People of the Parish

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

In the Gospel today we hear the remarkable last-minute saving of the criminal crucified alongside Jesus. We know nothing of his story except this last-minute reprieve. How do we feel about them being saved at the last moment? If we knew that with our last breath we could confess our sins, say sorry and be forgiven and welcomed into the eternity of heavenly joy with God – how would we live? If our answer involves doing things which we would consider as sin, we have missed the point of God's wisdom, guidance and commandments. Sin brings death, to us and to others: it hurts everybody, is addictive and its nature is camouflaged in lies of desire. We are encouraged and challenged to love others, simply because it is the best thing for us. We are called to live in the kingdom of God now, here on earth, today, because that is what will truly bring us joy, peace and satisfaction. Jesus is our king; as disciples we must submit to his rule and authority. In Jesus we have the perfect king, and his rule is absolutely wise and just. Remarkably, we are invited to rule with him as part of the Body of Christ. The challenge, then, is to serve and shepherd others, to recognise that as kings, like David, we have a duty to care for them. We are called to bring words and actions of mercy, forgiveness, peace, security, compassion, grace and love into people's lives – even if it costs us our own.

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

ST BEDE'S SCHOOL SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION FORMS (SIFS)

Fr Paul will sign Supplementary Information Forms on Saturday 3rd January 2026 between 11 am and 12 noon in the Parish Hall. Please remember to bring a copy of your child's Baptismal form with you!!

ADVENT FAIR

On Saturday 29th November we will be holding an Advent Fair. We are now asking for donations for the tombola, bottle stall and raffle. If you can, please put whatever you have in the donations box in the Cloister.

The Fair starts at 12 noon with the Fancy hat competition. The grand draw will take place at 2.30 pm and finally should finish at 3 pm.

Please do not park at St. Gabriel's Church until after 1 pm, when we have permission to do. Please do not park on the grassed area.

Thank you to all those who have contributed in any way to the Christmas Fair.

ADVENT PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

Parishioners are warmly invited to attend opportunities for prayer during Advent taking place at St Joseph's Church.

Events are as follows:

Advent Taize - join us for a simple service of Taize chants, scripture and periods of silence around the Taize cross, St. Joseph's on Wednesday 10th and 17th December, 4-5pm. Afternoon of prayer and reflection - you are warmly invited to an afternoon of prayer and reflection at St. Joseph's on Saturday 6th Dec from 2pm. This will be led by Fr Paul's friends from the Verbum Dei community. While the afternoon will finish at 4pm there will be a further opportunity for some extended prayer in Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 4-5pm. More details to follow.

AN ADVENT PRAYER

Christmas is coming and I thought that I should send you a list of things that I wish for this year Lord.

- ◆ A place to get away from all the adverts
- ◆ A day of silence to just be with the mystery of incarnation
- ◆ A chance to be of service to the poor
- ◆ A little more time to be with my family and friends.

BASINGSTOKE CATHOLIC MEN'S GROUP

A new group for Catholic Men will be starting in January. Men of all ages are welcome from 18 upwards. The idea will be that Catholic men can come together to chat about issues that face us, enjoy fellowship and have time to pray. We will also arrange the occasional social night out. Sessions will run on Tuesday evenings at St Bede's Church in Basingstoke. To register your interest please use the QR code or sign up here: Basingstoke Catholic Men's Group



NOVEMBER PRAYER INTENTION

During November, the Holy Father asks us to pray for the prevention of suicide. *Let us pray that those who are struggling with suicidal thoughts might find the support, care, and love they need in their community, and be open to the beauty of life.*

PASTORAL AREA PENITENTIAL SERVICE

Penitential Service on Friday, 19th December at 7 pm, will take place in St. Joseph's Church. All are most welcome to attend.

CAFOD WORLD GIFTS

World Gifts are a wonderful way for us to share the hope and joy of Christmas with our global family. Please see the catalogues in the Cloister area.

AN INVITATION TO CATHOLIC WOMEN

On Saturday 29th November, Catholic Mothers Portsmouth and Catholic Mothers Southampton invite Catholic Women, including those with babes in arms, to join them from 9.30am - 4pm at Sacred Heart Church in Waterloo (PO7 7SR) for a Women's Retreat Day. The speaker will be Fr Thomas Hiney. Lunch will be provided and a donation of £10 per person is suggested. See this week's e-News for details on how to book.

SEAFARERS CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Stella Maris ask for your support for their Christmas Appeal to help give Christmas chocolates to seafarers in Southampton this Dec. About 400,000 seafarers will be working over Christmas, separated from their families and friends. Stella Maris meets and supports seafarers around the world. We want to show them that they are not forgotten this Christmas, so we are planning to collect hundreds of chocolate Christmas presents for seafarers visiting the Southampton ports in the days before Christmas. To support this appeal please email:

gregory.hogan@stellamarismail.org

FUNERAL

Funeral Mass for Giuseppina Tambascia RIP in Holy Ghost Church on Wednesday 3rd December at 11 am. We remember her family and friends at this sad time. May she Rest in Peace

CAROL SERVICE

Wednesday, 17th December, with local conductor Ian May-Miller and his BCS Chorale. This is being held at the United Reformed Church, RG21 7NU, at 7.30 pm and Tickets £10, with free entry for children, in aid of the Samaritans.

PARISH COLLECTION

Collection for week ending 16th November amounted to £2,717.48. Many thanks for your generosity.

DONATIONS TO THE PARISH

The easiest way to make a donation to the Parish is via Standing Order/Bank Transfer, online at: Donate to Basingstoke St Bede's Church | Give as you Live Donate or using our contactless device by the Hall.