

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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Parish Priest of Holy Ghost Parish;
Coordinating Pastor for Basingstoke
Pastoral Area and Dean of Blessed John
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St Vincent De Paul Society (SVP):

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Holy Ghost Church Address:

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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 30th November 2025

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year A, Psalter Week I

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before all weekday Masses

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
Mon 1st	12 noon	SB	Mass: Charles Armstrong RIP
Tues 2nd	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Yve Treadgold RIP
Wed 3rd	St Francis Xavier , Priest, <i>memorial</i>		
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Yvonne Grasso RIP
	11.00 am	HG	Funeral Mass for Giuseppina Tambascia RIP
Thurs 4th	St John Damascene , Priest, <i>optional memorial</i>		
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Connor Gearty RIP
Fri 5th	9.30 am SB Mass: In thanksgiving Rebecca Appiyah		
Sat 6th	St Nicholas , Bishop, <i>optional memorial</i>		
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Dec Mbrs Murphy Family
<i>Confessions after 9.30 am Mass until 11.00 am</i>			

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Year A, Psalter Week II

Sun 7th Dec	9.00 am	SB	Mass: Ned Fagan, Maureen McCauley RIP (Fond)
	11.00 am	SB	Mass: Breda Corr RIP
	2.30 pm	SB	Syro Malabar Rite
	6.00 pm	SB	Mass: People of the Parish

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Both St Paul and St Matthew present an urgent message to us today: "stay awake". Jesus warns us that if we are complacent, then the life of a Christian can become lukewarm. We may be ashamed of aspects of our lives that we wish to hide in the darkness and do not want to expose these deeds to the harsh reality of light where others may see them. Rather Advent invites us to be ready to move out of the darkness into the light and live with integrity and honesty. There is no room for hidden bad practices. The early Church expected Christ to return in glory very soon after the resurrection. The Gospels communicate an urgency and a warning about living expectantly for the coming of the last days. Now, well into the third millennium, we have lost our expectation for the coming of Christ at the end of time. His promise remains that He will come to judge the living and the dead at the second coming. We can trust in the promise of eternal life and the resurrection from the dead. Advent is a time of waiting in hope. The old will pass away. We can hope that Christ will break again into our lives to bring His gift of peace, for which so many people long today.

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!!

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



ADVENT PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

Parishioners are warmly invited to attend opportunities for prayer during Advent taking place at St Joseph's Church. 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. Please consider coming as a great way to prepare spiritually for the season of Christmas.

THEOLOGY ON TAP

Fr Ryan Browne, Assistant Priest, St John's Cathedral invites us to the launch of a new parish series on theological topics. The first lecture will be on Friday 19th December 18:30-19:30 in the Cathedral Discovery Centre, Portsmouth. The speaker will be Fr Thomas Hiney, Assistant Priest at Waterlooville, Horndean and Leigh Park, who will speak on Padre Pio and Spiritual Warfare. All are welcome to attend the start of this new venture at the Cathedral parish!

CHRISTMAS CRIB OFFERINGS

In the Diocese of Portsmouth, our annual Christmas Crib offerings are given alternately one year to the Friends of the Holy Land and one year to the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre. This year, 2025, our Christmas Crib offerings will go to the Friends of the Holy Land (FHL). Friends of the Holy Land is a non-political charity, whose mission is to secure a resilient and enduring Christian community in the West Bank, Gaza, Israel and Jordan - the part of the world that Christians call the Holy Land.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT REFLECTION

Matthew 24:37-44 "Stay awake"

Reflect: Notice Christ in hidden moments and the sacred in all Creation, from the smallest leaf to the vast sky.



ST BEDE'S CHURCH

On Tuesday 2nd December, it will be 19 yrs since Mgr Canon Vincent Harvey celebrated the first Mass here at St. Bede's Church. We thank God for this beautiful Church, for all the Priests who have celebrated Mass here, for our present Parish Priest Fr John, for all our parishioners, past and present.. Thank you to all involved in our Parish Life throughout these years. St. Bede Pray for Us.



ADVENT BOOKLETS

'Day by Day' booklets are available in the Cloister area for £1.20. They are a helpful guide for our journey through Advent. Please place money in the wall box in the Cloister.

DECEMBER PRAYER INTENTION

During December, the Holy Father asks us to pray for Christians in areas of conflict. *Let us pray that Christians living in areas of war or conflict, especially in the Middle*

East, might be seeds of peace, reconciliation, and hope.



PASTORAL AREA PENITENTIAL SERVICE

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

POPE LEO ISSUES NEW APOSTOLIC LETTER

Ahead of his upcoming Apostolic Journey to Türkiye, Pope Leo has issued an Apostolic Letter '*In Unitate Fidei*' on the 1700th Anniversary of the Council of Nicaea, broken down into 12 points, with the hope of "encouraging the whole Church to renew her enthusiasm for the profession of faith." To read the full letter click here: [Apostolic Letter In Unitate Fidei on the 1700th Anniversary of the Council of Nicaea \(23 November 2025\)](http://Apostolic Letter In Unitate Fidei on the 1700th Anniversary of the Council of Nicaea (23 November 2025))

FUNERALS

Funeral Mass for Giuseppina Tambascia RIP in Holy Ghost Church on Wednesday 3rd December at 11 am. Funeral Mass for Peggy Gould RIP on Friday 19th December at 11 am in Holy Ghost Church. Funeral Mass for Paula Read RIP on Thursday 11th December at 11 am in St. Bede's Church. We remember their families and friends at this sad time. May they Rest in Peace.



PARISH COLLECTION

Collection for week ending 23rd November amounted to £2,447.60. 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.