

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
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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

Assistant Priest & 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
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Website:

www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

Facebook:

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Treasurer:

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Safeguarding:

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St Vincent De Paul Society (SVP):

Confidential mobile phone line for
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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 18th January 2026

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A, Psalter Week II

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before all weekday Masses

Sun 18th Jan	9.00 am	SB	Mass: Janet Kao RIP
	11.00 am	SB	Mass: Int Josie, Tommy Byrne & Family
	2.30 pm	SB	Syro Malabar Rite
	6.00 pm	SB	Mass: Giuseppina Tambascia RIP
	<i>Beginning of the Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity</i>		
Mon 19th	St Wulstan, Religious, Bishop, optional memorial		
	12 noon	SB	Mass: Int. Pat & Margaret Brennan
Tues 20th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Yvonne Grasso RIP
	7.30 pm	SB	<i>Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
Wed 21st	St Agnes, Virgin, Martyr, memorial		
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Dec Mbrs Fogarty Family (Fond)
Thur 22nd	St Vincent, Deacon, Martyr, optional memorial		
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Nelson Mendonca RIP
Fri 23rd	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Sandee Doffin RIP
Sat 24th	St Francis de Sales, Doctor of the Church, memorial		
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: E.K. Johnson RIP
	<i>Confessions after 9.30 am Mass until 11.00 am</i>		

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A, Psalter Week III

Sun 25th Jan	9.00 am	SB	Mass: Mary, Joseph Palliyan RIP
	11.00 am	SB	Mass: Dec Mbrs Hynes Family
	2.00 pm	SB	Syro Malabar Rite
	6.00 pm	SB	Mass: Int. Luis Costa
<i>The Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity ends today</i>			

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist sees Jesus and declares, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" He doesn't say, "Look at this great teacher," or, "Here comes a mighty king." Instead, he says something much deeper: he says, "Behold the Lamb of God" – in other words, stop and think about the human Jesus. John is inviting us to see with the eyes of faith, to recognise Jesus' identity – and what He reveals about God. Jesus reveals that God conquers the world, not through violence but through love. God does not forcefully impose peace, but instead gently and compassionately brings peace by healing the root of our unrest – sin. When John says Jesus "takes away the sin of the world," He includes the sin – the deep division, hatred, injustice, and selfishness that afflict our world. Jesus, the Lamb of God, enters that darkness, not with weapons but with mercy. He embodies reconciliation and the peace that only God can give.

Taken from The Living Word, Redemptorist Publications

WELCOME

We extend a warm welcome to all 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

HOLY HOUR

Holy Hour and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament will take place at St Bede's Church on Tuesday 20th January at 7.30pm.



THE GREAT STORY OF JESUS RETREAT

Start 2026 with a day retreat to reflect on the core of your faith, known as the 'Kerygma'. Taking place at St Bede's Church on Saturday 24th January from 10am - 3.15pm, this is for everyone and may be particularly helpful for RCIA catechumens making their journey into the Catholic Church at Easter. The day will include reflections, prayer stations and short videos. It will be led by Sr Margarida Mondral, Verbum Dei Community and the Ananias team. Contact Liz at Inahajski@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk to find out more or book your place here: [Great Story of Jesus Retreat Day Tickets, Sat, Jan 24, 2026 at 10:00 AM | Eventbrite](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/great-story-of-jesus-retreat-day-tickets-311111111111)

ADORE ONLINE MINI RETREAT

May we wish you every blessing for a joyful New Year and introduce you to our exciting programme for 2026: "The greatest gift is Love – the transformative power of God's love." Each month this year we explore the foundational truths of our faith, and how they reveal the amazing and powerful love of God. On 24th January from 10am to 1pm we launch the programme with "GOD IS LOVE." The Mass celebrant and guest speaker, Fr. Chris Thomas, will lead our mini retreat on Zoom and remind us how Jesus taught that God is loving and merciful and we should relate to him as "Abba," our perfect Father. We are His children, adopted into His family and unconditionally loved by Him. He wants us to love Him in return and to accept His perfect will in our lives. Please register in advance at: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/meeting-registration-zoom-311111111111)

WORLD LEPROSY DAY

On Sunday 25th January we mark World Leprosy Day, a time to pray for and stand in solidarity with people affected by leprosy around the world. We remember the work of the John Bradburne Memorial Society, inspired by John Bradburne, who devoted his life to caring for those with leprosy at the Mutemwa Leprosy Care Centre in Zimbabwe. Please keep the people of Mutemwa in your prayers and consider supporting this vital work through prayer, awareness, or donation. www.johnbradburne.com, Tel: 07979 187498, Post: JBMS, PO Box 32, Leominster, Herefordshire, HR6 0YB, Email: info@johnbradburne.com

FARNBOROUGH HILL OPEN AFTERNOONS

Starting at 1.30 pm, Open Afternoons are taking place on Friday 6th February and Friday 24th April 2026 at Farnborough Hill School and everyone is warmly welcome to attend. For further information including dates and more details on the Admissions Process please go to the website at: [Admissions Process | Farnborough Hill](https://www.farnboroughhill.co.uk/admissions-process)

POPE LEO JANUARY PRAYER INTENTION

During January Pope Leo asks us to pray for prayer with the Word of God. *Let us pray that praying with the word of God be nourishment for our lives and a source of hope in our communities, helping us to build a more fraternal and missionary Church.*

NEW YEAR CHANGES

Liz Murphy, our Parish Administrator, will be retiring after 21 years faithful service for Holy Ghost & St Bede's Parish. Liz will retire at the end of February. She will be greatly missed by all of us and a very hard act to follow. The process of recruitment for a new Administrator has begun, aided by our HR Department, and we expect to advertise shortly. As we thank the Lord for Liz and the contribution that she has made over many years, we wish her well, and we pray that we may find a suitably qualified person to take on this very important and demanding role.

OCTAVE OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

This Sunday, 18th January, we begin an Octave of Prayer (eight days of prayer) for Christian Unity. The Diocesan Ten Year Plan 'You Will Be My Witnesses' calls for every parish to "Participate in joint service and mission to the wider local community through Churches Together." During the upcoming week of prayer, please pray each day for unity.

SECOND COLLECTION NEXT WEEKEND

Next weekend there will be a second collection for St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth.

FRIENDS OF THE HOLY LAND SEEK VOLUNTEERS

Can you offer us a few hours each month? Are you concerned about the situation in the Holy Land and want to do something practical to help? What FHL needs from you are a commitment to make up to 8 talks, appeals and presentations a year in Catholic parishes and other Christian communities in your region; to be willing to deliver presentations to Catholic and other Christian student groups, colleges and schools to help raise awareness of our work and inspire fundraising activity among young people. What you can expect from FHL is support and training in the role from the Advocacy and Engagement Manager, fees of £250 per parish appeal completed, ongoing mentoring and being part of a growing network of people who are passionate about making a difference in the lives of Christians who are struggling. For a detailed role description please contact the team by telephone on 01926 512980.

PARISH COLLECTION

Collection for week ending 11th January amounted to £2,765.66. Thank you 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](https://www.basingstokeparish.org/donate) or via our contactless terminal by the hall.

