

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
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
Tel. No. 01256 465214 - Ext 1
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Website:

www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

Facebook:

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Treasurer:

Mrs Faye Lyons (Parish Office)
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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 1st February 2026

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A, Psalter Week IV

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before all weekday Masses

Sun 1st Feb	9.00 am	SB	Mass: Emmanuel Aziz RIP
	11.00 am	SB	Mass: People of the Parish
	2.30 pm	SB	Syro Malabar Rite
	6.00 pm	SB	Mass: Int Sauleek Family
Mon 2nd	THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD, feast		
	12 noon	SB	Mass: Yvonne Grasso RIP
Tues 3rd	St Blaise, Bishop & Martyr, optional memorial		
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Lina Agro RIP
	7.30 pm	SB	<i>Holy Hour with Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i>
Wed 4th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Vera Gray RIP
Thur 5th	St Agatha, Virgin, Martyr, memorial		
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Int. Tommy & Alicia Brennan
Fri 6th	St Paul Miki & Companions, Martyrs, memorial		
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Caroline Dsouza RIP
Sat 7th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Int. Mike Stella & Kevin Keepe <i>Confessions after 9.30 am Mass until 11.00 am</i>

FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A, Psalter Week I

Sun 8th Feb	9.00 am	SB	Mass: Int. Lucas Laska
	11.00 am	SB	Mass: People of the Parish
	2.30 pm	SB	Syro Malabar Rite
	6.00 pm	SB	Mass: Marta Placha, Vladimir Placky RIP

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

In today's Gospel, Jesus climbs the mountain not to escape the world, but to reimagine it. The Beatitudes are not sentimental sayings: they are a radical blueprint for justice. In a world that glorifies wealth and power, Jesus blesses the humble and the overlooked. He raises the mourners, the meek, the peacemakers: those who hunger and thirst for righteousness. To hunger for righteousness is to ache for a world where no child goes hungry, where dignity is not denied by race, poverty, or status. To be merciful is to stand with the oppressed, not from pity, but from solidarity. To be a peacemaker is to disrupt systems of violence with the courage of compassion. Jesus does not say, "Blessed are the successful," but "Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake." He declares this as the cost of discipleship: to speak truth when silence is safer, to act when apathy is easier. The Beatitudes are not a reward for the comfortable: they are a challenge to the Church. They call us to build the kingdom not in theory, but in practice: in policy, in protest, in presence.

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

RACIAL JUSTICE SUNDAY

This Sunday is Racial Justice Sunday, the day the Church focuses on the need to oppose racism and pursue racial justice with renewed vigour. This year it falls on Sunday 1st February and the theme is: "*Whoever loves God must also love his brother*" (1 John 4:21): *Promoting Racial Justice in our Parishes*. To find out more from Catholic Bishops Conference in England and Wales go to: [Racial Justice Sunday - Catholic Bishops' Conference](#)

BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAMME

The next Baptism preparation programme [consisting of 2 sessions] will be held on Sunday 12th & Sunday 19th of April at 1pm in St Bede's Hall. Please note that these sessions are for the parents of children under the age of 7. To enrol on the next programme, please send an email to: baptism@stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk If you have a child aged 7yrs+, please contact the Parish Office to enquire about classes for them to attend.

LENTEN LUNCHES

There will be Lenten Lunches in the hall on Mondays after the 12 noon Mass during Lent. If you are able to host a lunch, will you please contact Liz in the Parish Office by email: office@stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk or by telephone 01256 465214.

LENTEN BREAKFAST

Traditionally there is breakfast in the hall on Thursday mornings during Lent after the 6.30 am Mass. If you are able to host breakfast during Lent will you please confirm with Liz using the above telephone or email address.

A THOUGHT OF THANKSGIVING

It is very easy to pray to God when we are in trouble. We may utter a short prayer in times of crisis. Fewer people THANK God for the good things which we are given. Remember how often Jesus said, "*Father, I thank you*"

DIOCESAN PILGRIMAGE TO LOURDES 2026

Bishop Philip invites you to join him once more in Lourdes. The pilgrimage will start at London Heathrow Airport on Monday 6th July and run until Friday 10th July. Staying at the Hotel La Solitude, which is close to the Sanctuary itself, rooms are all ensuite and contain tea and coffee making facilities. The food is plentiful and varied, served in a very comfortable restaurant. During the pilgrimage you will be able to enjoy all that Lourdes has to offer, taking part in all the usual Pilgrimage activities and visiting many places that were important to St Bernadette during her lifetime. There will also be the opportunity to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation and Anointing of the Sick, as well as moments of quiet reflection and peace, and others when the chanting and singing of hundreds of voices will be heard. If you would like to know more about joining the pilgrimage please email: lourdes@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

POPE LEO FEBRUARY RAYER INTENTION

During February Pope Leo asks us to pray for children with incurable diseases. *Let us pray that children suffering from incurable diseases and their families receive the necessary medical care and support, never losing strength and hope.*



CANDLEMAS DAY

Next Monday, 2nd February, is Candlemas Day, the Feast of the Presentation of the Lord in the Temple, and the end of the Christmas season. The crib in our church will then be taken down. On this day let us ask God to reinvigorate our Diocesan mission of *Bringing People Closer to Christ through His Church*.

HOLY GHOST & ST BEDE'S PARISH ADMINISTRATOR

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. The process of recruitment for a new Administrator is underway and a full job description and application details can be found at: [Parish Administrator - Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth](#) The closing date for applications is Sunday 1st February.

PILGRIMAGE TO ROME/ASSISI, TUESDAY 30TH JUNE - TUESDAY 7TH JULY 2026

Thank you to those of you who have expressed an interest in joining the Parish pilgrimage to Rome/Assisi later this year. Further information and booking forms, along with deposit requirement details, are now available for you to secure your place on the pilgrimage.

BOSCO BOYS CAMP EXPERIENCE AND SUMMER CAMP

This year's Bosco Experience & Reunion Afternoon will be held on Sunday 22nd February from 2-4pm at St Peter's Catholic Church, Winchester SO23 8RY. A chance for new boys who want to find out more and have a 'taste' of the Bosco Experience and for those who have been on camp to meet with old friends. Fun activities and a chance for parents to find out more and sign up for camp. There is no cost for the afternoon.

The 2026 Portsmouth Diocesan Don Bosco Boys' Camp will run from Sunday 26th July to Saturday 1st August. We are delighted that camp will once again be held this summer at St. Cassian's, Kintbury for boys who are currently in Year 6 Primary school to Year 11 Secondary school. For more information please see the website: [Home | Don Bosco Summer Camp Portsmouth Diocese](#)

PARISH COLLECTION

Collection for week ending 25th January amounted to £2,841.85. Last weekends second collection for St John's Cathedral, Portsmouth amounted to £649.99. 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](#) or via our contactless terminal by the hall.

