

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:

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
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)
accounts@stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

Safeguarding:

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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. Stephen Vooght

Sunday 25th January 2026

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A, Psalter Week III

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before all weekday Masses

Sun 25th Jan	9.00 am	SB	Mass: Mary, Joseph Palliyan RIP
	11.00 am	SB	Mass: Dec Mbrs Hynes Family
	6.00 pm	SB	Mass: Int. Luis Costa
<i>The Octave of Prayer for Christian Unity ends today</i>			
Mon 26th	St Timothy , Martyr & St Titus , Bishop, <i>memorial</i>		
	12 noon	SB	Mass: Salvador Baptista RIP
Tues 27th	St Angela Merici , Foundress, <i>optional memorial</i>		
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Dec Mbrs Ormonde Family
	7.30 pm	SB	Men's Group
Wed 28th	St Thomas Aquinas , Doctor of the Church, <i>memorial</i>		
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Joseph Mathew RIP
Thur 29th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Int. St. Bede's Holy Dusters
Fri 30th	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Int. Marie, Pat Kinsella
Sat 31st	St John Bosco , Founder, <i>memorial</i>		
	9.30 am	SB	Mass: Yve Treadgold RIP
<i>Confessions after 9.30 am Mass until 11.00 am</i>			

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year A, Psalter Week IV

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

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

Today Jesus is teaching in the synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and affliction. He travels far and wide to the towns and villages, and wherever His ministry takes Him. Then He retires to a remote place to pray and to contemplate the glory of his Father. In today's first reading, Isaiah proclaims, "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light." In the Gospel, Matthew echoes Isaiah's prophecy – but the Messiah, the Christ, is already present. The response to the psalm, with its focus on light, links the two readings: "The Lord is my light and salvation" – before moving into contemplative mode because the promised Light of the World has come. As a result, the psalmist has only one longing in his heart: "One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord and to inquire in His temple." The purpose of prophecy is to challenge, to encourage and to prompt to action. Therefore, gazing on the beauty of the Lord is reciprocal: we are in turn gazed upon by the Lord; His gaze is benign, loving and accepting. In gazing upon the Lord, and with the Lord gazing on us, we are drawn into deeper communion with Him.

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

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

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 LUNCHESES

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.

SIX HOLY HABITS

With the start of a New Year why not think about putting into practice the Six Holy Habits? The first is to keep Sunday special, as a family day, by attending Mass, the 'source and summit' of the Christian life. The second is to resolve to spend at least five minutes a day in prayer, at whatever time you find best, using the Scriptures, ideally the Gospel of the day. The third is to keep Friday as a day of penance and charity in honour of the Lord's Passion, intentionally serving the poor and needy. The fourth is at least once a fortnight to pay a private visit to church for a short period of prayer before the Blessed Sacrament. The fifth is to go to Confession once a month or so and the sixth is to join a small group for formation, prayer and fellowship, where you can share with others your own experience and hear what God is doing in the lives of others. These six holy habits, if we adopt them in the right spirit, entrusting ourselves to the Lord and His grace, offer a practical programme to bring about deep spiritual renewal in ourselves and in our parish communities.

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.*



SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD

The Third Sunday of the Year is also 'Bible Sunday,' the Sunday of the Word of God. Pope Francis instituted this day in 2019 saying that it "is to be devoted to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God."

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. 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](#)

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 details, including prices, will be published in next weeks newsletter.

SECOND COLLECTION - ST JOHN'S CATHEDRAL

The Second Collection for St John's Cathedral takes place this Sunday, 25th of January. Canon James McAuley writes: *Our Cathedral is situated in the most deprived part of the Diocese of Portsmouth. The parish collection covers just over half of the ordinary running costs of £5,000 per week. I fully appreciate the financial pressures we are all experiencing, but I would appeal to you to support the Second Collection for the Cathedral on 25 January. Never has this annual collection by parishes for the Mother Church of the Diocese been more critical or needed. Your support is vitally important to us. Thank you.* For more information about how you can also support the Cathedral150 Appeal, please follow this link: [Cathedral150 Appeal - Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth](#) Online donations for the Second Collection can be made using the following link: [St John's Cathedral Second Collection 2026 - Give as you Live Donate](#)

CHOCOLATE TUBS

Thank you to everyone who has collected chocolate tubs. If you have any more Deacon Tony will come and collect them. The cut off date for collections is the end of January.

PARISH COLLECTION

Collection for week ending 18th January amounted to £2,720.41 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.