

# 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  
RG24 9DX  
01256 465214

## Parish Priest:

Rev. Fr. John Lee  
Parish Priest of Holy Ghost Parish;  
Lead Hospital Chaplain;  
Coordinating Pastor for Basingstoke  
Pastoral Area and Dean of Blessed John  
Body Deanery  
jlee@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

## Permanent Deacon:

Rev. Tony Darroch  
adarroch@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

## Parish Administrator:

Sue Riley  
Mon, Wed, Thur & Fri 9 am to 2 pm  
office@stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

## Treasurer:

Faye Lyons  
accounts@stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

## Website:

www.stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

## Baptism:

Sacraments – St Bede's, Basingstoke

## Facebook:

facebook.com/stbedesbasingstoke

## Safeguarding:

Safeguarding Officer: Maria Mahdavi  
Parish Office: 01256 465214  
Diocesan Office: 023 92816396  
safeguarding@stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk

## St Vincent De Paul Society (SVP):

For confidential help call 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 11th October 2026

### TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### Year A, Psalter Week IV

#### *Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament before weekday Masses*

|            |                                                                 |    |                                                           |
|------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Sun 11th   | 9.00 am                                                         | SB | Mass: People of the Parish                                |
|            | 11.00 am                                                        | SB | Mass: Agatha Mendonca RIP                                 |
|            | 6.00 pm                                                         | SB | Mass: Int. Jolanta Wrobel                                 |
| Mon 12th   | <b>St Wilfrid</b> , Bishop, <i>optional memorial</i>            |    |                                                           |
|            | 12.00 pm                                                        | SB | Mass: Yve Treadgold RIP                                   |
| Tues 13th  | <b>St Edward the Confessor</b> , <i>optional memorial</i>       |    |                                                           |
|            | 9.30 am                                                         | SB | Mass: Mary Fowler RIP                                     |
|            | 7.30 pm                                                         | SB | <i>Hourly Hour and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament</i> |
| Wed 14th   | <b>St Callistus I</b> , Pope, Martyr, <i>optional memorial</i>  |    |                                                           |
|            | 9.30 am                                                         | SB | Mass: Int. Joanna & Sebastian Jadach                      |
| Thurs 15th | <i>There will be no 9.30am Mass today</i>                       |    |                                                           |
| Fri 16th   | <b>St Hedwig</b> , Religious, <i>optional memorial</i>          |    |                                                           |
|            | 9.30 am                                                         | SB | Mass: Jimmy Hanafée RIP (Fond)                            |
| Sat 17th   | <b>St Ignatius of Antioch</b> , Bishop, Martyr, <i>memorial</i> |    |                                                           |
|            | 9.30 am                                                         | SB | Mass: Linda Lyons RIP                                     |

### TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

#### Year A, Psalter Week I

|          |          |    |                                  |
|----------|----------|----|----------------------------------|
| Sun 18th | 9.00 am  | SB | Mass: People of the Parish       |
|          | 11.00 am | SB | Mass: Antonio Martino RIP (Fond) |
|          | 2.30 pm  | SB | Syro Malabar Mass                |
|          | 6.00 pm  | SB | Mass: Int. Nemy Domantay Vergara |

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## THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

This parable starts with a huge feast that a king has prepared for his son's wedding. Guests are invited, but they all find excuses not to come. The king tries three times, until the hall is finally full. In the end he invites everyone, 'both bad and good'. Everyone is welcome to the feast God has prepared for us. God is generous and loving, everything we need is offered in abundance. We are all welcome at the table, no one is left out. But it's not a one-sided relationship. God reaches out with love. God *is* love. Are we ready to respond? The parable makes clear that some of us are not ready – we are too busy; with too many distractions. The invited guests refuse the offer because they prioritise other things. Some of us are unwilling to change, like the guest at the end of the story. He's invited and he comes along, but he won't put on his best clothes so that he can fully experience the goodness and happiness on offer. Many people receive an invitation. Who would not want to go? But they have other priorities. The invite hits the bottom of the to-do list. This is a challenging parable. Even the guest who *does* turn up is not admitted as he has not changed his clothes. What does this mean? It suggests that turning up on autopilot is not enough. We need to take time to reflect, pray and make changes to our own attitudes and behaviour so that we can fully participate in the feast. We have constructed a society where there is no time to spend with our family, no time to help others, no time simply to stop, rest and pray. Our value as humans is measured only by our productivity, like robots. Yet as humans, as children of God, this pause, this moment to reflect on who we are, to pray and to listen to God's voice in our life, is key. How else can we respond to His invitation to fully participate in the feast on offer? *Taken from The Living Word, Redemptorist Publications*

**B.E.C.O.M.E.: BELONG IN COMMUNITY**

Much is changing as our five church communities move towards one parish.

The story of Bartimaeus has become our Guiding Star. He hears Jesus passing by, calls out, throws aside his cloak, comes to Christ, receives new sight and follows Him on the way. The crowd changes too. Those who first try to silence him become the people who encourage him: "Take heart. Get up. He is calling you."

If you are joining the series here, **B.E.C.O.M.E.** is our simple way of describing the journey from spiritual curiosity towards following Jesus and helping others follow Him: Belong in Community, Encounter Christ, Commit to Growth, Ongoing Renewal, Missionary Led and Evangelising Witness.

The **B** in **B.E.C.O.M.E.** is Belong in Community.

Belonging often begins quietly. A name is remembered. A conversation continues after Mass. An invitation is offered. Someone realises that they have been noticed and that their presence matters. Over time, belonging should become something deeper. It means being known and cared for, having a voice, discovering that our gifts have a place and sharing responsibility for the life of the community. This is especially important as our five church communities move towards one parish. The aim is not to make every church identical. It is to become one parish with strong local communities and a shared mission. We want to treasure the relationships and character of each church while allowing new relationships to grow across previous boundaries. Our Local Mission Plan is helping us look more carefully at welcome and hospitality, particularly for people who are new, returning or unfamiliar with the Mass. The developing parish website should provide an easier front door, a shared calendar should make parish life easier to discover, and the parish-wide consultation will help every community to be heard. ChurchSuite, the digital system the parish plans to use for contacts and communication, may help us stay in touch more thoughtfully with newcomers, people exploring faith, families we meet through Baptism, First Holy Communion or Confirmation, and volunteers. Yet no system can create belonging. It can only support the attention, friendship and care that we offer one another. Bartimaeus begins at the roadside, unheard by many. Jesus stops and calls him forward. Our communities deepen when we learn to notice, listen and make room in the same way.

**Perhaps this week we might learn one new name and begin one new conversation.**

**Next week: Encounter Christ**

**NEWSLETTER**

If you currently receive the newsletter via email you will need to be registered with ChurchSuite to continue to do so. Please complete a Registration Form by clicking the links below, or speak to Sue in the office who can help you with this. Thank you .

[Adult registration form](#)

[Child registration form](#)

**RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF CHILDREN (RCIC)**

If your child is **aged 7 years or above**, a reminder that the RCIC programme is an age appropriate course for children over 7 years of age who would like to learn more about becoming Catholic. The group consists of 10 sessions, which will take place on a Tuesday from 4:30—5:30pm. The first session is on **Tuesday 13th October**. Please complete the [online form](#) to register your child.

**SPIRITUAL DIRECTION HALF DAY ONLINE CONFERENCE**

The Spiritual Directors Leadership team for Portsmouth Diocese have organised a half day online conference on Saturday 21st November via Zoom. It is an excellent opportunity to explore what 'spiritual direction' means, to ask questions and share thoughts with others. Members of the Spiritual Direction Team will offer their insights, including those who are currently receiving direction. The keynote speaker for the conference is Nicola Smedley who leads courses with the Ignatian School of Spiritual Direction. You can register [here](#).

**BAPTISM PREPARATION PROGRAMME**

The next Baptism preparation programme, which consists of two sessions, will be held on Sunday 11th and Sunday 18th October at 1pm in St Bede's Hall. These sessions are for parents of children under the age of 7. To enrol please email: [baptism@stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk](mailto:baptism@stbedesbasingstoke.org.uk)

**NIGHT LIGHT WINTER SHELTER**

Basingstoke Night Light Winter Shelter is a pop-up shelter for rough sleepers run by the churches of Basingstoke. It operates from the beginning of December to the end of February each year. We welcome volunteers of any faith or none to work alongside us in our mission to bring hope during the coldest months of the year. For more information and how to volunteer see the [link](#).

**FORMATION DAY FOR READERS: 17TH OCTOBER 2026**

It is not too late to sign up for the Formation Day for Readers being organised by the Diocesan Liturgy Team on 17th October 2026 at the Pastoral Centre in Winchester. Beginning with Mass at 9am the day will finish at 1.15pm. Bring your sandwiches but tea/coffee will be provided. Anyone wishing to attend is kindly asked to email: [liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org](mailto:liturgy@portsmouthdiocese.org)

**PRAISE & WORSHIP EVENING—SUNDAY 18TH OCTOBER**

Cllr Paul Harvey (Leader of Basingstoke & Deane District Council) will share briefly about current council challenges before we pray for him and the council. 6:45-8:30 pm @ Hope Community Church Sarum Hill. RG21 7NU . Everyone is welcome.

[2026-10-18 Praise and Worship Evening](#)

**PARISH COLLECTION**

Collection for week ending 4th October totalled £2,959.67 from Standing Orders, Direct Debits, Contactless and Mass Collections.

**DONATIONS TO THE PARISH**

The easiest way to make a donation to the Parish is via bank transfer [online](#) or via our contactless terminal by the hall.