



Our Lady of Peace & Blessed Dominic Barberi



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Portsmouth Diocesan Trust - Registered Charity Number 246871

Parish Priest: **Father Anthony Ikhenoba**

Parish Secretary: Jane O'Rourke



9th December 2007

2nd Sunday of Advent

• **Offertory collection**
2nd December:
Envelopes/cash £624.05
Standing Orders £535.00
Total: £1159.05

Thank you very much for your kind donations

• Second collection TODAY
Sunday 9th December:
for CAFOD **Bangladesh Cyclone Emergency Appeal.** PLEASE USE A GIFT AID ENVELOPE to increase the sum raised!

• **REMINDER: TODAY**
Sun. 9th Dec. - **Cake sale after 9am & 11am Masses!** Please support it - all proceeds will go towards **CAFOD Bangladesh Cyclone Emergency Appeal**

★ **David Holland** will be speaking at all Masses NEXT Sunday 16th Dec. about what has been done in the past year for **Fr. Terry's charity** and his hopes for it in 2008. He will also have a retiring collection for the charity

• **APF:** Thanks to all parishioners who contributed through the APF Red Box scheme, raising a **record £2330** this year in support of the Missions. Thank you!

Table Tennis: see Advent Room for article & photos about recent successes!

Loddon Valley Pastoral Area SUNDAY MASSES:

- ♦ **St. John Bosco:** Sat. 6.30pm, Sun. 10am.
- ♦ **Christ the King:** Sat. 6.30pm, Sun. 10am.
- ♦ **St. Thomas More:** Sat. 6.30pm, Sun. 10.30am.
- ♦ **Our Lady of Peace, Wargrave:** Sun. 9am.

ON FIRE FOR THE LORD

The image of fire was used in the encounter of Moses with God in the burning bush which was not consumed when God spoke to him (Exodus 3:2). The image of fire symbolizes God's glory (Ezekiel 1:4, 13), His protective presence (2 Kings 6:17), His holiness (Deuteronomy 4:24), and judgment (Zechariah 13:9). It is also used in reference to the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11 and Acts 2:3).

John says of Him who is coming, "He baptizes with the Holy Spirit and with fire." Are you willing to be on fire for the Lord?

Fire is something we are all afraid of; ironically fire is part of our daily lives and activities - it purifies and cleanses; it can be good and bad depending on how we approach it. The fire of the spirit is meant to be the presence of God in our lives but most of us are afraid to let this fire engulf us because we feel we are not ready to venture into it. The coming of the Lord is glorious and we read in the scriptures, "The lord is a consuming fire". So for us to be ready to welcome and receive the Lord we must be on fire for the Lord. Take that bold step - it is another opportunity; step into it this Advent.

To be on fire for the Lord is to enjoy God's glory, His protection, the grace and ability to keep His commandments and do His will.

Father Anthony

"...In his days justice shall flourish and peace till the moon fails."

★ **ALL ALTAR SERVERS** - please sign list in Advent Room (on blue boards) to indicate at which Christmas Mass you will serve! Thank you in advance

THIS WEEK! **Parish Prayer Evening:** the Parish will be holding a second prayer evening on Tuesday 11th December beginning at 7.45 p.m. No 'outside speaker' this time, just an opportunity to pray, discuss the feedback from 16th October (now displayed in Lady Chapel) and take our first steps towards making these ideas a living reality. Whether you were at the last meeting or not, please come and be part of what will be a special evening

Thank you from the UCM! Thank you to all who supported the UCM sale after Masses last Sunday. The total raised was **£293** which will pay for the annual Senior Citizens' Annual Dinner in the new year. Thank you all for your generosity!

Advent Giving Tree - our lovely Giving Tree is now in Advent Room and laden with tags - so **choose a tag, purchase the gift written on it, place it in a clear plastic bag with label attached, & deliver back to foot of the tree by NEXT Sunday 16th December!** Then all gifts will be taken to the charity (Reading Single Homeless Project) in time for Christmas. Many thanks to parishioners for all the lovely gifts so far received!



CHURCHES TOGETHER: CHRISTMAS LEAFLETS Most of our allocation of leaflets for distribution in local roads is still in Advent Room! We could all be encouraging people to come back to church, and this is a good way to start! Each bundle has been counted, so **please could we have volunteers to deliver bundles of leaflets, by next Sunday 16th Dec.?** THANK YOU to those who have already delivered leaflets

Advance notice - our Christmas Masses and services:

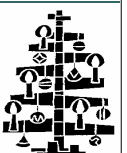
4th Sunday in Advent, Sun. 23rd December - normal Sunday Mass times; Children's Carol Service (NOT a MASS!) - Monday 24th December, 5pm;

Midnight Mass, Monday 24th December - starting at **11:30pm**;

Christmas Day, Tuesday 25th December - Masses at **9am & 11am**

- remember there is **NO 5pm Mass on Christmas Day!**

Christmas Masses in our Pastoral Area - bright PINK poster in Advent Room!





MASS TIMES: 9th - 16th DECEMBER



DATE	TIME	DEDICATION	MASS INTENTION	PARISH DIARY
Sunday 9 th December	9.00am 11.00am 5.00pm	2nd Sunday of Advent	Marcelo Coronel RIP Helen Evans RIP Kate Marriott - exams	*** Cake sale after Mass! *** *** Cake sale after Mass! *** 3pm: Panto rehearsal (Hall)
Mon. 10 th	NO MASS			2pm: UCM meeting (D.B. Room)
Tues. 11 th December	9.45am	St. Damasus, Pope	Kate Marriott - exams	7.30pm: KSC meeting (Carl Barton Rm.) 7.45pm: Parish Prayer Evening (Church)
Wed. 12 th December	9.45am	Our Lady of Guadalupe	Peggie Bentley RIP (Foundation Mass)	7.30pm: Advent Taizé Reflection evening (Church)
Thurs. 13 th December	9.45am	St. Lucy	Kate Marriott - exams	7.30pm: Parish Pastoral Council meeting (D.B. Room)
Friday 14 th December	9.45am	St. John of the Cross	Salomon Coronel RIP Erna Haymsen RIP	** PARISH OFFICE CLOSED! **
Sunday 16 th Dec.	9.00am 11.00am 5.00pm	3rd Sunday of Advent	Deceased members of Durnin and Harvey families Dec.'d members of Mannion and Marshall families Matthew Lee RIP (rec. dec.)	3pm: Panto rehearsal (Hall)

*** CHILDREN'S LITURGY at 9am & 11am Masses each week ***

*** CUBS Mondays 6.45pm / BEAVERS Thursdays 5.45pm / SCOUTS Fridays 8pm, each week ***

Please keep in your prayers all those whose anniversaries occur about this time:

Bernadette Joyce (1984), Peggie Bentley (1989), George Tawfik (1980) John Mackie (2005), John Carter (2001), and James O'Grady (2001).

URGENT!

Health & Safety contact: The parish is required to have a named person with responsibility for Health and Safety covering all the parish property. If you have an interest in taking this on please contact the Parish Office AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. The job is not onerous but may require you to undertake some training.

We are legally obliged to have a Health & Safety contact, so please help if you can!

★ ★ ★ Next Panto rehearsal is **TODAY** at 3pm in the Hall! ★ ★ ★

THIS WEEK!

Advent Taizé reflection evening:

Wed. 12th December at 7.30pm in church. Readings, Taizé music and quiet meditations as we prepare for the coming of Christ in this great season of Advent. All are welcome!

Advent Penitential Services START NEXT WEEK!

Saturday 15th Dec. at 11am - English Martyrs, Reading
Monday 17th Dec. at 7.30pm - Christ the King, Whitley
Tuesday 18th Dec. at 7.30pm - **HERE** (OLOP & BDB)
Wednesday 19th Dec. at 7.30pm - St. Joseph's, Tilehurst
Thursday 20th Dec. at 7.30pm - St. John Bosco, Woodley
Thursday 20th Dec. at 8pm - St. Thomas More, Twyford

Theatre Club: November newsletter now available from table in Advent Room - includes mention of

Christmas concerts, and tickets for "Merrily We Roll Along" at Watermill Theatre, Bagnor, Newbury on Saturday 2nd February at 2.30pm. Only a **limited number of tickets available** for this - so please **pay by weekend of 16th December!**



St. Dominic Savio School vacancy: KS1

Teacher (temporary post) required from January. Please see details on poster in Advent Room / by Dominic Barberi Room. **Closing date: 20th December**

Year 6 and Year 11 parents: St. Joseph's Convent School is now recruiting girls for entry

in September 2008 for Year 7 (Senior Dept.) and Year 12 (Sixth form). Year 7 entrance exam will be on 7th January 2008 at 9am.

For application form or prospectus please call the School on 0118 966 1000. See **leaflets** in Advent Room

Intercessors Day - Reading Community Church invites intercessors from our parish and anyone with a heart for prayer to the **Intercessors Empowering Day** on Sunday 13th January 2008. This will be a day of training and empowering for Intercessors from across Reading. Venue: Reading Community Church, Tilehurst. Starts 1.15pm with lunch. Small catering charge of £2.50 per person payable on the door. **If anyone wishes to go please contact Jane in Parish Office by**

Thursday 13th December! See leaflets, Advent Room

EXAM INVIGILATORS required by Blessed Hugh Faringdon School - see **pink notice** in Advent Room



Seen on a church door:
"This is the gate of heaven. Enter ye all by this door.
(This door is kept locked because of the draft. Please use the side door.)"



Parish Office is open this week Tuesday - Thursday from 9am-2pm but will be CLOSED on Friday 14th December!

