

OTHER NEWS

A BED FOR THE NIGHT (B4N) is in urgent need of some extra help during the 4 Tuesday nights in Feb.2018 at Providence Chapel (CIRDIC). If you can help please contact Sharn; admin@abedforthenight.org.uk or tel: 07749 833476.

CAFOD, The Catholic Agency for Overseas Development, are currently looking for volunteers to help them in their work. They are many ways to get involved such as in local schools, in your Parish, or raising issues with your MP. To find out more about our work please come to one of our Lent Fast Day briefings on 27th Jan from 10am to 12pm at Our Lady of Sorrows Fordingbridge, or 30th Jan from 7:15pm to 9:15pm at Sacred Heart Church Fareham, or 3rd Feb from 10:30am to 1pm at St Bede's Church Basingstoke, or 8th Feb from 7:15pm to 9pm at English Martyrs Church Reading. For more information and to book your place please call Jo Lewry on 01252 329385 or email portsmouth@cafod.org.uk

Charity Project for Lent

Although we are still in the Christmas period, Lent starts on 14th February. Please give Fr Stan or John Allinson your ideas for Charity Outreach by 31st January 2018.

Latin Mass Society. We are sorry to say that Fr Ian Verrier has moved to Warrington. We thank him for his support and wish him well in his new position. His replacement is Fr Patrich O'Donohue.

Safeguarding Officer: Nancy tel: 07504897291

Christ the King, Whitley	Sat 6.30pm; Sun 10.00am
St. John Bosco, Woodley	Sat 6.30pm; Sun.10.00am
St. James	Sat 6.00pm; Sun 11.00am
English Martyrs, Tilehurst	Sat 6.30pm; Sun 9.30am, 11.30am, 5.00pm
St. Joseph, Tilehurst	Sun 8.30am, 10.30am
St. William of York	Sun 9.00am, 11.00am (in Latin) 6.00pm (Students' Mass)
Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham	Sat 5.30pm; Sun 10.00am, 6.30pm

Safeguarding team As a parish we are required to appoint a Safeguarding Representative. The position will be vacant soon, and volunteers are needed to form a small team to deal with safe-guarding issues.

The Diocese gives full training and support to all involved. If you feel you can help with this vital role, please contact the Parish Office.

Thank you

A big Thank You to all who helped prepare our church for the Christmas celebrations and their involvement.

Offertory Collection 31st Dec

Envelopes	£ 40.00
Loose Cash	£ 381.96
Standing Orders	£ 701.15
Total	£ 1,131.11

Christmas Collections

Thank you to all who gave so generously during the Christmas collection. Supporting me both in my ministry and materially. You can be confident this gift will be put to good use, furthering God's work.

Fr Stan

Royal Berkshire Hospital Chaplain: Fr JP Lyttle
RBH: 322 7105 Parish: 957 2149.

Emergency numbers for a Priest –

Please call your own priest first

Fr. Pat Madden	0118 931 4469
Fr. Rafaele Cossa/Fr Luca Speziale	0118 969 3423
Cn. John O'Shea	0118 957 4171
Cn. Michael Dennehy	0118 957 2149
Fr. Peter Glas	0118 942 8632
Fr. Mathew Goddard / Fr. Patrick O'Donohue	0118 966 5284
Mgr. Patrick Daly	0118 947 1787

Our Lady of Peace & Bl. Dominic Barberi

338 Wokingham Road Earley Reading RG6 7DA Website www.olo.org.uk
Portsmouth Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No 246871

Parish Priest	The Rev. Fr. Stan Gibziński fatherstan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Parish Secretary	Rachel Alexander 0118 966 3711 earley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk
Hall Bookings ONLY please	Margaret Dias 0118 987 5588 hallbookingsolop@gmail.com



The Epiphany of the Lord

Year B p.49

7th January 2018

A short story of “striking appearance” (meditation)

Today we are celebrating the Epiphany of the Lord. The word “epiphany” (ἐπιφάνεια), means “manifestation”, “striking appearance”. Indeed, it is amazing to host the Divine Person who became one of us.

Indeed, it is amazing to witness the unveiled, however still in faith, reality of God who became visible and tangible.

Indeed it is striking when our eyes meet Baby Jesus' eyes and allow the Divine Baby to penetrate our souls.

The gentle gaze of Baby Jesus manifests Heaven in its fullness.

The simplicity, gentleness and humility of the Divine Baby's eyes are the gates through which God's touch reaches our souls.

It is the only gaze in which we find rest and peace.

It is the gaze of God's fatherhood.

We can bathe ourselves in the eyes of Jesus.

God is lovingly contemplating us – this is the Epiphany of the Lord.

In the gaze of Jesus we can grow.

Jesus' gaze invites us to give Him our answer.

Strangely enough, He seems to be more fragile and smaller than we are.

When you and I look at Him, He never stops facing us.

If you say YES, He changes you and dwells in you even if you forget His presence.

Sometimes I ask Him, why He never stops putting me in question and obliging me; why I am always restless without Him and why often with Him....

This is a very interesting sign of God and I living together.

Apparently He desires to become an ultimate source, in your and my soul, from which all meaning appears.

The Presence of Jesus Christ in the Bethlehem of the Altar stops me, opposes me; never gives up in struggling with me.

Here He is closer to me than He was to Moses at the Burning Bush (*Exodus 3:1-22*) and at Mount Sinai (*Exodus 3:1-22*).

Here He is closer to me than He was to Elijah when He was whispering (*1 Kings 19:11-13*).

Here He speaks to me even in silence and invites me to a relationship ... slowly, however fully.

Fr Stan

**Psalm Response:
All nations shall fall prostrate before you, O Lord.**

Date & Dedication	Time	Mass Intentions etc.
Sun 7th Jan 2018 The Epiphany of the Lord	8.15am 9.00am 11.00am 5.00pm	Rosary Tom Flannery RIP Pete Darnell RIP Anniv. Mr. Kanapathipillai Christopher Sivaganeshan
Mon 8th Jan 2018 The Baptism of the Lord	10.00am	Margaret (Margot) Wignall RIP
Tue 9th Jan 2018	7.00am	<i>Anthony Mooney's Intention</i> Please note change of Mass Time
Wed 10th Jan 2018	9.30am 10.00am	Rosary Anthony Mooney's Intention
Thu 11th Jan 2018	No Mass	
Fri 12th Jan 2018 St Aelred	9.00am 10.00am 11.00am	Adoration Holy Souls Adoration until 7.00pm
Sat 13th Jan 2018 St Hilary	No Mass 11.00am	<i>Baptism of Erol Serintürk</i>
Sun 14th Jan 2018	8.15am 9.00am 11.00am 5.00pm	Rosary

January is the month of the Holy Name of Jesus. We pray for all Christians, people of Goodwill and Peace in the World brought by Him.

Children's liturgy: Please register your child before Mass.

Anniversaries
Please keep in your prayers

Anne Wellman (1980), Emma Cattaneo (1984), Vincent McLoughlin (1987), Tim Chapman (1995), James Ahern (1998), Terence Da Sa (1999), Wally Kulan (2001), Lesley Borg (2002), Teresa Smith (2006), Martin Brannelly (2007), Roger Joseph (2007), Eileen Herbert (2008), Annie Aldridge (2011), Fran Oliver (2012), Emma Fiorentino (2017) and Margot Wignall (2017)

EVERY BLESSING TO YOU IN 2018

TODAY

Today is the Epiphany of the Lord. The tradition is to bless our houses. For that reason, at all 3 masses, Father Stan will hand incense, chalk and charcoal to each family for them to bless their homes. (If you do not have Holy Water, it is still available in the Advent Room)

Crib Offerings

This year our Parish will donate crib offerings to Friends of the Holy Land. Every penny will help the poorest Christian families, especially in and around Bethlehem, the West Bank, Gaza and Israel, with education, employment, health and housing cost. FHL is non-political and ecumenical. www.friendsoftheholylan.org.uk

THIS WEEK

Change of Mass Time

Please note that Mass on Tuesday 9th January will be at 7.00am. This is to allow Fr Stan to conduct a funeral at Reading Crematorium later in the morning.

RCIA Course started 16th December with a Introduction only and will begin proper Formation meetings on Tuesday 15th January 2018 at 8.15pm. If you are keen and haven't attended yet, we can still accommodate you. Please contact the Parish office.

Students

This week sees the return of Students to Reading University.
Sunday Mass at St William of York 6pm.
Adoration at St William of York at 6pm on Mondays.
Student Masses on the Campus restart on Tuesday 15th Jan at 1.00pm.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

White Flower Appeal

The Society for the Protection of Unborn children (SPUC) will be holding its annual appeal on the weekend of the 13th-14th January. SPUC is currently campaigning to stop the decriminalisation of abortion, which means taking abortion outside the law. This is the most dangerous threat to unborn children and their mothers in decades. Please be as generous as you can to help us defeat this latest attack on unborn babies and their mothers, and to stop abortion getting even worse in this country by decriminalisation.

Cards to be sent to your MP are available in the Advent Room. Please return the entire card next weekend along with your donation via the second collection.

"ON FIRE!" Prayer & Healing Service.

The next "On Fire!" Prayer & Healing Service, for the whole of the Reading area, will be celebrated here at St Joseph's Church on Saturday, 27th January from 5 – 7 pm. *All are welcome!*

LIFE IN THE SPIRIT Seminars - Corpus Christi, Wokingham (Wednesdays 8-9.30 pm, 7 Feb - 21 March). All welcome. Free - donations only.

Pope Francis, speaking at the 'Third Worldwide Priests Retreat' in Rome 2015, said: 'I ask each and every one of you, as part of the current grace of the Charismatic Renewal, to organise **Life in the Spirit Seminars (LSS)** in your parishes, and seminaries, schools and neighbourhoods, to share the baptism in the Holy Spirit.'