

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) is open to people who are discerning whether to join or come into full communion with the Catholic Church; new sessions to start soon. To find out more, please see Fr. Stan after Mass.

Baptism: If you wish to celebrate the baptism (of a child) here, please contact Father Stan.

The Parish Bereavement Support Group can be contacted via the Parish Office

Pastoral Area News

FR.BON: It is with great sadness that we report that Fr. Bon's brother, cousin and 2 family members were killed in Cameroon. The Bishop's E-news this week asks us to pray for Fr. Bon and his family at this tragic time. We also ask that you pray for those persecuted and for peace in this world against this brutality.

HERITAGE OPEN DAYS: Fri 13th & Sat 14th Sept at St James church, Reading. John and Lindsay Mullaney are planning a special concert by Chorale choir and two talks. Talk on Friday and talk & concert on Sat, both at 2pm and free. See poster in noticeboard by Lady Chapel for more details.

Save the date; 29th September—9th October: 10 Days of prayer is an invitation to stop and pray and seek God for our town. We long to see more of God's Kingdom coming in Reading and to see Jesus at the centre of it all. See website for more details:
<https://reading.10daysofprayer.info>

13th October at 9am & 11am Mass: Dr Simon Uttley headmaster of Blessed Hugh Faringdon School and Sixth Form school will give a talk about the school to our Parish. An outstanding record in competitive sport, excellent music and drama.. Prayer, the celebration of the sacraments, engagement with the local and wider Church and outstanding achievement in Religious Education- at GCSE and A- Level reflect the school's Catholic identity and mission integrity. Judged Outstanding by the Diocese of Portsmouth,

Offertory Collection 1st September

Main Envelopes	£	77.00
Loose Cash	£	728.91
Standing Orders	£	789.46
Total	£	

Second Collection on 18th August: for Chaplaincy Pilgrimage £783.12. Thank you all for your kind donations.

Second Collection

8th September: Catholic Education Service
 It's a national day of prayer and celebration for everyone involved in the world of education.

Next Second Collection

15th September: Home Mission Sunday

Royal Berkshire Hospital Chaplain: Fr JP Lyttle
 Mobile: 07391 896559, RBH: 0118 3227105
 Sunday Mass 4.00pm

Patients, staff & visitors welcome.

On admission all Catholics should inform the hospital staff that they are Roman Catholic & if they wish to have Communion or see a priest. All arrangements in RBH are "Patient Led".

Emergency numbers for a Priest –

Please call your own priest first

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)
Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham	Sat 5.30pm; Sun 10.00am, 6.30pm

Fr. Pat Madden	0118 931 4469
Fr. Bill Wilson	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
Msgr. Patrick Daly	0118 947 1787

CUBS Mon. 6.45pm / **BEAVERS** Thurs. 5.45pm / **SCOUTS** Fri 8pm in HALL

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

Safeguarding Officer

Mable Thyveetil 07504 897291

Hall Bookings

Margaret Dias 07763 681072

hallbookingsolop@gmail.com



Church Office is open on Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 11.00am-4.00pm

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Yr C p 68

8th September 2019

On embracing our crosses

One day Thales of Miletus fell into a well while gazing at the stars. Seeing him in an embarrassing situation, an elderly woman, his housekeeper, could not stop laughing at him, and said: "Thales, how best you can know about the heavenly things above, and you know not what is under your feet."

Let us reverse the fable written by Aesop and here in an interpretation found in "Merry Tales and Quick Answers" into a story of a modern scientist contaminated by his stubborn belief in materialism, hence limited in his clarity of his recognition the nature of the world. The tale would be like that: A modern scientist fell into a black hole and disappeared for ever while working hard on his research. He was found in panic on the other side by his guardian angel. In this tragic-comic situation, the angel said: "O scientist, how best you can know about the material aspect of the universe, and you are so irrational in not recognising God, His law and eternity of soul".

When we put these two stories together, we see a great clumsiness of humans, and sometimes even unwillingness to live wisely and to the full. Some of us focus on God but do not embrace His law in our daily life. Others are good in daily affairs without either primacy of prayer, nor in keeping God's commandments. In either case we do not embrace the fullness of life as we have forgotten to take up our crosses as a part of lifestyle. Strangely we tend to think that it does not matter what we do as God is merciful and we fall into "a well" like Thales and a scientist.

We need to recognise that there is division in our adequate and required answer to be followers of Christ. We must start working on ourselves to enter Heaven and to some extent to find joy and peace on earth. This division exists because we ignore the cross and yet we are too needy, too picky, too complaining - hence unable to enjoy life and we become miserable.

The remedy is the only one: to embrace our crosses and stop complaining about our fate. St John of the Cross rightly advises us: "Where there is no love, put love - and you will find love."
 Fr Stan

Psalm Response:

O Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to the next.

Date & Dedication	Time	Mass Intentions etc
Sun 8th Sept 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am 2.30pm 5.00pm	Rosary Geoff Way RIP James & Kathleen Buckley RIP Foundation Mass Divine Mercy holy hour Tony O Neill RIP
Mon 9th to Sept 14th Sept		No Mass
Fri 13th Sept St John Chrysostom	11.00am	Adoration until Saturday 8.00am
Sat 14th Sept The Exaltation of the Holy Cross	No Mass	Adoration until 8.00am
Sun 15th Sept 24rd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am 5.00pm	Rosary Fernandes family thanksgiving Recardo Raganit & Vincent Jones RIP

11am Mass Children's liturgy. Please register your child before Mass.

Anniversaries: Please keep in your prayers

9th Sept: Bill Hunt (1994); Regina Zaboklicka (2007); 10th Sept: Frederick Grigg (1993); 11th Sept: Janice Robins (1995); and Bernard Coakeley (2004); 12th Sept: Anthony Davis (1997); 13th Sept: Doris Frost (1990); Marjorie Sheldon (1997); 14th Sept: Eric Karas (2001); 15th Sept: Mary Salmon (1975); Ethel Gibson (1988);

Eucharistic Adoration

"In a world where there is so much noise, so much bewilderment, there is a need for silent adoration of Jesus concealed in the Host. "Pope Benedict XV.

The more time you spend with Jesus, the more you will come away feeling renewed and healed. Miracles of conversion, peace, discovery of vocations, answers to prayers, physical healings, and many other wonderful things happen where and when the Lord Jesus is adored in the Blessed Sacrament. They are the "gifts" that point to the Almighty Giver and testify to His Real Presence in the Blessed Sacrament. **We are looking for more volunteers for our Friday -Saturday Eucharistic Adoration.** Come join us and spend an hour with our Lord.

Sacrament of Reconciliation

20 minutes before Sunday & Weekday Masses. On Fridays and Holy Days of Obligation 6.00pm-7.15pm or by private appointment with Fr Stan

This Week

Sunday 8th September at 2.30pm. Divine Mercy holy hour. Every one welcome.

Monday Sept 9th - Friday Sept 13th: There will be no weekday Mass due to Father Stan, as the Catholic Chaplain of the University, being away on Pilgrimage with the Chaplaincy students.

Recently died:

Mr Antonio Girolamo Napolitano died on 24th August 2019, aged 70. The funeral service will take place on Monday 16th Sept 2019 at 1:00 pm at our church followed by interment at Mays Lane Cemetery, Earley at 2:15 pm. Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Rosaria and family. May his soul rest in peace.

Reuben Aguiar died recently. Funeral Mass will take place at 11.30am on Thursday 19th September at St John Bosco followed by committal at Easthampstead Park Crematorium at 1.00pm. Reuben was a parishioner of St John Bosco but is known to lot of our parishioners. We join in prayer for the repose of his soul and for his family.

Parish News

Report from the Parish Team meeting:

- ◆ Year of the word
- ◆ Analysis of the survey
- ◆ Pastoral focus for the coming year
- ◆ Church opening times. Its been confirmed that from October, church will be open during weekday from 8.30am-4.00pm.

Children's Liturgy team & First Holy Communion Team meeting on Monday 16th September at 7.30pm in Father Stan's office. If any Parent want to put any suggestions then you are most welcome to attend the meeting as well.

Sunday 22 September: The Reading Catenians will be at all Masses to talk about their activities. For more details contact Sean Walsh 07850 933647 sean.walsh@btconnect.com, <http://www.thecatenians.com/>

Parish General meeting on 30th September 2019 at 7.30pm. All parishioners are invited to the Parish hall . The purpose is to present our main pastoral projects for the coming year and also a summary from the Property and maintenance team.

Altar Servers Rota: The new rota is in the Advent room. Please take your named copy. Thank you.

Rosary Group for Men: If you are interested in praying the Rosary with likeminded men then please contact the Parish Office for more information.

Gregorian Chants: If you are interested in learning to sing the Gregorian chants then please contact the Parish Office. Or Father Stan.

Volunteers: As we enter the new Academic year, we need your involvement in some areas of the Parish:

- A. **Readers for all Masses** (Training will be provided)
- B. **Adoration volunteers** for an hour from 11am on Friday to 8.00am on Saturday. Please put your name on the Adoration list in Advent Room.
- C. **Altar servers** (Open to all post Communion Children). Training will be provided.

If you or your child would like to volunteer in any of the areas then please contact the Parish Office.

"Request a visit of the statue of Our Lady of Fatima". this project will start in October but from September we will open the calendar for families, individuals and groups who wish to practice this particular devotion.

First Holy Communion

If you are about to start School year 3, will be at least 8 years old between 1st Sep 2019 and 31st August 2020 , then you are eligible to join our next First Holy Communion preparation programme. Parents—please email or write to Father Stan at the church office by Mon 23rd Sep, with the child's name date of birth, date and place of baptism, and parents' names, address, phone number and contact details. Further details about the programme will then be communicated.