

Saturday 14 December from 7.30pm until late. The Social Club is holding it's Christmas Party, with live music by Just Us. Wear your Christmas jumper! Christmas Squares will be drawn. Admission is FREE to Members, Guests are £4 each.

Save a date: Saturday 8th January: Parish Christmas Meal. Details to follow.

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

Pastoral Events

Tuesday 10th Dec at 8.00pm Love and Mercy. Movie at Vue Reading . It is about the life of St Faustina and the Divine Mercy. Here is the official website and trailer: <http://loveandmercyfilm.co.uk/>. List of cinemas: <http://loveandmercyfilm.co.uk/tickets/>.

Friday 13th December 7pm. Carols By Candlelight at English Martyrs Church, Liebenrood Road. Followed by mince pies and mulled wine, with child friendly alternatives. Donations for 'a Bed for the Night' gladly welcomed.

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".

Reading Catholic Churches Sunday Mass Times

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

Tue 17th Dec SIMBANG GABI" MASS: at St Joseph's Tilehurst at 6.30pm. The Reading Filipino Community invites everyone to their Traditional Christmas Mass. Hog Roast in the hall after Mass. All are welcome .

New Year's Eve on 31st December, 'St John Fisher Parish; Reading's Latin 'Extraordinary Form' Parish Extraordinary Form' Parish, invite you for a Holy Hour of Eucharistic Adoration from 11pm to Midnight, followed by a sung Midnight Mass, at St William of York Church, Upper Redlands Road, Reading. with a little celebration in the church annex afterwards. all are very welcome!

Portsmouth Diocesan pilgrimage to Lourdes 15th-19th July 2020 £695pp/sharing. See Poster for more details. Itineraries available from the Parish Office

Pilgrimage to Medjugorje Wednesday Sept 30th till 7th Oct 2020. Half Board £595.00 (based on shared room) single supplement applies. Please contact Heather Hauschild hauschild287@btinternet.com for more details & to reserve a place.

Collection 1st Dec 2019

Main Envelopes	£	138.00
Loose Cash	£	372.57
Standing Orders	£	757.44
Total	£	1,268.01

Thank you all for your kind donations.

Second Collection today for Fr Chris as thanksgiving for our Advent Retreat.

Emergency numbers for a Priest – *Please call your own priest first*

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	
Msgr. Patrick Daly	0118 947 1787

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

Our Lady of Peace & BI 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 07726 589624
Hall Bookings	Margaret Dias 07763 681072 hallbookingsolop@gmail.com



The Church office is open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays 11am-4pm

Second Sunday of Advent

Year A p 28/29

8th December 2019

'Even now the axe lies at the root of the trees' Mt 3:10

We are incomplete without God. In this life we are destined to live in tension between things on earth and in heaven. In this sense we are people of Advent. Advent characterised people of the Old Testament and strangely enough it is one of the main descriptions of people of the New Testament. Advent is a time of yearning for God, for the second coming of Christ. 'My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me all day long, "Where is your God?" These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng. /Ps 42:2-4/

However, Advent is not only a time of our inner desire for God, it is also the time of God's action towards us. Today we are taught about an axe. The axe is a simple machine, which allows us to chop wood. For centuries axes reduced the efforts of woodcutters. The axe simply splits the wood into two parts by the pressure concentrated at the blade, leaving no stump behind. It is particularly helpful when roots need cutting. One must use much strength to be able to do it but the axe cuts to the very roots. The handle of the axe allows the user to increase the force at the cutting edge.

The Lord wants a total change in our lives. He uses the axe of love to cut the roots of our sin, moral and spiritual destitutions. If your private life is full of pride or fear, violence and anger then Christ will put the axe of His LOVE to the roots of your problem. The same applies to your professional life and sexual life. If you are corrupted or if your conscience is asleep, Christ's love will awaken it. His LOVE is enough to change us. Jesus Christ, the one who is amongst us, loves us and embraces us but He also splits the soul from the spirit so that we are overtaken by the love of God. One of the best fruits of Advent is a good and deep sacramental confession. In this way, the Divine axe is a blessed gift to us

Fr Stan



Psalm Response:

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

We will say the Angelus before all Masses during Advent

Date & Dedication	Time	Mass Intentions etc
Sun 8th Dec 2nd Sunday of Advent	8.30am	Rosary
	9.00am	Holy Souls
	11.00am	Antonio Napolitano
	2.30pm	Divine Mercy Holy Hour
	5.00pm	Magdalena Jorro RIP
	6.15pm	Advent Retreat
Mon 9th Dec The Immaculate Conception of the BI Virgin Mary	9.30am	Rosary
	10.00am	Eva Nora's Intention
	11.00am	Advent Retreat
	7.30pm	Holy Souls of Mundackal +Vithayathil Family
	8.30pm.	Advent Retreat
Tue 10th Dec	9.00am	Adoration followed by Rosary
	10.00am	Thyveetil Family Intention
	7.30pm	Advent Retreat
Wed 11th Dec	Rorate Mass	to honour BI Virgin Mary
	6.30am	Peggie Bentley RIP Foundation Mass
Thu 12th Dec	No Mass	
Fri 13th Dec St Lucy	9.00am	Adoration followed by Rosary
	10.00 am	Gabriel Maribe
	11.00am	Adoration till 7.00pm
	7.30pm	Penitential Service followed by Adoration till 8.00am Saturday
Sat 14th Dec St John of the Cross	8.00am	Overnight Adoration finishes at 8.00am
	No Mass	
Sun 15th Dec 3rd Sunday of Advent (Gaudete)	8.30am	Rosary
	9.00am	Marcelo Vinueza RIP
	11.00am	Rita Rose Ransley RIP
	5.00pm	Salomen Coronel RIP

Anniversaries: Please keep in your prayers

8th Dec: Lilian Neville (2010); **9th Dec:** Peter Carmichel (2012); Mona Botherel (2013); **12th Dec:** Bernadette Joyce (1984) Peggy Bentley (1989)

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

12+Youth group: Every Sunday (Term Time) from 12-13.30 in Carl Barton Room.

Youth Group Coordinator: Eva Nora - a.nora@hotmail.it

This week

Children's Christmas Service and Mass: Thank you for volunteering. Rehearsal after 11am Mass on Sunday 8th Dec, 15th Dec & 22nd Dec for 45 min.

Volunteers for Christmas service:

Dear Sacristans, Musicians, Singers, Readers, Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, Welcomers, Altar Servers, Money Collectors, please volunteer for Christmas Vigil and Masses at 9 am and 11 am. Thank you. The list is available in the Advent Room.

Parish Diary for 2020 is now for sale for £2. in Advent Room.

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

Monday 9th December- Feast of the Immaculate Conception: Mass at 10.00am & 7.30pm and blessing of cards for Christmas (also to be done on Sunday 15th Dec.). Parishioners will be asked to give cards to anyone they know who is Catholic and has lost touch or drifted away from their faith.

Rorate Mass at 6.30am every Wednesday during Advent - Come and celebrate Mass by candlelight before dawn.

Advent Retreat by Fr Chris Jarosz at our church. "The Dwelling of God in your heart and how to respond to His presence". Fri 6th Dec 8.30pm (Bonus Session Sat 7th Dec at 2.00pm: How to use verbal prayer to develop interior prayer). Sun 8th Dec 6.15pm, Mon 9th Dec 11.00am and repeated at 8.30pm, Tue 10th Dec 7.30pm.

Our 'Giving Tree' This year our chosen charity is New Beginnings, a Reading charity which cares for the homeless in various ways. Please take a gift suggestion card off the tree and bring the gift, unwrapped, at any time before Wednesday 18th December. Thank you in advance for your generous response .

Advent Penitential Services

Date	Time	Venue
Mon 9th	7.30pm	St John Bosco
Tue 10th	7.30pm	St Joseph's
Wed 11th	7.30pm	Christ the King
Thu 12th	7.30pm	St Anne's
Fri 13th	7.30pm	Our Lady of Peace
Sat 14th	11.00am	English Martyrs
Mon 16th	7.30pm	St James

Friday 13th December at 7.30pm. We are fortunate to have 5 Priests for the service at our church. Please join us to celebrate this beautiful Sacrament with our Parish.

Christmas Service update

Tue 24th 4.30pm-Children's Service followed by Christmas Vigil Holy Mass.

Tue 24th 11.00pm Vigil Service followed by Midnight mass

Wed 25th 9 am & 11am - Holy Mass

Fri 27th 10am Holy Mass.

Sun 29th Dec: Holy Family Sunday . 9am. 11am & 5pm Holy Mass with renewal of marriage vows- married couples are especially welcome.

Tues 31st Dec: 6.30pm: Thanksgiving Mass for 2019

Wed1st Jan 11.00am: Holy Mass

Parish News

Friday day & overnight Adoration. Friday 13th Dec will be the last Adoration for 2019, Adoration will start again after the Christmas break on Friday 10th January.

Poem Competition Thank you to all the children for sending your poems

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