

Pastoral News

40 Days for Life: Feb 26 - Apr 5, 2020

Outside BPAS Abortion Centre - 121 London Street - Reading RG1 4QA. 8am to 8pm for 40 consecutive days including Sundays. Register and Sign Up for the Reading Campaign at: www.40daysforlife.com/reading-2.

Saturday 14th Mar 10.30am-4.30pm at St Peter's church, Winchester. THE GOD WHO SPEAKS. A day for musicians and anyone who wishes to learn more about Scripture in the liturgy, especially the Mass. For details see the poster in the Advent Room or email bookings@ssg.org.uk

Saturday, 14th March from 5 – 7 pm. "On Fire!" Prayer & Healing Service – St Joseph's, Tilehurst Come and worship with us. Please bring your friends and family. Come for 2 hours or just for 10 minutes. See what wonders the Lord has for you! Do not be afraid to open your heart to the power of the Holy Spirit. All are welcome!

Royal Berkshire Hospital Chaplain
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

WALKING THE St James Way from Reading Abbey to Southampton in 6 stages on a Saturday starting 21st March at St James Church, Reading RG1 3FD. Please email the St James parish office on stjames@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk to register your interest. See poster in DB room for full list of dates.

DIOCESAN MARRIAGE & FAMILY LIFE DAY
Saturday 18th April 10.00am – 4.00pm
English Martyrs 'Breakthrough' - A practical, solution-focused course for all stages of marriage. See poster for more details.

Sat 23rd May WALSINGHAM PILGRIMAGE
Advanced notice, from St James. 2 coaches for 100 people. £20 each. More details to follow.

Offertory Collection 23rd Feb 2020

Main Envelopes	£	135.00
Loose Cash	£	450.47
Standing Orders	£	731.42
Total	£	1,316.89

Thank you all for your kind donations.
Sun 23rd Feb- Thank you collection for Fr Chris - £600.00

Next Second Collection on 8th March for CAFOD Lent Day.

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

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

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	0118 966 5284
Msgr. Patrick Daly	0118 947 1787

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

1st Sunday of Lent

Year A p 73/77

1st March 2020

The grace of being sorry of our sins at the steps of the Altar

Someone once beautifully said: "The devil knows your name but calls you by your sin. God knows your sin but calls you by your name". These two voices pass through our hearts. Every one of us needs to make the decision whether to follow one voice or the other. It is good to hear our very name said by Jesus in the depths of our hearts. In this way, we start a liberating journey from Egypt to the Promised Land, from slavery of sin to the dignity and beauty of God's children; from the Biblical foreign countries to the Fatherland (the journey of the Prodigal Son).

Although, Lent says a lot about the dust and mud of our sins and guilt, it also stresses the truth about us, and the truth is that we belong to God and God desires our return to Him. We shall return as sinners but also as His beloved children; with complete confidence we shall unravel our sins to God – all of them. It is important to bring our misery to God and ask Him and our neighbours for forgiveness before we approach the High Altar.

In Lent, we will stress the act of the Penitential Rite understood in the context of approaching the Holy of Holies. In Old Testament times, nobody was allowed to enter the Holy of Holies except the high priest. Only once a year, a priest used to offer the blood-and-incense sacrifice for the atonement of sin. In Exodus (Chapter 9), we read that the dwelling place of the presence of God was shut away behind a curtain in the temple and few people were allowed to pray outside the Holy of Holies. Christ Jesus tore down this curtain in the very act of dying on the Cross allowing us access into His sanctuary. He is the Holy of Holies and we are privileged to share our life with Him during the Holy Mass. Christ's sacrifice is real and the Altar represents the Cross. The Holy of Holies has not lost anything in its sacredness though, and we need to stress that fact in our attitude towards the Altar and Christ's Sacrifice of the Mass.

It's even holier now than before! The Sanctuary of the Lord in our churches is the most sacred place in the world and the closeness of the Heart of Jesus is real while the Mass is celebrated. In the context of the approaching of the Holy of Holies, our Penitential Rite is given awe and focuses us on Calvary, on the very essence of God's love.

On Ash Wednesday we were reminded: "Let the priest, the minister of the Lord, weep between the porch and the altar, and let them say, 'Spare your people, O Lord.'" (Joel 2:17) Let us do so in Lent. The Penitential Rite will take place before the priest, altar servers and readers enter the Holy of Holies. Before entering the dwelling of the Lord, we will kneel and stay in silence praying for the grace of acknowledging our misery; for the grace of being sorry for our sins. In this way, we will prepare ourselves to take part in the Sacrifice of Christ that takes away our sin and attain everlasting Life.

Fr Stan

Psalm Response: Have mercy on us, O Lord, for we have sinned.

Date & Dedication	Time	Mass Intentions etc
Sun 1st March 1st Sunday of Lent Day of Prayer of Communal Reparation.	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am 5.00pm	Rosary Marie Fahey RIP Rita Rose Ransley RIP Harold Auch RIP
Mon 2nd Mar	9.30am 10.00am	Rosary Nan Laffey RIP Foundation Mass
Tues 3rd Mar	9.00am 10.00am	Adoration followed by Rosary McAteer family
Wed 4th Mar	6.30am	Thanksgiving to Our Lady of Medjugorje
Thur 5th Mar	No Mass	
Fri 6th Mar	9.00am 10.00am 11.00am 7.00pm	Adoration followed by Rosary Intention available Adoration till 7.00pm Stations of the Cross Adoration continues till Saturday 8.00am
Sat 7th Mar 1st Saturday Devotion to our Lady	10.00am 12 noon	Adoration, Rosary, Reconciliation. Miguel Angel Sivarez Perales
Sun 8th March 2nd Sunday of Lent	8.30am 9.00am 11.00am 2.30pm 5.00pm	Rosary Nkem Ezekwe Intention Joanna Stein 3rd Birthday Divine Mercy Holy Hour Joe Lydon RIP rec. dec.

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

Re-dedication of England to Our Lady

This will take place throughout the country on Sunday 29th March at 12 noon. We respond to this invitation in two ways; by making a personal promise and a communal entrustment. Please see website <https://www.behold2020.com/> for more detail.

Our parish will join in Re-dedication of England at 12 noon on 29th March, after the 11 am Mass. Those who will not be with us, at that moment, will be asked to say a prayer wherever they are to be united with our bishops, clergy, religious and the faithful of England.

Anniversaries: Please keep in your prayers

2nd Mar: Marie Fahey (1995); and Nan Laffey (1997). **3rd Mar:** Kenneth Adkins (1992);
5th Mar: Marion Connell (1991); **6th Mar:** Bertha Britton (1997); **7th Mar:** Franco Ribezzo (1997);

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 1st Mar: after 9am & 11am Mass, Tea & Coffee in the Social Club. Everyone welcome.

Tuesday 3rd Mar 7.15 pm for 7.30pm start in our church "Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible". - Session 5.

Every Wednesday during Lent: Mass at 6.30am. Come and celebrate Mass before dawn by candlelight.

Wednesday 4th March 7.30pm Poetry evening at our church. As we enter into Lent, we are organising a Poetry evening which will focus on "reflection". Everyone welcome.

Friday 6th March & 3rd April: Please note that the 1st Friday Mass during Lent will be in the morning at 10am.

Stations of the Cross Friday 6th Mar 7.00pm: We will have Stations of the Cross every Friday in Lent. This is a beautiful practice which brings us into unity with the crucified Lord. The sign in sheets for the Stations are in the Advent Room. Please do volunteer to read one of the stations.

1st Saturday 7th Mar: 10am-12.00.(Dedication to our Lady) Adoration, Rosary followed by Holy Mass.

Sunday 8th Mar at 2.30pm. Divine Mercy Holy Hour. Everyone welcome.

Parish News

Day by Day - Lenten edition in Advent room £1/book.

"Offertory Envelopes" for financial year 2020-21. If you would prefer to use envelopes as a method for your planned giving then please contact the Parish office by 15th March.

Children's Art competition for February (Closing date 8th March). All children are asked to make a picture about one of the topics: Last Supper, Prayer of Jesus in the Olive Garden, Jesus at one of the Stations of the Cross, or The Risen Jesus meets different people. Please put full names and age of the child(ren) at the back of the picture. Format of picture: A4 or A3.

11th March 7.30pm: PARISH LIFE AND WORSHIP IN MEDIEVAL READING. An illustrated talk by our parishioner Joan Dils a leading local historian at our church. Everyone welcome.

EU Citizens in our Diocese. All EU, EEA and Swiss citizens living in the UK are required by the government to apply through its Settlement Scheme to continue living, working and accessing services here. The deadline for applications is 30 June 2021. Details and links to the application process can be found at: gov.uk/eusetledstatus. Please bring this to the attention of friends, family members and fellow parishioners who may need to apply.

Parish Pilgrimage: to Medjugorje : Oct 3rd to 10th Oct 2020. We are joining the diocesan pilgrimage, please contact the Parish office for booking forms. Half Board £589.00(based on shared room) single supplement applies. See Poster in DB Room for more detail.

Save the date 11th July 2020 at our church: An evening with Dr Edward Sri. He is a theologian, author and well-known catholic speaker who appears regularly on EWTN. More information on website oxcacs.org.

Social Club events Please visit the website olopsocialclub.co.uk for information.

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

Mother & Toddler group at Our Lady of Peace. Monday's (Term-time from 9.30am-11.30am. £1/child +50p/sibling

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