

Online resources

Tea with Mary - every Saturday at 5 pm on Radio Immaculata YouTube Channel and Facebook Page. The Marian Franciscans have launched a brand new "Tea with Mary" series on Lectio Divina. It is an hour-long catechesis, with listeners at home contributing to the show by sending in their questions or comments.

Bible Podcast: Fr Mike Schmitz of Ascension Press is delivering a series of Podcasts over 2021 - The Bible in a Year. Unlike any other Bible podcast, Ascension's Bible in a Year Podcast follows a reading plan inspired by The Great Adventure Bible Timeline, developed by renowned Catholic Bible teacher Jeff Cavins. The Podcast is available on most major podcast platforms including Apple, Google, Spotify and others

Retrouvaille 2021 virtual course 25th Feb-28th Feb.

Covid 19—a very challenging time for many marriages. Retrouvaille is a programme to support couples. It brings a positive focus, new hope and helps nourish and grow your marriage ...and you don't need to leave home, it comes to you! For confidential information about

Retrouvaille', or to register for the next programme, a Virtual weekend commencing on 25th- 28th February 2021. Call or text 0788 7296983 or 0797 3380443. Email: retrouvailleukinfo@gmail.com – or visit www.retrouvaille.org.uk

Community Support

Readifood (Reading's Foodbank): You can drop off the items in the Advent room. Information on list of items can be found on <https://readifood.org.uk>. They also need donations of Toiletries eg Toothpaste & Toothbrushes, Soap, Shower Gel, Shampoo & Conditioner, Deodorant and Household Cleaning Items

CIRDIC: Items for packed lunches are needed to feed the homeless. Please take them directly to CIRDIC (St Saviours Church Hall, 1, Berkeley Ave, Reading RG1 6JT) from 8.30am on Mondays, Tuesdays or Fridays. Please contact Mabel at enquiries@cirdic.org.uk or text 07817 373773 to arrange delivery first.

Readings for Sunday 17th January 2021

1st Reading 1 Samuel 3: 3-10.19: *Speak, Lord, your servant is listening.*

2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 6: 13-15.17-20 *Your bodies are members making up the body of Christ.*

Gospel John 1: 35-42 *They saw where he lived, and stayed with him.*

Catholics in Royal Berkshire Hospital

Contact duty priest: 0118 3227105.

Chaplaincy at the RBH is covered and shared by Fr. Pat Madden and the priests from the FSSP. Fr. Pat covers every Monday from 12 Noon until Thursday 12 Noon. The priests from FSSP cover from Thursday 12 Noon until Monday 12 Noon. Priests on call are only allowed into the hospital to give the last rites in danger of death as this is the Hospital policy due to the ongoing current COVID 19 pandemic

Reading Catholic Churches

Christ the King, Whitley	Fr. Pat Madden	0118 931 4469
St. John Bosco, Woodley	Fr. Bill Wilson	0118 969 3423
St. James	Fr Chris Heaps	0118 957 4171
English Martyrs, Tilehurst	Cn. Michael Dennehy	0118 957 2149
St. Joseph, Tilehurst	Fr Peter Glas	0118 942 8632
St. William of York	Fr. Mathew Goddard / Fr. Patrick O'Donohue	0118 966 5284
Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham	Mmgr. Patrick Daly	0118 947 1787

Emergency numbers for a Priest –

Please call your own priest first

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
Parish Team	earley.matters@gmail.com
Hall Bookings	Margaret Dias 07763 681072 hallbookingsolop@gmail.com



The Parish office is open Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 11am-2.00pm

Second Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year B

17th January 2021

Love of God

Have you ever been asked: do you love God? Whatever we think, let us say that we do love God to some extent. Do not be afraid to say it. The first step to that love is faith. Faith opens the gate to another world, the world of God's presence, tenderness, love, call to mission. It is through faith that our relationship with God is established. Love is also a relationship but deeper than faith, as it is the continuation and fulfilment of faith and hope. In this light, in faith, we receive the Lord in Holy Communion. But in love, we receive Him in a way that even our whole being stands in awe.

However, our love is not marked by the same intensity and willingness, the same recognition of where is God and how to act to make Him happy. Interestingly enough, God's calling is very individual and it is expressed in the sanctuary of our conscience in a very sublime way. It is not a pushing voice, as God highly respects the freedom of our hearts.

Our love of God is often impure, marked by our goals, agendas, visions and tendency to push our will. Indeed, even in the loving relationship with our neighbour, it is common that we do not listen, we want to force our will. It is a bigger problem when we are talking about building a relationship with God. Actually, the purity of love is necessary to grow in our love of God. The Purity of love is preceded by some events called purifications. At the beginning of that process our hearts are like one big stone. In the middle of the process, they are like broken stones, and later on they are like a selection of pebbles ready to be used for various purposes. At the end of the process, our hearts have become like a powder, flexible and open, reconciled with the world and transparent to God.

St John the Baptist loved God with a pure heart. He did not have any other goals and agendas in his life except to point out where the Lord was. He was not afraid of losing his disciples. He was neither afraid of stepping down from his role as prophet and authority, nor was he afraid of being forgotten, humiliated or killed. On the contrary, his joy was great when people, particularly his disciples, recognised Christ, when they became attached to Christ and followed Christ.

As a result of his purity of heart and purity of intentions, his passion towards his mission as a prophet was powerful. It led St Andrew to follow Jesus Christ, and indirectly, it led St Peter to do the same. It did not matter that Peter knew nothing about it. The matter was, that John became united in his love with Christ.

Fr Stan

Psalm Response: Here I am Lord! I come to do your will.

Date & Dedication	Time	Mass Intentions etc
Sat 16th Jan	Mass without congregation	Kathleen Marie Hogben RIP Foundation Mass
Sun 17th Jan 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Times	*11.00 am (Mass without congregation)	Paola Moretti RIP rec. dec
Mon 18th Jan	Daily Mass without congregation	Methsiri Fernando RIP
Tues 19th Jan St Wulstan	Daily Mass without congregation 1.00pm - 4.00pm	Wilson family thanksgiving The church is open for private prayers
Wed 20th Jan St Fabian	Daily Mass without congregation 1.00pm - 4.00pm	George Alexander Intention The church is open for private prayers
Thursday 21st Jan St Agnes	Daily Mass without congregation 1.00pm - 4.00pm	Merlin Pereira Intention The church is open for private prayers
Friday 22nd Jan St Vincent	11.00am -7.00pm Daily Mass without congregation	Adoration Michael Esposito RIP
Sat 23rd Jan	Daily Mass without congregation	Rachel & Jofi thanksgiving
Sun 24th Jan 3rd Sunday in Ordinary Times	8.30am Ad Orientem *11.00 am (Facing Congregation) *5.00pm Ad Orientem	Don Werner RIP Aniya Maheswaran 10th birthday Paola Moretti RIP rec. dec

* Mass will be live streamed via YouTube (olop earley).

Please note that the dispensation from obligatory attendance of Sunday Mass remains valid.

Sunday Masses can be booked via our website www.olop.org.uk (latest by 8.00pm the previous day) or by calling the Parish Office on 0118 9663711. If you are booking via telephone, then please call by Friday 3.00pm at the latest as messages will not be accessed after this time.

Please note: Weekday mass on Monday and Friday is open to congregation and you do not need to book for these Mass.

Anniversaries: Please keep in your prayers

16th Jan: Kathleen Hogben (2010); Charles Hay (2017)

17th Jan: Josephine Gainey (1997); Anna Maria Goodchild

21st Jan: Maud Thomas (1981); Caroline Abram (1998);

23rd Jan: Michael Lynch (1986);

24th Jan: Charles Farr (1996); David Brown (1997); Reg Oakman (2006);

We pray for the repose of the soul of Paola Moretti who died on Wednesday 13th January 2021. Please pray for members of the parish and their family who are sick or housebound, especially Margaret Browne (Parishioner).

There will be no Public Mass this week till Sunday 24th January 2021 as Father Stan is still recovering. He will celebrate Holy Mass on Sunday 17th January 2021 at 11.00am (without congregation) which will be live streamed. We are sorry for the inconvenience.

Parish News:

We are now into another lockdown and the national situation with the COVID pandemic seems more serious than ever. Our main purpose, as Christians, must be to pray for a speedy end to the crisis. We pray for the sick and for heroes, and for the safety of all.

Saturday 4.00pm Vigil Mass: Due to the current lockdown restriction and the clinically vulnerable being asked to shield, this Mass is cancelled until further notice.

Church is open for private prayer :

Tuesday - Thursday : 1.00pm - 4.00pm

Friday with Adoration from 11.00am -7.00pm.

Paola Moretti RIP: We are really sad to inform that Paola Moretti died on Wednesday morning 13th January 2021. Paola was a gentle soul and a loved parishioner. She was part of a lot of ministry in our parish and always did everything with gentle grace and serenity. As you may appreciate, that this has been a shock to the family and they have asked for some time to process this sad news in peace. We keep the whole family in our prayers.

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is available on request. Please contact Fr Stan by email fatherstan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk.

Please maintain a safe distance.

Prayers in a time of coronavirus

We stand together

We pray for all who are suffering and bereaved.

At this time of sorrow, incomprehension and tragedy, we stand together.

In this crisis, we pray for God's mercy and healing for the sick and for health and strength for all who care for them.

Amen.

Mass Intention: The Mass Intention book for 2021 is available for you to book your Mass Intention. Due to COVID 19 restrictions, we cannot place the book in the Advent room. You can book Mass Intention via the Parish office either by visiting in person or phoning the Parish office during opening times.

Helping those most Vulnerable in our Parish.

If you know of anyone, or are yourself lonely and/or vulnerable, please consider giving details to the parish office.

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

Weekly & online donation:

Thank you to all those who make their weekly donations by standing orders and for the online donations. Thank you for financially supporting our parish during these difficult times.

Pastoral News:

Diocesan Survey and Questionnaire: Bishop Philip is encouraging all parishioners to take part in this survey. The link can be found on the Portsmouth diocese website or via [Catholic Diocese of Portsmouth - Questionnaire Survey \(surveymonkey.com\)](https://www.catholicdioceseofportsmouth.org.uk/questionnaire-survey)

Prayer & Praise with Bishop Philip every Thursday during lockdown from 7.30pm - 8.30pm: The service is called Verso L'Alto: Reach to the Heights! We need from God a word of assurance, a message of hope, a sign of love. We need a Saviour. We need Christ the Lord and a real friendship with Him. You can join us this Thursday by the Cathedral live-stream to pray for all our intentions, for our safety, for our Diocese, for the sick and for resolution of the crisis.