

## 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.

## Pastoral News:

**Prayer & Praise with Bishop Philip every Thursday during lockdown from 7.30pm - 8.30pm via the Cathedral Live Stream.**

**Urgent message from Right to Life:** Ask your MP to support a NEW amendment to help stop forced abortion in Xinjiang, China. There is extensive evidence that many women in the Uyghur Muslim community in Xinjiang, China are being subjected to forced abortions.

Lord Alton is currently championing a new amendment to the Trade Bill, to help put international pressure on the Chinese Communist Party to stop the practice of forced abortions and wider human rights abuses that evidence shows is being perpetuated against the Uyghur community. The amendment passed in the Lords on 23 February by 367 votes to 214, and is likely to be voted on in the Commons shortly.

If you would like to email your MP asking them to support the amendment, you can do this easily using a tool which has been set up on the Genocide Response campaign website, which can be accessed by visiting the link below:  
<https://genocideresponse.org/>

### 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	Msgr. Patrick Daly	0118 947 1787

## 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>. Also, needed are 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](mailto:enquiries@cirdic.org.uk) or text 07817 373773 to arrange delivery first.

### Offertory Collection 21st Feb 2021

Main Envelopes	£ 30.00
Loose Cash	£ 157.91
Online	£ 50.00
Standing Orders	£ 705.52

Thank you all for your kind donations

### 2nd Collection 28th Feb: CAFOD

# Our Lady of Peace & BI Dominic Barberi

338 Wokingham Road Earley Reading RG6 7DA Website [www.olo.org.uk](http://www.olo.org.uk)  
Portsmouth Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No 246871

<b>Parish Priest</b>	The Rev Fr Stan Gibziński <a href="mailto:fatherstan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk">fatherstan@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</a>
<b>Parish Secretary</b>	Rachel Alexander 0118 966 3711 <a href="mailto:earley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk">earley@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk</a>
<b>Safeguarding Officer</b>	Mable Thyveetil 07726 589624
<b>Parish Team</b>	<a href="mailto:earley.matters@gmail.com">earley.matters@gmail.com</a>
<b>Hall Bookings</b>	Margaret Dias 07763 681072 <a href="mailto:hallbookingsolo@gmail.com">hallbookingsolo@gmail.com</a>



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

**2nd Sunday of Lent**

Year B

**28th Feb 2021**

**1st Reading Genesis 22:1-2.9-13.15-18:** *The sacrifice of Abraham, our father in faith.*

**2nd Reading Romans 8:31-34** *God did not spare his own Son.*

**Gospel Mark 9:2-10** *This is my Son, the Beloved.*

## Our life is stretched between the mountains of Transfiguration and Calvary

On the Mount of the Transfiguration, the glory of God's Kingdom was shining out of the Lord. Peter, James and John witnessed that very moment. They also saw Moses and Elijah coming from heaven as the servants of the Lord. Moses came to give testimony that the whole Law finds its fulfilment in Jesus. Elijah, likewise, testified that all the prophets were talking about Jesus.

Taking the disciples to the Mount of the Transfiguration, Jesus also wanted to prepare them for the events on the Mount of Calvary. He wanted to strengthen the faith of His disciples, based on the truth that the person of Christ is always the same; the same in all circumstances; the same in the past, the same now, the same in the future. If the disciples were people of faith, they would see the Sacrifice of Jesus on Calvary as an expression of the same glory, which was shining on the Mount of the Transfiguration.

It is later understood that neither Peter, James nor John embraced the events from the Mount of Calvary with the same faith. Actually, they lost faith in Jesus. In all the trauma and pain, they forgot that Jesus is the Divine Person. On Calvary they saw nothing but the scandal and a shameful death. They forgot that Calvary was the natural continuation of the meeting which happened at the Mount of Transfiguration. Interestingly enough, Jesus knew about the doubts of His beloved disciples. In their darkness, in the most painful moments, Jesus assisted them, and touched them on the most memorable Sunday.

Most likely, we are to go through the same journey as the disciples. In this light, Lent is a time to reflect on the mentioned mysteries in the context of our lives. It is good then to reflect on our lives as stretched between Transfiguration and Calvary with Christ and in Christ. It is good to ask Jesus for His strong support and for the grace to remain in Him always.

Fr Stan

**Psalm Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.**

Date & Dedication	Time	Mass Intentions etc
Sat 27th Feb		Overnight Passion of the Cross Adoration until 4.00pm
Sun 28th Feb 2nd Sunday of Lent	*8.30am *11.00 am	Anne Colin & Kane's Intention Julian Amram thanksgiving
Mon 1st Mar St David	7.30pm Extraordinary Form	Tadeusz Celoch
Tues 2nd Mar	Daily Mass without congregation 1.00pm - 4.00pm	Intention available The church is open for private prayers
Wed 3rd Mar	6.30am 1.00pm - 4.00pm	Intention available The church is open for private prayers
Thur 4th Mar	Daily Mass without congregation 1.00pm - 4.00pm	Intention available The church is open for private prayers
Fri 5th Mar	10.00am 11.00am -7.00pm *7.00pm	Rosemarie Mansfield Intention Adoration Stations of the Cross
Sat 6th Mar	10.00am-12.00 noon 1st Sat Devotion to our Lady	Holy Souls
Sun 7th Mar 3rd Sunday of Lent	*8.30am *11.00 am	Poor Clare Sisters Nan Laffey RIP Foundation Mass

### 1st March: Happy St David's Day.

*We keep searching for almighty everywhere, but he resided in clean and good hearts.  
May Lord shower his blessings on everyone.*

*\* Mass / Service 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](http://www.olop.org.uk) (latest by 8.00pm Friday) 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, Wednesday and Friday are open to the congregation and booking is not necessary.

**Church is open for private prayer : Tuesday - Thursday : 1.00pm - 4.00pm  
Friday with Adoration from 11.00am -7.00pm.**

### Anniversaries: Please keep in your prayers

**28th Feb:** Mary Andrews (2015);  
2nd March: 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);

**Please pray for members of the parish and their family who are sick or housebound, especially Margaret Browne (Parishioner).**

## Lent preparation

**Wednesday during Lent - Candlelight Mass at 6.30am.** (No booking needed for this Mass).

**Lenten talk by Fr Stan:** Fr Stan will upload his reflection on St Joseph every Wednesday during Lent.

**Angelus Prayer at 12 noon during Lent:** A message will be put up in our Whatsapp and Telegram group at 12 noon. We will pray for an end to this pandemic and for each of us to grow in faith and holiness.

**Stations of the Cross** every Friday in Lent at 7.00 pm. *This service will be live streamed.*

**Friday 26th Feb - Sat 27th Feb- 24 hours Passion of Christ** at our church. We will have our normal daytime Adoration on Friday from 11.00am and the 24 hours Passion of Christ will start at 4.00pm with Holy Mass and finish on Saturday 27th Feb with Holy Mass at 4.00pm. You are welcome to join the Adoration at any time. Please register your interest with the Parish Office.

**CAFOD Lent Fast day on Friday 26th Feb and Sunday 28th Feb is collection for CAFOD Lent day.** This week our parish is marking CAFOD's Family Fast Day, a day on which we are invited to pray, fast & donate. Envelopes are in the Advent room. Your gifts today will help vulnerable communities around the world to have access to clean water and provide other vital support. Donate online at [cafod.org.uk/lent](http://cafod.org.uk/lent) or by phone 0303 303 3030 or by using a CAFOD envelope. You can also give via text. Text LENT 5 to 70460 to donate £5 or Text LENT 10 to 70460 to donate £10\* or LENT 20 to 70460 to donate £20

**The Sacrament of Reconciliation during Lent:** Father Stan will be available from 1.00pm - 4.00pm every Friday during Lent for outside confession. No need to book, please come over to the parish office and let Rachel know that you are here for reconciliation. Fr Stan will come over and meet you by the grotto.

**Lenten Retreat every Monday during Lent:** 'Finding Hope in Scripture', led by the Dominican Sisters of St Joseph. Register here to participate: <https://us02web.zoom.us/join/register/tZEtc-2grjkiGtU8vPFJea2ktvR5U0MZ1mrL>

**Lenten Read:** Book recommended by Fr Stan - "The Fourth Cup. Unveiling the Mystery of the Last Supper and the Cross" by Scott Hahn. His re-discovery of the Holy Mass has had a profound effect in his spiritual life.

**The Bible and The Mass:** If anybody is interested in discovering the Holy Mass, there are some great teaching by Scott Hahn online "Parusia - the Bible and the Mass". The teaching will help all of us to go through Lent: <https://stpaulcenter.com/Streaming/>

### Parish News:

**Saturday 6th Mar: 1st Saturday of every month - 10am-12.00.(Dedication to our Lady)** Adoration, Rosary followed by Holy Mass.

**10th - 18th March at 5.30pm: St Joseph's Novena.** A new Parish initiative to start the Novena via Zoom from 10th March to 18th March at 5.30pm. Please contact the parish office for zoom details.

**Friday 19th March: St Joseph Feast.** Holy Mass at 10.00am & 7.30pm. Stations of the Cross at 6.45pm.

**Thursday 25th March - The Annunciation of the Lord.** Holy Mass at 7.30pm

**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 or contact the Parish office.

**Missio Red Box:** It is time to return the Red Box for collection. You can drop them to church/parish office or have them collected from your home. Please contact Kate Gorman on 07834734067 for more details.