

Thursday 6th January : The Epiphany of the Lord. Holy Mass at 10.00am

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Before Sunday & Weekday Masses. On Fridays and Holy Days of Obligation, 5.30pm - 6.30pm or by private appointment with Fr Stan.

For the vulnerable & housebound Parishioners: Even though restrictions have been lifted, we are aware that not everybody is ready to attend church. Please contact the parish office if you would like to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and the Holy Communion at home.

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

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:

CAFOD is combining efforts with the DEC to launch the Afghanistan Crisis Appeal. In Afghanistan, 8 million people are on the brink of famine because of drought, collapsing economy, food shortages, conflict, and COVID. CAFOD is supporting sister Caritas agencies to reach

communities most in need with food, clean water, and fuel. During Advent, when we open ourselves to the needs of others, let's do all that we can to save lives. You can donate on the CAFOD website: cafod.org.uk/ Afghanistan Appeal and please pray for the people of Afghanistan.

Community Support

Woodley food bank have asked us to pass on their thank you for your generosity. Items for food bank can be left in the Advent room and we will take them to the food bank.

Resources

Day by Day: January edition in Advent Room. £1.00/ book. Please leave money in the box next to the books in the Advent Room.

Diocesan Christmas Newsletter 2021 - The edition of the quarterly Diocesan Newsletter *Viva Voce* is in the Advent Room.

Offertory Collection 12th Dec 2021

Envelopes	£ 15.00
Loose Cash	£ 372.26
Standing Orders	£ 699.89

Thank you all for your kind donations

Catholics in Royal Berkshire Hospital

Contact duty priest: 0118 3227105.
Chaplaincy at the RBH is covered and shared by Fr. Pat Madden (07510182722) and the priests from the FSSP (07445106330). 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. On admission, all Catholics should inform the hospital staff that they are Roman Catholic & wish to receive Communion or see a priest. All arrangements in RBH are "Patient Led".

Reading Catholic Churches

Christ the King, Whitley	Fr. Pat Madden
St. John Bosco, Woodley	Fr. Bill Wilson
St. James	Fr Chris Heaps
English Martyrs, Tilehurst	Cn. Michael Dennehy
St. Joseph, Tilehurst	Fr Peter Glas
St. William of York	Fr. Mathew Goddard / Fr. Seth Phipps
Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham	Msgr. Patrick Daly

Emergency numbers for a Priest –

Please call your own priest first

0118 931 4469
0118 969 3423
0118 957 4171
0118 957 2149
0118 942 8632
0118 966 5284
0118 947 1787

Our Lady of Peace & BI Dominic Barberi

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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 office@olo.org.uk
Safeguarding Officer	Harish Chander
Parish Team	earley.matters@gmail.com
Hall Bookings	Zuzanna Bochenek 07763 681072 hall@olo.org.uk



Parish office opening hours : Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday 11.00am-2.00pm.

4th Sunday of Advent Year C 19th December 2021

Psalm Response:
God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved.

To share the joy of Jesus coming

Jesus is about to come. Christmas is coming. Our attention is focused on many activities. We are buried in lots of activities and it is easy to lose the final purpose of our efforts. As everything seems to be important, various tensions arise between us and instead of celebrating the gift of God and other people in our life, the side effect of our important rush is that we withdraw ourselves from relationships. On the one hand, whenever we make others be serene, laughing and happy, we announce God's presence. On the other, we could exchange gifts and yet forget about Jesus. On the contrary, we can focus on our prayer life only to the extent that we never think about sharing time with one another. In this way, we gradually lose touch with those with whom we live and with God Himself. It looks like we need to learn permanently how to find God in our daily lives and how to find our daily lives in our time with God.

Have we ever thought about whether Jesus is welcomed by us? If he came to our Christmas parties, to our celebrations in our homes and church, would He find at least a place for Himself? As we believe, He comes and we even gather in His name, we do shopping and prepare midnight Mass in His name.

Thinking about it, I would say, we need people who will help us to see Jesus. The meeting between Mary and Elizabeth is a brilliant example. Neither of them wanted to impress others or win their esteem. Both of them simply shared the joy of the coming Messiah. Mary helped Elizabeth with on-going house duties, keeping Jesus in her heart all the time. Her faith was joyfully shared with the elderly relative who also was in hope.

This particular meeting in faith helps us to find and keep a perfect balance between daily duties, tensions and relationships with others and with God.



Fr Stan

Date & Dedication	Time	Mass Intentions etc
Sun 19th December 4th Sunday of Advent 	8.00am *8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm	Rosary Ken Mansfield RIP Rosary Oduntan family thanksgiving Armando Massi RIP
Mon 20th December	6.00pm (Students & Parishioners) 6.30pm <i>Novus Ordo Mass in Latin</i>	Adoration, Confession & Rosary in Latin Denise Oduntan thanksgiving
Tues 21st December	8.00am	Mr & Mrs Paul RIP
Wed 22nd December	6.30am 4.00pm	George Bentley RIP Foundation Mass Rosary
Thur 23rd December	No Mass	Eva Nora's Intention
Fri 24th December The Nativity of the Lord <i>Solemnity with octave</i>	4.30pm 5.00pm Holy Mass *11.00pm	Children's Nativity followed by Holy Mass For The Parish Vigil prayers (Office of Readings)
Sat 25th December The Nativity of the Lord	*Midnight Mass *8.30am Mass 11.00 am Mass	For The Parish For The Parish For The Parish
Sun 26th December The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph	8.00am *8.30am Mass 10.30am 11.00 am Mass 5.00pm Mass	Rosary Anjali Valentine Intention Rosary Cham family Thanksgiving Edita Rwamuyagaza family

* Mass / Service will be live streamed via YouTube

Anniversaries: Please keep in your prayers

19th Dec: Ted Aldridge (2016); **20th Dec:** Peter Tilton (1991); Gladys Arnold (2001); Armando Massi (2019); **22nd Dec:** Martha Franks (1998); Margaret Sellers (1998); **23rd Dec:** Maureen Chapman (2000); George Bentley (2003); **24th Dec:** Muriel Bowman-Smith (1976); Pauline Thackram (2001); **25th Dec:** Donald Wignall (1996); **26th Dec:** Anthony Lesner (1999); Mary James (2009);

Please also pray for members of the parish and their family who are sick or housebound. We keep in our prayers David Roper who is in hospital & for Kay Krauze. We pray for God's mercy and healing for the sick and for health and strength for all who care for them.

We thank you for your prayers for Theresa Pashley (Jonathan Pashley & Mary Francis's Mum), Rosemary McQueen & Caroline Hurst who are recuperating at home. We continue to keep them in our prayers.

COVID update:

Just a reminder of the safety protocol that we have in place, let us continue to do the same and keep each other safe.

- Face Covering: Mandatory unless exempt.
- Use the hand sanitiser provided.
- Maintain a safe distance between families.
- After prayer, please use the sanitiser wipes at the end of the pew and wipe the area around you.
- Please dispose of the wipes in the bin provided in the Advent room.
- Thank you for keeping our church safe.

NHS Covid Pass: Under the current government guidelines, people are exempt from showing a Covid passport when attending religious worship, weddings and funerals.

Parish News:

Parish Christmas Cards are ready for distribution. It has information on our Christmas services. Please feel free to take some cards for your families and friends. We need volunteers who will drop cards in their street and spread the news of our Christmas service and online streaming service.

Advent Giving Tree : The response to the appeal for gifts for our local charity CCA (Christian Community Action) has been wonderful. Thank you to all who gave so generously. The last day to drop the gifts in Advent room is Tuesday 21st December. The gifts will be delivered to CCA on Wednesday 22nd December.

Outdoor Christmas Crib: We will have our Outdoor Crib ready this week. The Christmas crib is a sign of hope that the goodness is in us and near us as we greet the newborn child. Please spread the word and encourage everyone to visit our outdoor crib and spread the joy of Nativity.

Christmas Crib Collection: . In the Diocese, we alternate our annual Christmas Crib offerings between Friends of the Holy Land and the Knights of the Holy Sepulchre. This year, the

Christmas Crib offerings will go to the Friends of the Holy Land (FHL). Friends of the Holy Land is a non-political charity, whose mission is to secure a resilient and enduring Christian community in the Holy Land. Online donation at friendsoftheholylan.org.uk.

Christmas day collection: The collections from all the Christmas Masses are a gift for Fr Stan's ministry amongst us. Please do use the envelope provided & give generously. Thank you.

If you are unable to come to church but would like to give a gift to support Fr Stan in his vocation and mission, then please visit our website www.olop.org.uk and click on the donate button (please put reference as Christmas) or you can pay directly to our Parish Account:

A/C Name: Our Lady of Peace

Ref: Christmas offering

Lloyds Bank 30 93 04 A/C No: 00886018.

Cards & envelopes can also be posted through the letterbox.

The Christmas newsletter will be distributed and printed on Thursday 23rd Dec; it will cover the 2 Sundays while the parish office is closed (26th Dec & 2nd Jan.) - so please keep your copy!

Parish office will be closed from Friday 24th December 2021 to Monday 3rd January 2022.

Weekday Mass: There will be no weekday Mass in week commencing 27th December. Fr Stan will celebrate Mass privately.

Livestreaming of Mass: The live streaming of Mass will be at 8.30am Mass. Also with the reinstatement of the Sunday obligation to attend Holy Mass, the Live Stream of Mass will stop after Christmas. If you are using this option and want it to continue, then please contact the parish office & Fr Stan will consider the need.

Friday 31st Dec at 6.30pm Thanksgiving Mass. Join us in church for thanksgiving mass for 2021. Spread the word, Everyone is invited.

Saturday 1st Jan 2022: Feast of Mary, The Holy Mother of God. 10.00am - 12 noon Adoration. Holy Mass at 12 noon.