

Our Lady of Peace & BI Dominic Barberi

338 Wokingham Road Earley Reading RG6 7DA Website www.olop.org.uk
 Portsmouth Diocesan Trust Registered Charity No 246871

Parish Priest

The Rev Fr Stan Gibziński
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Harish Chander

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Hall Bookings

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

The Baptism of the Lord

Year C

9th January 2022

Psalm Response:

Bless the Lord, my soul! Lord God, how great you are!

Baptism of the Lord

The great joy of Christmas Celebrations has been flowing through the Epiphany to the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, where it has reached its fulfilment. Here, at the bank of the river Jordan, the Only Begotten (not Created) Son of God joined those sinners who asked for the gift of conversion, seeking God and His Commandments. Here, we find Jesus Christ, the Lord, who expressed God's closeness to all the sinners seeking conversion and belonging to God and His vision of life. Here, Jesus showed his solidarity with them, but also with all of us, who put all our efforts to convert, to be rid of our selfishness. Here, we approach with the desire that the Lord would drag "an old man" out of us and prepare us to do His deeds by putting on us "a new man", created according to the model of God, in His righteousness and holiness based on Truth. Here, we come with desire of transformation us into the image of Christ Himself.

Himself in our human condition, embracing our weakness and frailty and became a penitent with us, healing the wounded by sins as detached from God. Only then the heavens opened the manifestation of the Blessed Trinity took place, in order to announce Jesus from Nazareth as the promised Messiah who was to destroy the work of Satan and his empty promises; to destroy the ruling powers which would keep our will imprisoned. In Him, the bondage is liberated to live according to God's style, ending the reign of mortal sins in their life.

Christ disarmed the Evil One by stretching out His arms on the cross. He immersed us in Himself and empowered us to fight against sin, and through His resurrection we are really enabled to triumph over the Evil One. In the sacrament of Baptism of all individuals, not only them, but also the Church experiences the living and active presence of the Holy Spirit who vitalises, enriches and develops her.

At the moment of the Baptism of the Lord, we recognise the humbleness of love. By immersing Himself in the river of Jordan, He immersed

Fr Stan

For Adults who wish to know their faith better: 6 weeks course on **Tuesdays 15th February - 22nd March, 7.00 - 8.30 pm.** This course, "**Anchoring your Faith: the Mass**", will help you (re)discover the Mass, exploring its liturgy in the light of our faith. We will go through the Mass step by step but also through the essential truths of our faith, using Scripture, artworks, and breakout group activities.

All our initiatives are listed on our website: <https://www.pffm.org.uk/>

Vacancy for Deputy Director of Estates

Closing Date for applications: 12 noon on Monday 17th January 2022. Salary up to £50,000 per annum.

The successful candidate will have a proven track record of leading development projects including both refurbishment and new build schemes. They will also have proven team leadership experience, with the capability to lead internal staff members as well as external project teams. They must have excellent communication and leadership skills, along with the ability to operate successfully at a senior level liaising with a variety of stakeholders is essential to succeed in this role.

Experience of working with parishes, schools and residential property is advantageous although not essential. It is expected that candidates will be a Chartered Building Surveyor with 10 years post qualification experience or

possess an equivalent professional qualification. The Diocesan Estates Team is based in Portsmouth, with a hybrid office/home model. It will require occasional evening/weekend working and flexibility will be required. The role involves site visits throughout the Diocese, therefore a clean driving license and access to a vehicle is essential. For Job Description and details of how to apply please contact:

Recruitment@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk

Resources

Day by Day: January / February 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 26th Dec 2021

Envelopes £ 15.00
 Loose Cash £ 202.99
 Standing Orders £ 699.89
 Thank you all for your kind donations

Offertory Collection 2nd Jan 2022

Envelopes £ 15.00
 Loose Cash £ 413.35
 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	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. Seth Phipps	0118 966 5284
Our Lady & St. Anne, Caversham	Msgr. Patrick Daly	0118 947 1787

Emergency numbers for a Priest –

Please call your own priest first

Date & Dedication	Time	Mass Intentions etc
Sun 9th Jan 2022 The Baptism of the Lord	8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 2.30pm 5.00pm	Rosary Josie Higgs RIP Rosary Hayres thanksgiving Divine Mercy Holy Hour Ottorino Visentin RIP
Mon 10th Jan 2022	6.00pm (Students & Parishioners) 6.30pm <i>Novus Ordo Mass in Latin</i>	Adoration, Confession & Rosary in Latin Maria Eva Hein RIP
Tues 11th Jan 2022	8.00am	O'Mara Intention
Wed 12th Jan 2022 St Aelred	8.00am 4.00pm	George Alexander thanksgiving Rosary
Thur 13th Jan 2022 St Hilary	No Mass	Paola Moretti RIP
Friday 14th Jan 2022	11.00am 6.00pm 6.30pm	Adoration from 11.00am to 6.00pm Rosary Merlin Pereira thanksgiving
Sat 15th Jan 2022	No Mass	
Sun 16th Jan 2022 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time	8.00am 8.30am 10.30am 11.00 am 5.00pm	Rosary Kathleen Marie Hogben RIP Foundation Mass Rosary Confirmation Group Magdalena Mijares RIP

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.

Anniversaries: Please keep in your prayers

9th Jan; Tim Chapman (1995); Fran Oliver (2012);
10th Jan: Emma Cattaneo (1984); Teresa Smith (2006);
11th Jan: James Ahern (baby, 1998); and Roger Joseph (2007).
12th Jan: Vincent McLoughlin (1987); Martin Brannelly (2007);
13th Jan: Emma Fiorentini (2017); Paola Moretti (2021)
14th Jan: Terence De Sa (1999); Eileen Herbert (2008); Kathleen McGuire (2008);
15th Jan: John Hickson (1983); Lesley Hughes (2004);
16th Jan: Kathleen Hogben (2010); Charles Hay (2017)

Please also pray for members of the parish and their family who are sick or housebound. Please keep in your prayers Kathleen Mongan who is in hospital. We also keep in our prayers David Roper, Kay Krauze, Theresa Pashley, Rosemary McQueen & Caroline Hurst. We pray for God's mercy and healing for the sick and for health and strength for all who care for them.

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.

Thank you

Christmas Collections

Thank you to all who gave so generously during the Christmas collections, supporting me both in my ministry and materially. You can be confident this gift will be put to good use, furthering God's work.. Regards, Fr Stan

Parish News:

MISSIMO RED BOXES: Anyone holding a red box, please could you bring it to church. If you are unable to come to church then please contact KATE GORMAN on 07834734067 for collection.

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.

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

Community Support

Woodley food bank :Message from Woodley food bank "A massive thank you for your donations during 2021 and thank you for your ongoing support during 2022". List of items needed are:- Toilet paper./Kitchen rolls, Cooking oil./Tinned meats, Tea bags./ Sugar, Coffee./ Puddings.(sweet), Tinned stewing steak, Tinned chicken in sauce, Long life milk. "NO PASTA/ RICE". they have lots of it. Items for food bank can be left in the Advent room and we will take them to the food bank.

Pastoral News:

Diocesan Formation for Mission team will be running the following online courses in January and February 2022 . All their initiatives are listed on the website: <https://www.pffm.org.uk/>

For Catechists: Essential Training for Catechists (5 Mondays, 10th Jan – 7th Feb, 7.30 to 9.00 pm) followed by our new course, Further Training for Catechists (5 Mondays, 21st Feb – 21st March, 7.30 to 9.00 pm) – in the first course, we will look at the fundamental principles of catechesis to discover "what it is", and in the second course, we will look at specific questions: "how to speak" to adults, young people and children about God, Jesus, salvation, the human person and the Church. Both courses are open to everyone – you don't have to be a catechist to sign up. <https://www.pffm.org.uk/>

For those who care of children with Additional / special needs: Thursdays 13th, 20th and 27th January, 7.00 - 8.30 pm for the parents, catechists and priests of young Catholics with additional needs:
 Workshop 1. At Mass: inclusion in the Liturgy;
 Workshop 2. In Catechesis: sacramental preparation;
 Workshop 3. In the Home: the domestic Church for children with additional needs.
<https://www.pffm.org.uk/>